

## Clinician Information Sheet

**Study title:** Appropriate use of antibiotics for RTI in primary care: a cluster randomised controlled trial

### We invite you to take part in this study

This leaflet will explain why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read or ask someone to read it to you. Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear.

### Who is doing this research?

Researchers from Anhui Medical University and the University of Bristol in the UK.

### What is the purpose of the study?

To evaluate an intervention to improve antibiotic prescribing by doctors and reduce unnecessary antibiotic consumption for coughs and colds (respiratory infections).

### What will happen to me if I take part?

- A researcher will arrange a convenient time to ask you some questions about your clinic and your background.
- Researchers from Anhui University will visit your clinic and collect data on about 30 patients with respiratory infections
- We will invite you to a training session about:
  - Current National Chinese Guidelines for treating respiratory infections
  - Up to date scientific research about antibiotics
  - Communications skills for talking to patients
- We will give you a computer programme to support your treatment of patients with respiratory infections
- We will give you a leaflet to give to patients
- We will invite you to a WeChat group to support you in your treatment practice and discuss challenges and solutions.
- After you have been using our materials for 9-12 months, researchers from Anhui University will visit your clinic again and collect data on about 30 patients with respiratory infections
- A researcher may invite you to take part in a longer audio-recorded interview to discuss your views and experiences.

### Why have I been invited?

Because you are a clinician working in a village clinic who treats patients with respiratory-tract infections (RTIs).

### Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide if you want to take part in the study. If you agree to take part, we will then ask you to sign a consent form.

### What are the pros and cons of taking part?

- The main burden for you is the time it will take to participate in the training, the WeChat group, completing the short interviews at the start of the study and when we are collecting data about patients in your clinic.
- You will receive training in the current National Guidelines and research for treating respiratory infections.

- You will receive a computer programme to help you follow the guidelines & a leaflet to give to patients

**Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?**

- All information about you will be kept confidential.
- When we report our findings, we will not report any information that could identify individual doctors.
- Identifying information (e.g. names) will be stored separately to the other data in a password protected file and only the research team will be able to access it.
- Data will be stored on password-protected computers on Anhui Medical University secure computing network in accordance Data Security and Confidentiality Policy (available upon request).

**What will happen to the results of the research study**

The results of this study will be published in reports, scientific journals and presented at conferences. Overall study findings will be shared with Government health officials, but all participants in the research will be anonymous.

**Who is organising and funding the research?**

The project is jointly funded by National Natural Science Foundation of China and Medical Research Council of the UK.

**Who has reviewed the study**

The project has been reviewed by the Research Ethics Committee of Anhui Medical University and registered within Research Governance Team at the University of Bristol.

**Further information and contact details**

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***Thank you for reading this information sheet!***