

# Cognitive behavioural therapy versus antispasmodic therapy for irritable bowel syndrome in primary care

<b>Submission date</b> 25/04/2003	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 25/04/2003	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 21/08/2009	<b>Condition category</b> Digestive System	<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**  
HTA 96/13/04

## Study information

**Scientific Title**

**Study objectives**

Some patients with irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) do not benefit from explanation, reassurance and symptomatic management and develop a chronic illness with high health care costs. This study is designed to establish whether early intervention with CBT is advantageous over current treatment.

**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)**

Treatment

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

Digestive system diseases: Inflammatory bowel disease

**Interventions**

Please note that, as of 15 January 2008, the start and end dates of this trial have been updated from 1 January 1999 and 31 December 2001 to 1 February 1999 and 31 December 2002, respectively.

**Interventions:**

The trial is divided into 4 stages:

Stage 1: Consecutive IBS patients presenting to their GP will be considered for the study.

Patients will receive standardised first line assessment including symptom explanation, advice and treatment in order to identify those who respond to 'usual measures'.

Stage 2: Those patients remaining symptomatic after two weeks will be given treatment with mebeverine hydrochloride, which is the most commonly used antispasmodic in the UK. We will interview patients at this stage to elicit their coping strategies.

Stage 3: After a further four weeks patients still symptomatic will be randomised to receive 6 sessions of cognitive behavioural therapy plus mebeverine hydrochloride (n=65) or continue on mebeverine hydrochloride alone (n=65).

Stage 4: Nine weeks after randomisation patients will be assessed for improvement with further assessments 3, 6 and 12 months after completing treatment.

**Intervention Type**

Drug

**Phase**

Not Specified

**Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)**

Mebeverine

**Primary outcome(s)**

IBS Severity Scoring System (SSS), Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale, Social Adjustment Scale, Illness Perception Questionnaire (IPQ) and a modified version of the Client Services Receipt Inventory (CSRI). The principle outcome will be the degree of improvement on the SSS. We will perform an economic analysis using the CSRI. An IBS specific coping questionnaire will be devised to identify successful coping in IBS and will be complemented by the IPQ and by qualitative interviews. A subsidiary outcome will be an evaluated and accredited training course equipping primary care nurses with skills in generic and IBS specific CBT.

**Key secondary outcome(s)**

Not provided at time of registration.

**Completion date**

31/12/2002

**Eligibility****Key inclusion criteria**

Patients with irritable bowel syndrome

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Adult

**Sex**

All

**Key exclusion criteria**

Not provided at time of registration.

**Date of first enrolment**

01/02/1999

**Date of final enrolment**

31/12/2002

**Locations****Countries of recruitment**

United Kingdom

England

**Study participating centre**  
**Department of General Practice**  
London  
United Kingdom  
SE11 6SP

## Sponsor information

**Organisation**  
Department of Health (UK)

**ROR**  
<https://ror.org/03sbpja79>

## Funder(s)

**Funder type**  
Government

**Funder Name**  
NIHR Health Technology Assessment Programme - HTA (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?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	20/08/2005		Yes	No
<a href="#">Other publications</a>	HTA monograph	01/06/2006		Yes	No
<a href="#">Study website</a>	Study website	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes