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DTO-FTO trial: Small group quality improvement on prescribing and test ordering performance of general practitioners: a large scale implementation study in the South of the Netherlands

Submission date 23/08/2007	**Recruitment status** No longer recruiting	[X] Prospectively registered [_] Protocol
Registration date 23/08/2007	**Overall study status** Completed	[_] Statistical analysis plan [X] Results
Last Edited 18/04/2017	**Condition category** Other	[_] 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
NTR1033

Study information

Scientific Title
DTO-FTO trial: Small group quality improvement on prescribing and test ordering performance of general practitioners: a large scale implementation study in the South of the Netherlands

Study objectives
This strategy will improve the number of tests ordered or the volume of prescribed drugs by 20% and decrease the inter-doctor variation.

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
Ethics Board of the academic hospital Maastricht (azM)/Maastricht University (UM), 24/08/2006, ref: MEC 06-4-033

Study design
Multicentre cluster-randomised active-controlled parallel-group trial

Primary study design
Interventional

Study type(s)
Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Prescribing and test ordering performance of general practitioners

Interventions
All participating GP's receive feedback on their own test ordering and prescribing performance in the foregoing six months on a predefined clinical topic. The graphical comparative feedback is send to each GP individually together with an outline of current guidelines on the topic, prior to the group meeting. The feedback will lead to peer review, seeking and discussing explanations for differences, comparing own performance to the guidelines, discussing a plan for change and discussing barriers to change. Each group discusses three clinical topics in six sessions. If the group wishes to do so, two sessions (test ordering and prescribing) can be combined into one session.

The intervention will run from September 2007 through February 2009. Please note that as of 05 /10/2007, the anticipated start date of this trial was posponed from September 2007 to December 2007.

Intervention Type
Other

Phase
Not Specified

Primary outcome(s)

1. The volume of ordered diagnostic tests and of prescribed medication
2. The inter-doctor variation in both test ordering and prescribing

Outcomes are measured at start of study (baseline), each 6 months preliminary data, after 18 months main timepoint for effect measurement, 6 and 12 months later long term effect measurement.

Key secondary outcome(s))
1. The quality of prescribing as defined by indicators
2. The level of functioning of the groups
3. What are the costs of implementation of the strategy?
4. Process data (attendance, altering of the meeting structure etc.)

Outcomes are measured at start of study (baseline), each 6 months preliminary data, after 18 months main timepoint for effect measurement, 6 and 12 months later long term effect measurement.

Completion date
01/02/2010

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
Groups of General Practitioners (GPs) conjoint in pharmacotherapeutic audit groups.

Participant type(s)
Health professional

Healthy volunteers allowed
No

Age group
Adult

Sex
All

Key exclusion criteria
1. Groups of over 15 GP's
2. Groups outside the provinces: Zeeland, Brabant or Limburg

Date of first enrolment
01/12/2007

Date of final enrolment
01/02/2010

Locations

Countries of recruitment

Netherlands

Study participating centre
Maastricht University
Maastricht
Netherlands
6200 MD

Sponsor information

Organisation
University Maastricht (UM) (Netherlands)

ROR
https://ror.org/02jz4aj89

Funder(s)

Funder type
Industry

Funder Name
CZ Health Insurance Company (CZ Actief in Gezondheid) (Netherlands)

Funder Name
The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development (ZonMw) (Netherlands)

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	13/04/2017		Yes	No

Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes