

# Improving Management of Patients with Acute Cough by C-reactive protein point of care testing and Communication Training

<b>Submission date</b> 04/08/2005	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 04/08/2005	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 30/05/2013	<b>Condition category</b> Respiratory	<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**  
NTR51

## Study information

**Scientific Title**

Point of care C-reactive protein test and enhanced communication skills for managing acute cough due to lower respiratory tract infection in general practice - cost-effectiveness and effect on diagnostic testing, antibiotic prescribing and recovery: a randomised controlled trial

**Acronym**

IMPAC3T

**Study objectives**

1. To what extent will the introduction of the C-reactive protein (CRP) point of care test and enhanced communication skills for managing lower respiratory tract infection (LRTI) in general practice, either separately or combined, lead to an enhancement of patient recovery, a reduction in other diagnostic testing, use of other medical services and a reduction in antibiotic prescribing?
2. To what extent are these reductions cost-effective?

**Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

**Ethics approval(s)**

Received from the local ethics committee

**Study design**

Randomised active-controlled factorial trial

**Primary study design**

Interventional

**Study type(s)**

Treatment

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

Acute cough, respiratory tract infection

**Interventions**

Randomisation at the level of practice. Factorial randomisation into four groups:

1. Access to and training in Point of Care (PoC) CRP plus communication training
2. Access to and training in PoC CRP alone
3. Communication training alone
4. Usual care

Point of Care CRP:

Access to and training in use of automatic CRP test device. Sample is one drop of whole blood from a finger prick.

Communication training:

Shared decision making using Simulated Patient in Clinical Encounter (SPICE) method.

**Intervention Type**

Other

**Phase**

Not Applicable

**Primary outcome(s)**

1. Change (decrease) in antibiotic prescription
2. Clinical recovery and return to normal work and activities

**Key secondary outcome(s)**

1. Cost-effectiveness of PoC CRP and communication training
2. Use of medical services, including re-consultation
3. Change (decrease) in diagnostic testing other than PoC CRP

**Completion date**

01/08/2008

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

1. First consultation of current episode of acute cough (duration less than four weeks)
2. Regarded by the General Practitioner (GP) to be caused by an acute lower respiratory tract infection
3. At least one out of following four:
  - 3.1. Shortness of breath
  - 3.2. Wheezing
  - 3.3. Chest pain
  - 3.4. Auscultation abnormalities
4. At least one of the following five:
  - 4.1. Fever
  - 4.2. Perspiring
  - 4.3. Headache
  - 4.4. Myalgia
  - 4.5. Feeling generally unwell

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Adult

**Sex**

All

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Patients who require immediate admission to hospital
2. Patients who have no understanding of written and/or spoken Dutch language

3. Patients who previously participated in the study
4. Patients who currently use antibiotic or have taken an antibiotic in the past two weeks
5. Patients who have been hospitalised in the past six weeks

**Date of first enrolment**

01/11/2005

**Date of final enrolment**

01/08/2008

## Locations

**Countries of recruitment**

Netherlands

**Study participating centre**

**P.O. Box 616**

Maastricht

Netherlands

6200 MD

## Sponsor information

**Organisation**

University Maastricht (Netherlands)

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/02jz4aj89>

## Funder(s)

**Funder type**

Research organisation

**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?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	05/05/2009		Yes	No
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	01/03/2013		Yes	No
<a href="#">Protocol article</a>	protocol	29/03/2007		Yes	No