UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG AUSTRALIA

Medcast

PRACTICE INFORMATION SHEET

Study Title: Clinical and **H**ealthcare **I**mprovement through **M**y Health Record usage and **E**ducation in **G**eneral **P**ractice – The CHIME-GP Study

PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH

This is an invitation for your practice to participate in a study to evaluate the impact of a multifaceted education intervention to change clinical practice using My Health Record (MHR) in primary care. The educational intervention activities with GPs will include online training in best practice evidence in quality use of medicines and diagnostic ordering along with use of MHR. In addition the study seeks to understand factors involved in the implementation of the educational intervention into clinical practice.

RESEARCH FUNDING

This research has been commission by the Australian Digital Health Agency (ADHA). ADHA have contracted Medcast (Pty Ltd) to undertake an educational intervention to improve the effectiveness and uptake of MHR. In order to provide an independent evaluation and avoid conflict of interest, Medcast have subcontracted the University of Wollongong (UOW) to undertake an arm's-length evaluation of the educational intervention to include in its reporting to ADHA.

INVESTIGATORS

Prof Andrew Bonney	Graduate Medicine, University of Wollongong, 2533
	abonney@uow.edu.au (02) 4221 5819
A/Prof Judy Mullan	Graduate Medicine, University of Wollongong, 2522
	jmullan@uow.edu.au (02) 4221 5980
Clin A/Prof Stephen Barnett	Medcast Pty Ltd, 92 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000
	stephen@medcast.com.au 0418 741 973

METHOD AND DEMANDS ON PARTICIPANTS

General practitioners in your practice have expressed an interest in being involved in the study and will provide consent individually to participate in one of three randomly allocated education interventions and to have de-identified data they have generated in the practice electronic health record extracted. We are also seeking consent from your practice for this data extraction.

If your practice chooses to be included in this study, your practice will be asked to:

- Provide by automated extract from your electronic health records de-identified prescribing, pathology and imaging ordering data for six months prior to and following the education sessions from participating GPs

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Data collection

PenCS software already installed at your practice will perform all coding and de-identification of clinical study data on-site, within your practice's computing environments. PenCS will install a customized search algorithm to enable this. Unit level records (i.e. individual patient records) will be extracted for consenting doctors. Unit record level (i.e. individual patient level) identifiers will be removed from the data and replaced by a one-off non re-identifiable code. Doctors and practices will be identified by a code only accessed by UOW researchers for analysis and kept securely and separate from extracted data. All de-identification will be carried out automatically by the PenCS software within the secure computing environment of your practice. Neither PenCS, Medcast or the investigators will have any access to identifiable unit-level record data concerning patients. The de-identified data set will be transferred directly from your practice to the research team at UOW by automated, secure, encrypted file transfer protocol.

The data collected will be:

- age and sex of patients seen by participating GPs
- consultation rates of participating GPs at a practitioner level
- baseline and post-intervention rates of prescribing, pathology and imaging ordering at a practitioner level for participating GPs
- MyHR access rates at a practitioner level for participating GPs

PenCS is widely used across Australian general practices for data extraction for practice level quality improvement and for population health monitoring by Primary Health Networks

POSSIBLE RISKS, INCONVENIENCES AND DISCOMFORTS

Any data that your practice will supply, that will be used in reports will not, under any circumstances, contain names or identifying characteristics of patients, doctors or practices. Any information provided is confidential, and no information that could lead to the identification of any individual will be disclosed in any reports on the project, or to any other party.

Due to the potential conflict of interest of Medcast in the project a risk management plan has been established to ensure the research is carried out in an impartial and independent manner. Medcast or its personnel will not be involved with clinical data collection, consenting participants for the study, interviews or the analysis and interpretation of results.

Apart from the involvement outlined above, we can foresee no burdens or hazards for your practice. Your involvement in the study is voluntary and you may withdraw your participation from the study at any time. Refusal to participate in the study will not affect your relationship with the researchers, the University of Wollongong, Medcast, PenCS or ADHA. You may request removal of any of your practice data up until analysis is complete and thereafter any data that can be still be identified as yours. Practices will be supplied with a poster informing patients that they can opt out of data collection for the study if they wish by notifying you and in turn you notifying PenCS.

BENEFITS OF THE RESEARCH

Participation in the research will result in the participants receiving up to date, evidence based education on prescribing, pathology and diagnostic ordering. In addition, participants will be better informed about the use of MyHR in clinical practice which can lead to:

- Improved clinical decisions

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- Fewer adverse events for your patients
- Less avoidable hospital admissions
- Better health outcomes

The education will be accredited with RACGP and ACRRM for CPD points. Participants who complete the study will be awarded 40 Accredited CPD points (Cat 1, pending RACGP accreditation). In appreciation of their participation, GPs who complete the activities will also receive $200 (ex. GST).

PATIENT INFORMATION

Participating practices will be provided with an information poster to display at reception, as well as a patient information sheet, and a patient opt-out register which includes instructions to practice staff. Patients my opt out of the study if they choose to by providing their details to practice staff who will then update the opt-out register.

ETHICS REVIEW AND COMPLAINTS

This study has been reviewed by the Human Research Ethics Committee of the University of Wollongong. If you have any concerns or complaints regarding the way this research has been conducted, you can contact the UOW Ethics Officer on (02) 4221 4457.

Thank you for your interest in this study. If you would like further information about this study please contact Chief Investigator Prof Andrew Bonney (02 4221 5473).

Sincerely

Professor Bonney
Roberta Williams Chair of General Practice
Graduate School of Medicine
University of Wollongong