

# Improving question formulation for use in evidence appraisal in a tertiary care setting: a randomised controlled trial

<b>Submission date</b> 07/11/2001	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 07/11/2001	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 07/03/2008	<b>Condition category</b> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

## Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

### Type(s)

Scientific

### Contact name

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### Contact details

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## Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number

## Secondary identifying numbers

N/A

# Study information

## Scientific Title

### Study objectives

The study sought to determine whether adding simple instructions and examples on clinical question formulation would increase the specificity of the question being submitted by the health care professional compared to using a standard form without instructions and examples.

### 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

### Secondary study design

Randomised controlled trial

### Study setting(s)

Not specified

### Study type(s)

Not Specified

## Participant information sheet

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

Question formulation by health care professionals

### Interventions

New participants were invited to reformulate clinical queries. The control group was given no instructions. The intervention group was given a brief explanation of proper formulation, written instructions, and diagrammatic examples.

### Intervention Type

Other

### Phase

Not Specified

**Primary outcome measure**

The change in the proportion of reformulated questions that described each the dimensions of specificity.

**Secondary outcome measures**

The differences in the degree by which a particular dimension was specified.

**Overall study start date**

01/07/2000

**Completion date**

30/06/2001

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

Health care professionals affiliated with a tertiary care health care network in Melbourne, Australia

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Age group**

Not Specified

**Sex**

Not Specified

**Target number of participants**

39

**Key exclusion criteria**

Previous users of the service

**Date of first enrolment**

01/07/2000

**Date of final enrolment**

30/06/2001

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

Australia

**Study participating centre**

Deputy Director

Victoria

Australia  
3168

## Sponsor information

### Organisation

Centre for Clinical Effectiveness (Australia)

### Sponsor details

Monash Institute of Health Services Research  
246 Clayton Road  
Clayton  
Victoria  
Australia  
3168

### Sponsor type

Research organisation

### Website

<http://www.med.monash.edu.au>

### ROR

<https://ror.org/02t1bej08>

## Funder(s)

### Funder type

Not defined

### Funder Name

Self-funded through internal research funds

## Results and Publications

### Publication and dissemination plan

Not provided at time of registration

### Intention to publish date

### 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	01/11/2001		Yes	No