

The provision of written information on the management of illness: a cluster randomised trial to examine the impact on primary care services and patient empowerment.

Submission date 30/09/2004	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	☐ Prospectively registered ☐ Protocol
Registration date 30/09/2004	Overall study status Completed	☐ Statistical analysis plan ☒ Results
Last Edited 13/08/2010	Condition category Other	☐ 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
N0096067462

Study information

Scientific Title

Study objectives

To determine the impact of providing written patient information on the frequency, duration and type of patient contact with the primary healthcare team.

To establish the views of both patient and primary care staff on the implications of providing written information in terms of patient empowerment, the patients' level of self care, and the patients' confidence in deciding when to consult a health professional.

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)

Other

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Not Applicable: Service delivery

Interventions

The study is a cluster randomised trial. Patients will be allocated to one of the intervention arms or the control arm of the trial by the relevant health professional according to the contents of a prepared unmarked envelope.

Patients in the intervention arms will receive a book describing how to best manage by self care or by contact with a health professional a wide range of common illnesses. Information on supplementary sources of health information will also be available. Those in the control group will receive usual care which may include information or other sources of health information.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Applicable

Primary outcome(s)

The primary outcome measures will be the number of contacts (consultations and telephone calls) between the patient and the primary health care team over a one year period. The length of consultation will be logged using data from the computerised appointment system.

Semi-structured interviews mine the usefulness of the self care book from both patient and practice perspectives.

Key secondary outcome(s)

Not provided at time of registration

Completion date

31/12/2003

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

The patients to be involved in the study will be randomly selected households from the population of 16,500 patients registered with the Parkbury House Surgery. 800 patients will be invited to participate in each intervention arm, and all occupants of each household will be included (approximately 10% of households.)

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

Patients under the age of 16 will not be used in the random allocation process, and households in which English is not clearly understood will be excluded as the information to be used in the study is available in English only.

Date of first enrolment

01/04/1998

Date of final enrolment

31/12/2003

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre
Parkbury House Surgery
St Albans
United Kingdom
AL1 3HD

Sponsor information

Organisation
Department of Health

Funder(s)

Funder type
University/education

Funder Name
University of Hertfordshire Research Network (HertNet) / Centre for Research in Primary and Community Care (CRIPACC) (UK)

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?
Results article	results	01/09/2005		Yes	No