

# Evaluation of the Threshold Assessment Grid (TAG) as a means of improving access from primary care to secondary mental health services

<b>Submission date</b> 13/08/2004	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 05/10/2004	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 10/11/2022	<b>Condition category</b> Mental and Behavioural Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

## Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

## Study website

<http://www.iop.kcl.ac.uk/iopweb/virtual/?path=/hsr/prism/tag/>

## 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**

SDO 71/2003

## **Study information**

### **Scientific Title**

Evaluation of the Threshold Assessment Grid (TAG) as a means of improving access from primary care to secondary mental health services

### **Acronym**

TAG

### **Study objectives**

Primary hypothesis: Using the TAG will significantly improve the agreement between the GP and the adult mental health team on the appropriateness of the referral

Secondary hypotheses: Receiving a TAG with a referral letter will make it significantly easier for the mental health team to identify

a. The urgency of the referral

b. The most appropriate professional to make the initial assessment

### **Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

### **Ethics approval(s)**

Added as of 06/08/2007: The study was approved by Metropolitan Multi-centre Ethics Committee (04/MRE11/8) with Local REC approval in London and Manchester, and research governance support from the relevant Primary Care Trusts and Mental Health Trusts.

### **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**

Mental health

**Interventions**

Control group: referrers to CMHTs asked to make referrals using a referral letter or form as per existing practice.

Intervention group: referrers to CMHTs asked to complete a Threshold Assessment Grid (TAG) in addition to a referral letter, and given guidance on its contents.

Amendments to the trial as of 01 June 2005:

1. We will now be paying GP practices £100 to cover administrative costs incurred in providing us with service use data for the 5-10 patients they referred to mental health teams during Jan - June 2005. To facilitate this service use data collection, the name and date of birth of referred patients will be recorded at the mental health team referral meeting.
2. We will now be paying GPs £100 for their time in being interviewed to learn about their experiences of using TAG
3. We will be interviewing key informants in mental health teams about their experience in receiving TAGs with the referral letter
4. We will be extending the randomised controlled trial (RCT) from 6 to 9 months, so it finishes on 30 September 2005 instead of 30 June 2005.

**Intervention Type**

Other

**Phase**

Not Specified

**Primary outcome measure**

CMHT rating of appropriateness of the referral.

**Secondary outcome measures**

CMHT rating of the quality of information to inform decision-making about urgency of the referral and which professional should make the initial assessment. In addition to this, service usage data will be collected to allow cost effectiveness analysis.

**Overall study start date**

01/01/2005

**Completion date**

30/09/2005

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

General Practitioners (GPs) and other referrers to Community Mental Health Teams (CMHTs).

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Age group**

Adult

**Sex**

Both

**Target number of participants**

73 GP practices (37 control, 36 intervention)

**Total final enrolment**

73

**Key exclusion criteria**

None

**Date of first enrolment**

01/01/2005

**Date of final enrolment**

30/09/2005

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

England

United Kingdom

**Study participating centre**

Health Services Research Department (Box P029)

London

United Kingdom

SE5 8AF

**Sponsor information****Organisation**

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

**Sponsor details**

NCCSDO

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

99 Gower Street

London

United Kingdom

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**Sponsor type**  
Government

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

## Funder(s)

**Funder type**  
Government

**Funder Name**  
NHS Service Delivery and Organisation R&D Programme (UK) (ref: SDO 71/2003)

## Results and Publications

**Publication and dissemination plan**  
Not provided at time of registration

**Intention to publish date**

**Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan**  
Not provided at time of registration

**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>		25/07/2007		Yes	No
<a href="#">Results article</a>		01/06/2008		Yes	No