

The evaluation of a primary care based dermatology service

Submission date 12/09/2003	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
		<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 12/09/2003	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 19/02/2008	Condition category Skin and Connective Tissue Diseases	<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
SDO/34/2002

Study information

Scientific Title

Study objectives

To compare the effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, accessibility and acceptability of a Primary Care Dermatology Service. This service is an example of the model, promoted in the NHS Plan, of services provided by GPs with special interests (GPSIs) to other GPs across a PCT area.

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)

Quality of life

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Non-urgent skin problems

Interventions

The Bristol primary care dermatology service is staffed by two GPs with Special Interests (GPSIs) and a specialist nurse, and operates from a suburban health centre. It provides care for patients registered with the 29 general practices in one primary care trust. Both GPSIs have postgraduate training and experience in dermatology. All patients see a GPSI initially but may be followed up by a GPSI or the specialist nurse, or may be referred to hospital outpatient care if necessary. The control arm received care from the hospital outpatient dermatology clinic as usual.

The main study using a revised protocol applied to all patients recruited from 01/09/2002; all patients recruited before this were in the pilot study.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Specified

Primary outcome(s)

1. Disease-related quality of life assessed using the dermatology life quality index (DLQI) and a single-item measure of improvement
2. Improved patient-perceived access, assessed using a new scale

Key secondary outcome(s))

1. Patient satisfaction with consultation (Consultation Satisfaction Questionnaire) and with facilities (new scale)
2. Preference for site of care
3. Proportion of failed appointments
4. Waiting times to first appointment

Completion date

30/04/2005

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

Adult patients referred to a hospital dermatology clinic assessed on the basis of the referral letter to be potentially suitable for GPSI management. Suitable patients had non-urgent problems with a provisional diagnosis.

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

1. Children aged less than 16 years
2. Urgent skin problems
3. Patients where the referral letter indicated that the referrer specifically requested hospital management or the patient clearly needed hospital facilities

Date of first enrolment

01/02/2002

Date of final enrolment

30/04/2005

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

University of Bristol

Bristol

United Kingdom

BS6 6JL

Sponsor information

Organisation

NHS Service Delivery and Organisation Programme (SDO) (UK)

ROR

<https://ror.org/02wnqcb97>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Government

Funder Name

NHS Service Delivery and Organisation Programme (SDO) (UK) (ref: SDO/34/2002)

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	17/12/2005		Yes	No
Study website	Study website	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes