

Patient Information Sheet

Study to improve use of western medicine for coughs and colds

Official 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 if I take part in this study?

- The doctor will treat you according to the National Chinese medical guidelines
- The researcher will ask you questions about your illness (this will take about 15 minutes)
- The researcher will observe your consultation with the doctor and ask the doctor some questions about your illness.
- The researchers will contact you by phone to ask you a few questions about your recovery at 3 days, 7 days, 14 days and 21 days after this visit to the doctor. Each phone call will take about 10 minutes.

Why have I been invited?

Because you are a patient (18 years and older) with suspected RTI and this is the first-time you have come to the doctor for your illness.

Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide if you want to take part in the study.

What are the pros and cons of taking part?

- There is no risks from taking part in the study. You will receive treatment for your illness that follows the National Chinese guidelines for treating this type of illness/
- We will take up some of your time to answer our questions.
- You will not benefit from taking part in this study, but you will help us improve treatment for future patients

Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?

- All information about you will be kept confidential. We will not report what you tell us to your doctor or anyone else. We will report our findings without any information that could identify individual patients.

Who is 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

If you require further information, please contact Prof Linhai Zhao either by Tel (+8615955134608) or email: zhao700110@126.com; or Prof Debin Wang by email: dbwang@vip.sina.cn; School of Health Services Management, Anhui Medical University.

Thank you for reading this information sheet!