

Study of practice pharmacist-led management of long-term pain

Submission date	Recruitment status	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
11/12/2009	No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date	Overall study status	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
29/01/2010	Completed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited	Condition category	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data
09/05/2013	Signs and Symptoms	

Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

G0701769; pRGF/106/09

Study information

Scientific Title

A pilot randomised controlled trial of general practice-based, pharmacist-led, management of chronic pain

Acronym

Study objectives

We wish to conduct a definitive trial that tests whether pharmacists advice or pharmacists advice and prescribing will lead to better patient functioning and/or better pain control than standard care. This exploratory randomised controlled trial (RCT) will support the development and test the feasibility of conducting a future large multi-centred RCT to evaluate practice-based, pharmacist-led management of chronic pain in primary care.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

North of Scotland Research Ethics Service, Committee 1 (NoSRES) approved on the 30th November 2009 (ref: 09/S0801/107)

Study design

Exploratory randomised controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Quality of life

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Chronic pain

Interventions

There are three arms in this study:

1. Pharmacist review: pharmacist medication review with recommendations for changes in pain medication made to GPs for indirect implementation
2. Pharmacist prescribing: pharmacist medication review with pain management recommendations implemented directly by pharmacist at a face-to-face consultation with the patient
3. Standard care provided by GP (control)

Total duration of treatment for pharmacist prescribing arm is 31 minutes. Follow-up may take place between 2 - 4 weeks after initial consultation and take place at maximum twice a month for the 6-month follow-up period of the study. The follow-up period for all arms is 6 months.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Applicable

Primary outcome(s)

Information from this pilot RCT will be used to inform final selection of a single primary outcome measure from the following:

1. 12-item short form health survey (SF-12)

2. Health Utilities Index mark 2 and mark 3 (HUI 2/3)

Administered for self-report, postal questionnaire at baseline, three and six month follow-up.

Key secondary outcome(s)

1. The Chronic Pain Grade (assessing severity of pain)

2. The Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (assessing level of anxiety and depression)

Questionnaires are administered as self-report, postal questionnaire at baseline, three and six month follow-up.

Completion date

01/11/2010

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. GP practices: any general practice with an existing practice pharmacist service

2. Pharmacists: a registered prescriber with evidence of appropriate professional indemnity cover

3. Patients:

3.1. Male and female patients

3.2. Aged over 18 years old

3.3. Chronic pain (defined as pain lasting more than 13 weeks)

3.4. Receiving regular prescribed medication for pain

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Lower age limit

18 years

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

1. GP practices: no existing practice pharmacists

2. Pharmacists: not a registered prescriber or does not have evidence of appropriate professional indemnity cover

3. Patients:

3.1. Under 18 years old

3.2. Not experiencing chronic pain

3.3. Concomitant severe mental health problems

3.4. Terminal illness

3.5. Recent bereavement

3.6. Known alcohol or drug addiction

- 3.7. Unable to give informed consent
- 3.8. Malignant pain
- 3.9. Recent participation in research
- 3.10. Any other reason at the discretion of the GP for whom the intervention is considered inappropriate

Date of first enrolment

04/01/2010

Date of final enrolment

01/11/2010

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

Scotland

Study participating centre

Centre of Academic Primary Care

Aberdeen

United Kingdom

AB25 2AY

Sponsor information

Organisation

University of Aberdeen (UK)

ROR

<https://ror.org/016476m91>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Research council

Funder Name

Medical Research Council (MRC) (UK) (ref: G0701769)

Alternative Name(s)

Funding Body Type

Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype

National government

Location

United Kingdom

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article	results	05/04/2013		Yes	No
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes