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OPTIMAS-GP

Information for participants

E: Optimas-gp@uow.edu.au

W: <https://www.uow.edu.au/science-medicine-health/schools-entities/gsm/research/optimas-gp/>



UNIVERSITY
OF WOLLONGONG
AUSTRALIA

What is the research study about?

This project is part of a 5-year program to identify strategies and to implement an antimicrobial stewardship intervention for the safe reduction of unnecessary antibiotic use in treating acute respiratory tract infections (RTIs) in general practice.

This research is supported by a grant from the Australian Government Medical Research Futures Fund (ID: MRF2029531).

This project has been reviewed by the UOW Health and Medical Human Research Ethics Committee (Reference number 2024/337).

Aim

To determine the effectiveness of an Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) intervention (the AMS Toolbox) to improve antibiotic stewardship in Australian general practice.

You can watch a video about the study here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8wHc1jFdxw>

Requirements for doctors

- Data collection over two winters (starts July)
- Participation in AMS activities e.g. Audit and feedback

This study will be conducted over two years, across three phases:

Year	Phase	Duration	Practice involvement
1	Baseline	5-months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1-hour pre-trial training• Collect AMS Toolbox data during RTI consultations• Selected practices and participating GPs will participate in a 60-minute interview.
2	Implementation	8-months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GPs participate in 7-hours of CPD accredited training through Medcast
2	Follow up	5-months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collect AMS Toolbox data• Selected practices and participating GPs will participate in a second 60-minute interview.

<https://redcap.uow.edu.au/redcap/surveys/?s=37HKC3KFMLED7PY7>

Requirements for centres

Year	Phase	Duration	Practice involvement
1	Baseline	5-months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1-hour training for practice managers, staff and GPs• Practice staff conduct a fortnightly audit of patients seen by participating GPs• Practice staff send fortnightly SMS to patients with acute respiratory tract infections (ARIs) seen that week• Minimum of two GPs and maximum five collect AMS Toolbox data• Selected practices and participating staff will participate in a 60-minute interview.
2	Implementation	8-months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GPs participate in 7-hours of CPD accredited training through Medcast
2	Follow up	5-months	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Practice staff conduct a fortnightly audit of patients seen by participating GPs• Practice staff send fortnightly SMSs to ARI patients seen that week• GPs collect AMS Toolbox data• Selected general practices and participating staff will complete a second 60-minute interview.

Requirements for centres

Step 1: Finding the data

- Searching scripts and other support provided

Step 2: Reporting the data

Audit of GP data

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Please complete the survey below.

Thank you!

1) Today's date	<input type="text"/>  Today D-M-Y
2) GP's name	<input type="text"/>
3) In the last fortnight, how many patients did the doctor see?	<input type="text"/>
4) Of these patients, how many were seen for respiratory tract infections?	<input type="text"/>
5) Of these patients with respiratory tract infections, how many were prescribed an antibiotic?	<input type="text"/>

Submit

Practice staff complete a simple survey every 2 weeks

Researchers do not see sensitive patient data

Requirements for centres

Step 3: Sending out SMSs

- Contacting patients who have seen a participating GP
- Sending out links to anonymous patient surveys

Benefit

Payments to doctors

- \$50 per week for data entry
- \$150 /hr for training
- ~\$3,200 for the whole trial

Payments to centres

- \$1500 onboarding
- \$150 per 90min of data entry per fortnight (\$3000)
- Staff are paid \$100 for training

Next steps

- UOW staff to meet with practice staff?
- Practice manager / owner to consent
- 2-5 GPs per centre to consent
- A member of staff to consent
- Onboarding in June
- Data collection from July