

# Evaluating a risk factor checklist and training video for GPs as a means of reducing practice variation in referral for glue ear.

<b>Submission date</b> 23/01/2004	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 23/01/2004	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 21/12/2009	<b>Condition category</b> Ear, Nose and Throat	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

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## Additional identifiers

**EudraCT/CTIS number**

**IRAS number**

**ClinicalTrials.gov number**

**Secondary identifying numbers**  
PSI B-6

# Study information

## Scientific Title

## Study objectives

To evaluate the effect of a risk factor checklist and educational training video on glue ear for general practitioners in reducing practice variation and improving the appropriateness of referral to ENT.

## Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

## Ethics approval(s)

Not provided at time of registration

## Study design

Randomised controlled trial

## Primary study design

Interventional

## Secondary study design

Randomised controlled trial

## Study setting(s)

GP practice

## Study type(s)

Other

## Participant information sheet

## Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Glue ear; otitis media

## Interventions

Each practice was randomised to one of the following groups:

1. Control
2. Video only
3. Checklist only
4. Video and checklist.

## Intervention Type

Other

## Phase

Not Applicable

## Primary outcome measure

Overall mean GP and practice referral rates for OME or related conditions remained stable, simplifying the comparisons related to intervention. There was no reduction in variability amongst practices receiving any intervention, compared with practices receiving none. In those receiving both the video and checklist compared with those receiving only one or no intervention, there was a significant improvement in the quality of referrals, as given by more referrals having bilateral HL >20 dB when sent at ENT (ANCOVA for linear trend assuming 0, 1, 2 interventions and adjusting for the period the child waited to be seen at ENT;  $p = 0.010$ ). No difference was found between the intervention and non-intervention groups in parent satisfaction scores. However, irrespective of intervention group, parents of children who received more information from their GP about glue ear had higher satisfaction scores than those that did not ( $p = 0.022$ ). Disseminating information on glue ear to GPs in a multi-channel approach can improve the quality of referrals to ENT but appears to make little impact on the parent's satisfaction with the information provided by their GP. Much of the variation in GP glue ear referrals and ENT consultants' VT insertion rates is still not accounted for, reducing the ability to produce suggestions on how best to compress it. This study provides a worthwhile basis for further large-scale work using such interventions, particularly when used in combination with one another, provided the appropriate outcome measures are used including the patient's perspective.

**Secondary outcome measures**

Not provided at time of registration

**Overall study start date**

01/02/1997

**Completion date**

01/05/1999

## Eligibility

**Key inclusion criteria**

Fifty general practices from Trent Region and the West of Scotland were recruited into a cluster-randomised controlled trial.

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Age group**

Other

**Sex**

Both

**Target number of participants**

50 practices (177 practitioners)

**Key exclusion criteria**

Does not match inclusion criteria

**Date of first enrolment**

01/02/1997

**Date of final enrolment**

01/05/1999

## Locations

**Countries of recruitment**

England

United Kingdom

**Study participating centre**

Research Fellow in Bio-epidemiology at the CRC Paediatric and Familial Cancer Research Group

Manchester

United Kingdom

M27 4HA

## Sponsor information

**Organisation**

Record Provided by the NHS R&D 'Time-Limited' National Programme Register - Department of Health (UK)

**Sponsor details**

The Department of Health

Richmond House

79 Whitehall

London

United Kingdom

SW1A 2NL

**Sponsor type**

Government

**Website**

<http://www.doh.gov.uk>

## Funder(s)

**Funder type**

Government

**Funder Name**

NHS Primary and Secondary Care Interface National Research and Development Programme (UK)

## Results and Publications

**Publication and dissemination plan**

Not provided at time of registration

**Intention to publish date****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?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	01/07/2001		Yes	No