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# Randomised controlled trial comparing point-of-care testing for respiratory viruses with standard clinical care in adults hospitalised with acute respiratory illness

**Submission date**
24/12/2014

**Recruitment status**
No longer recruiting

**Registration date**
14/01/2015

**Overall study status**
Completed

**Last Edited**
21/06/2019

**Condition category**
Respiratory

[X] Prospectively registered
[X] Protocol
[_] Statistical analysis plan
[X] Results
[_] Individual participant data

## Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims
Respiratory viruses, including the influenza virus, cause large numbers of people to become unwell and be admitted to hospital every winter. The current diagnostic tests for respiratory viruses are done in laboratories away from patients and are time consuming, taking more than 24 hours to generate a result for doctors. New rapid tests for respiratory viruses have been developed that can be done in admission units and give results within 1 hour. These tests have equivalent accuracy to the standard laboratory tests and are licensed for clinical use in Europe and the USA. Introducing these new tests to admission units might improve the identification and management of patients infected with respiratory viruses and could also improve infection control practices to stop the spread of viruses within hospitals. Identifying viruses at an early stage of a patient's care might also lead to a reduction in antibiotic use, which is important in reducing the spread of antibiotic resistance in hospitals. These changes might lead to an overall reduction in the costs for the National Health Service and its institutions. The aim of this study is to assess whether a test can improve people's health, help them take fewer antibiotics and help them be less likely to end up in hospitals.

Who can participate?
Patients with a respiratory infection caused by viruses

What does the study involve?
Patients presenting to a hospital with respiratory illness are randomly allocated to have a rapid test for respiratory viruses in addition to standard care or to standard care alone.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?
Improvement in clinical care, reduction in antibiotic use and reduction in the cost of hospital admissions

Where is the study run from?
University Hospitals Southampton Foundation NHS Trust (UK)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?
January 2015 to December 2016

Who is funding the study?
University of Southampton, Faculty of Medicine (UK)

Who is the main contact?
Dr Tristan Clark

# Contact information

### Type(s)
Scientific

### Contact name
Dr Tristan Clark

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http://orcid.org/0000-0001-6026-5295

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# Additional identifiers

### EudraCT/CTIS number
Nil known

### IRAS number

### ClinicalTrials.gov number
Nil known

### Secondary identifying numbers
RHM MED 1217

# Study information

### Scientific Title
Comparison of point-of-care testing for respiratory viruses with standard clinical care in adults presenting to secondary care with acute respiratory illness (ResPOC): a randomised controlled study

## Acronym
ResPOC

## Study objectives
Point-of-care testing for respiratory viruses in adults hospitalised with acute respiratory illness might reduce antibiotic use, improve use of influenza treatments, improve use of isolation facilities and might reduce overall costs of hospitalisation compared with standard clinical care.

## Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

## Ethics approval(s)
National Research Ethics Service Committee North West - Preston (UK), 05/12/2014, ref: 14/NW/1467
Substantial amendments approved 09/07/2015 and 02/02/2016

## Study design
Randomised controlled trial

## Primary study design
Interventional

## Secondary study design
Randomised controlled trial

## Study setting(s)
Hospital

## Study type(s)
Diagnostic

## Participant information sheet
Not available in web format, please use the contact details to request a patient information sheet

## Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Acute respiratory illness

## Interventions
Participants are enrolled and assigned a study number consequently. Patients are randomised 1:1 to the intervention or control groups using an online randomisation service (sealed envelope.com). Blinding is not attempted.

Intervention group: A nose and throat swab will be taken by a member of research staff (doctor or nurse) according to standard protocols. Swabs are placed directly into viral transport medium. The sample is analysed on the FilmArray Respiratory Panel as per training delivered by the apparatus manufacturer. Test results are normally available within 1 hour using the FilmArray Respiratory Panel. In the event of a run failure, the analysis run will be repeated using the same sample.
The results of the test will be documented in the patient’s case notes and in the event of a

pathogen being detected, a doctor from the clinical team responsible for the patient will be directly informed. The participant will also be informed of the result on the same day.

Control:
These patients will be managed using standard clinical care. Respiratory virus testing using lab RT-PCT will be at the discretion of the responsible clinical team.

There is no follow up for study participants. Outcomes are collected retrospectively from case notes for the entire duration of hospitalisation or at 30 days, whichever is shortest.

## Intervention Type
Device

## Primary outcome measure
Proportion of patients treated with antibiotics: measured retrospectively from case notes for the entire duration of hospitalisation or at 30 days, whichever is shortest

## Secondary outcome measures
Secondary outcome measures as of 27/09/2016:
The outcomes will be measured retrospectively from case notes for the entire duration of hospitalisation or at 30 days, whichever is shortest.
1. Duration of antibiotic use
2. Proportion of patients receiving only a stat dose of antibiotics
3. Proportion of patients receiving <48 hours antibiotics
4. Proportion of patients treated with antiviral drugs
5. Time to antiviral drug use
6. Duration of antiviral drugs
7. Duration of hospital stay
8. Proportion of patients nursed in a side room
9. Duration of side room use
10.Time to allocation of a side room
11. Health care utilisation

Original secondary outcome measures:
The outcomes will be measured retrospectively from case notes for the entire duration of hospitalisation or at 30 days, whichever is shortest.
1. Duration of antibiotic use
2. Proportion of patients treated with antiviral drugs
3. Time to antiviral drug use
4. Duration of antiviral drugs
5. Duration of hospital stay
6. Proportion of patients seen by a nurse in a side room
7. Time to allocation to a side room
8. Number of investigations done

## Overall study start date
01/01/2015

## Completion date
30/04/2016

# Eligibility

### Key inclusion criteria
1. Aged 18 years old or over
2. Capacity to provide written informed consent and is able and willing to adhere to the study procedures
3. Is a patient at Southampton General Hospital Acute Medical Unit (AMU) or Emergency Department (ED)
4. Can be recruited to the study within 24 hours of first triage by ED staff or within 24 hours of arrival on AMU (if admitted directly to AMU)
5. Has an acute respiratory illness and/or fever >37.5°C
6. Duration of illness less than or equal to 7 days

An episode of acute respiratory illness is defined as an acute pulmonary illness (including pneumonia, bronchitis and influenza-like illness) or an acute exacerbation of a chronic respiratory illness (including exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, asthma or bronchiectasis).

### Participant type(s)
Patient

### Age group
Adult

### Lower age limit
18 Years

### Sex
Both

### Target number of participants
720

### Key exclusion criteria
1. A palliative approach is being taken by the treating clinicians
2. Previously included in this study (first season only)
3. Declines nasal or pharyngeal swabbing

### Date of first enrolment
15/01/2015

### Date of final enrolment
31/12/2016

# Locations

### Countries of recruitment
England

United Kingdom

**Study participating centre**
**University Hospitals Southampton Foundation NHS Trust**
University Hospitals Southampton, Tremona Road, Southampton
Southampton
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# Sponsor information

**Organisation**
University Hospital Southampton Foundation NHS Trust

**Sponsor details**
Research and Development Department
Level E Pathology Block
SCBR Mailpoint 138
Southampton General Hospital
University Hospitals Southampton
Tremona Road
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**Sponsor type**
Hospital/treatment centre

**ROR**
https://ror.org/0485axj58

# Funder(s)

**Funder type**
University/education

**Funder Name**
University of Southampton

**Alternative Name(s)**
University of Southampton UK

**Funding Body Type**

Government organisation

### Funding Body Subtype
Universities (academic only)

### Location
United Kingdom

## Results and Publications

### Publication and dissemination plan
The results will be disseminated locally and nationally and submitted for publication to a clinical infectious diseases or respiratory journal.

### Intention to publish date
31/03/2017

### Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

### IPD sharing plan summary
Available on request

### Study outputs

| Output type | Details | Date created | Date added | Peer reviewed? | Patient-facing? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Protocol article | protocol | 06/02/2017 | | Yes | No |
| Results article | results | 01/05/2017 | | Yes | No |
| Other publications | post-hoc analysis | 09/08/2018 | | Yes | No |
| HRA research summary | | | 28/06/2023 | No | No |