

Participant Information Sheet

Study Title: Implementation of C-Reactive Protein Point of Care Testing for Lower Respiratory Tract Infections

Researchers: Prof Michael Moore, Nick Sandison, Dr Thomas Monks, Matt Johnson

Please read this information carefully before deciding to take part in this research. The survey you have been asked to complete will require you to sign a consent form if you are happy to participate.

What is the evaluation about?

This survey forms part of a Wessex CLAHRC (Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care, <http://www.clahrc-wessex.nihr.ac.uk>) study to investigate the potential for C-Reactive Protein (CRP) testing to be used as an aid to clinical decision making around antibiotic prescribing for lower respiratory tract infection, and to therefore reduce unnecessary antibiotic use by CCGs and GP surgeries.

The survey focusses on problems and solutions for implementation, and we hope that insight from your and others' responses can help to encourage and inform wider use of CRP testing. In due course the findings from this exercise and our substantive data analysis will be published on the CRP project page of the CLAHRC website: <https://www.clahrc-wessex.nihr.ac.uk/theme/project/20>. We will notify you when these are available.

Why have I been chosen?

You have been invited to take part because we understand that you have participated (or considered participating) in a C-reactive Protein, or CRP, testing programme in your organisation.

What will happen to me if I take part?

Taking part involves completing this short survey, which should take no more than 30 minutes.

Are there any benefits in my taking part?

Taking part enables you to make your views on the implementation of CRP testing known, and will contribute to the development of recommendations for best practice.

Are there any risks involved?

There are no anticipated risks to taking part.

Will my participation be confidential?

This evaluation is carried out in compliance with the Data Protection Act/University policy. The method used is known as *linked anonymity*. You will be allocated a code which will be known only to the research team and kept on a password protected computer. Views presented in reports and papers resulting from the evaluation will remain anonymous. Quotes from survey responses may be used where particularly relevant but will also remain anonymous. No report will be made on names or specific roles of who has or has not participated in the survey.

What happens if I change my mind?

You may withdraw at any time without any consequences whatsoever and your legal rights will be unaffected.

What happens if something goes wrong?

If you have any concerns that you do not wish to take up with the researcher or any complaint, please contact the Wessex CLAHRC Research Operations Manager, Kate Rodger, by email: K.Rodger@soton.ac.uk

Where can I get more information?

After reading this information sheet, if you have any questions, please contact:

Prof Michael Moore, by email: mvm198@soton.ac.uk

Nick Sandison, by email: NJ.Sandison@soton.ac.uk

Dr Thomas Monks, by email: Thomas.Monks@soton.ac.uk