ISRCTN18249297 https://doi.org/10.1186/ISRCTN18249297

Tamiflu prescribing by doctors in hospitals

Submission date
27/10/2015

Recruitment status
No longer recruiting

Registration date
29/10/2015

Overall study status
Completed

Last Edited
10/05/2021

Condition category
Infections and Infestations

[_] Prospectively registered
[_] Protocol
[_] Statistical analysis plan
[X] Results
[_] Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims
There has been uncertainty over the effectiveness of drugs called neuraminidase inhibitors, such as oseltamivir (Tamiflu) for the treatment of influenza. Despite this their use is recommend by national guidelines providing certain conditions are met. Recently some studies run during the swine flu pandemic have been published and suggest large benefits from these drugs in unwell hospitalised patients with influenza. It is not known how often UK doctors prescribe neuraminidase inhibitors to patients with influenza or whether they use them in line with current guidelines. This questionnaire-based survey aims to find out how UK physicians are currently using these drugs in hospital and whether their practice is consistent with guidelines.

Who can participate?
Participants should be physicians based in a hospital in the UK that frequently manage patients that suffer from influenza and work in in infectious diseases, microbiology, respiratory medicine, acute medicine, emergency medicine or geriatric medicine. Recruitment of participants will be via relevant medical societies.

What does the study involve?
All participants are given access to an online questionnaire via a link sent out to them by the medical society that they belong to. They all have one month to complete the questionnaire and are sent a reminder after two weeks. Once all the questionnaires have been sent out and completed. Analysis is performed by the research team to investigate physicians neuraminidase inhibitor prescribing practices, whether these guidelines are consistent with current UK guidelines and why any differences may occur.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?
Not provided at time of registration.

Where is the study run from?
Southampton General Hospital (University Hospitals Southampton Foundation NHS trust) (UK)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?
July 2015 to September 2016

Who is funding the study?
University Hospitals Southampton Foundation NHS Trust (UK)

Who is the main contact?
Dr Tristan Clark

Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

Contact name
Dr Tristan Clark

Contact details
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Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number

Secondary identifying numbers
RHM 1280

Study information

Scientific Title
Neuraminidase inhibitor prescribing by physicians in the UK: a questionnaire-based survey of practice

Study objectives
Given the controversy relating to the efficacy of neuraminidase inhibitors, UK guideline discrepancies and the recent published evidence from observational studies of hospitalized adults, data regarding current NAI prescribing practices among UK hospital-based physicians is urgently needed. This questionnaire based survey of practise aims to address this need.

Objectives:
1. To explore the neuraminidase inhibitor prescribing practices among UK hospital-based physicians using a questionnaire based survey of practice
2. To compare prescribing practise to current UK guidelines
3. To explore factors associated with deviation from guidelines

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
Faculty of Medicine Ethics committee, University of Southampton, 25/09/2015, ref: 17321.

Study design
On-line questionnaire-based survey of UK hospital physicians

Primary study design
Observational

Secondary study design
Cross sectional study

Study setting(s)
Other

Study type(s)
Treatment

Participant information sheet
Not available in web format, please use contact details to request a participant information sheet

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

Interventions
The basis of this study is a online survey developed to explore current UK physician knowledge of existing neuraminidase inhibitor prescribing guidelines and self-reported prescribing practice for adults hospitalised with suspected influenza. The survey is electronic and uses the 'survey monkey' platform. The link is sent out via the listed professional societies to its physician members. The members have one month to respond following the initial email invitation and are sent a reminder after two weeks. One month after last society has sent it out we will close the survey and collate and analyse the results. The exact date of this will depend when the societies send it out which in turn depends on the speed at which it goes through their individual governance procedures.

Analysis will be performed by the research team in conjunction with a medical statistician. Prism (GraphPad Software Inc; La Jolla, California) and SPSS (SPSS, Inc; Chicago, Illinois) will be used for statistical analysis. Demographic details (including place of work, speciality and seniority), influenza testing method and guideline awareness will be described using proportions. For guideline compliance, assessed using the scenarios provided, compliance will be described for PHE and NICE guidelines using proportions and compared using Chi squared and Fisher’s exact test. Factors associated with guideline compliance will be explored using univariate and multivariate analysis. Subgroup analysis will be by scenario and by speciality of respondent.

Intervention Type
Other

Primary outcome measure

Self reported neuraminidase inhibitor prescribing practice and adherence to National guidelines. Collected and analysed one month after last surveys have been sent out.

Secondary outcome measures
Differences in practice between specialities. Collected and analysed one month after last surveys have been sent out.

Overall study start date
01/07/2015

Completion date
30/09/2016

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
1. A hospital-based physician (consultant or specialist registrar grade or equivalent)
2. Working in the UK and managing patient with suspected influenza
3. Working in infectious diseases, microbiology, respiratory medicine, acute medicine, emergency medicine or geriatric medicine

Participant type(s)
Health professional

Age group
Adult

Sex
Both

Target number of participants
1000

Total final enrolment
237

Key exclusion criteria
Not meeting any of the inclusion criteria

Date of first enrolment
01/10/2015

Date of final enrolment
30/09/2016

Locations

Countries of recruitment
England

United Kingdom

Study participating centre
University Hospitals Southampton Foundation NHS trust
Southampton General Hospital
Tremona Road
Southampton
United Kingdom
SO16 6YD

Sponsor information

Organisation
University Hospitals Southampton Foundation NHS trust

Sponsor details
Research and Development
Southampton General Hospital
Tremona Road
Southampton
England
United Kingdom
SO16 6YD

Sponsor type
Hospital/treatment centre

ROR
https://ror.org/0485axj58

Funder(s)

Funder type
Hospital/treatment centre

Funder Name
University Hospitals Southampton Foundation NHS Trust

Results and Publications

Publication and dissemination plan
We plan to publish the results of the study sometime in the autumn 2016.

Intention to publish date
01/10/2016

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary
Not expected to be made available

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article		01/07/2021	10/05/2021	Yes	No