

The effect of referral guidelines on referrals for secondary dental care

Submission date 23/01/2004	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 23/01/2004	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 01/12/2009	Condition category Oral Health	<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

Protocol serial number
PSI02-20

Study information

Scientific Title

Study objectives

This study was designed to discover whether it is possible to develop guidelines which are acceptable General Dental Practitioners (GDPs), for the referral of patients for orthodontic treatment and whether the guidelines have an effect on the number of appropriate referrals made. The guidelines were drawn up by a panel of clinicians providing secondary care, and GDPs from the Local Dental Committees using evidence derived from a literature search.

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

Study type(s)

Other

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Oral health/stomatognathic diseases

Interventions

General dental practices in Manchester and Stockport were allocated to one of two groups. One group received guidelines for the referral of patients to secondary orthodontic care, and the other did not receive any guidelines. Dissemination of the guidelines was intended to be carried out at a series of meetings with GDPs but acceptance for these was very low. Dissemination was carried out by post with follow up correspondence.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Applicable

Primary outcome(s)

The main outcome measure was whether the referral was appropriate according to the guidelines that had been developed. This information came from a form completed by the clinician at the initial visit by the referred patient, and gave detailed information on the reason for the referral being appropriate or inappropriate. Questionnaires were also given to all GPs receiving the guidelines to ascertain their opinions about the content, usefulness etc of the guidelines.

Key secondary outcome(s)

Not provided at time of registration

Completion date

31/03/1998

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

All referrals by GDPs in the two groups were included in the study. Information on these was collected from five hospitals in Manchester and Stockport, and from three specialist orthodontic practitioners and one community orthodontist.

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Other

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

Does not match inclusion criteria

Date of first enrolment

01/04/1995

Date of final enrolment

31/03/1998

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

Orthodontic Department

Manchester

United Kingdom

M15 6FH

Sponsor information

Organisation

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

Funder(s)

Funder type

Government

Funder Name

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

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	08/04/2000		Yes	No