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Impact of an online evidence retrieval system on decision-making in general practice

Submission date
22/07/2005

Recruitment status
No longer recruiting

Registration date
09/09/2005

Overall study status
Completed

Last Edited
08/11/2022

Condition category
Other

[_] Prospectively registered
[X] Protocol
[_] Statistical analysis plan
[_] Results
[_] Individual participant data
[_] Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol
Not provided at time of registration

Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

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2052

Additional identifiers

Study information

Scientific Title
Impact of an online evidence retrieval system on decision-making in general practice

Study objectives
The aim of this trial is to assess the effectiveness of an online evidence retrieval system in improving clinical decision-making processes in general practice. The specific hypotheses to be tested in this study are that:
1. Online evidence systems are clinically acceptable and will be used by clinicians in real world general practice settings

2. Online evidence systems are effective in changing clinical decision-making behaviour and result in measurable improvements in evidence-based prescribing decisions

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
Not provided at time of registration

Primary study design
Interventional

Study design
Randomised controlled trial

Study type(s)
Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Online clinical evidence retrieval technology

Interventions
Participants in the intervention group were given access to Quick Clinical an online clinical evidence retrieval system specifically designed around the needs of family physicians. This system is based on the generic use of search filters focused on clinical questions and retrieves evidence from multiple resources including bibliographic databases, textbooks and summarised guidelines.

Participants in the control group received no intervention.

Intervention Type
Behavioural

Primary outcome(s)
The primary outcome measures are clinician acceptance and use of Quick Clinical and the resulting change in decision-making behaviour. Specific outcome measures are:
1. Physician acceptability focusing on ease of use and usefulness and patterns of use of QC
2. Prescribing patterns in clinical priority areas identified at the start of the study
3. Prescribing patterns in response to new evidence of the effectiveness of new or existing treatments
4. Patterns of non-pharmacological clinical management

Key secondary outcome(s)
1. Referral patterns
2. Management decisions
3. Number, timing and types of investigations

Completion date
01/05/2006

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
Registered general practitioners who had a computer with Internet connectivity and prescribed electronically were studied.

Participant type(s)
Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed
No

Age group
Adult

Sex
All

Key exclusion criteria
Clinicians were excluded if they were participating in other studies requiring the provision of prescribing data or if they were planning to retire or move to another practice during the study period.

Date of first enrolment
01/05/2005

Date of final enrolment
01/05/2006

Locations

Countries of recruitment
Australia

Study participating centre
Centre for Health Informatics
Sydney
Australia
2052

Sponsor information

Organisation
University of New South Wales (Australia) - Centre for Health Informatics

ROR
https://ror.org/03r8z3t63

Funder(s)

Funder type
University/education

Funder Name
University of New South Wales (Australia) - Centre for Health Informatics

Results and Publications

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?
Protocol article		24/08/2006		Yes	No