



Royal College of General Practitioners Midland Faculty
Annual Education, Research and Innovation Symposium
Thursday 18th April 2024

Ref. 8
Abstract Submission Form

PRESENTER'S DETAILS			
Title (Prof, Dr, Mr, Mrs, Miss) Miss Miss	First Name Jordan Emma	Surname Byrne Bagshaw	
Department or organisation name Warwick Medical School			
Category (please select) Quality Improvement Project			
Audit	Research	Education Project	Quality Improvement
Presentation Preference (please select)			
I prefer an oral presentation only		I prefer a poster or poster presentation only	I have no presentation preferences
PRESENTATION DETAILS (max 300 words in total not including title or authors)			
Names of Authors Jordan Byrne Emma Bagshaw		Title of Study Optimisation resources and anti-microbial stewardship – an audit and quality improvement project	
I am a student and wish to be considered for the student prize			<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Background – <i>What's the problem you are tackling?</i> General practitioners in the UK are often not adhering correctly to national and local antimicrobial prescribing guidelines. This has led to poor antimicrobial stewardship amongst GPs, and overuse of antibiotics on a scale that is of significant concern to researchers investigating increasing antibiotic resistance. Our audit aimed to investigate adherence to prescribing guidelines within a GP practice in South Warwickshire, and implement an antimicrobial optimisation guide as a quality improvement project with the aim of reducing inappropriate antibiotic prescriptions.			

Method

How did/will you do it?

We analysed patient records in EMIS to audit the first-line treatment prescribed for patients with a first presentation of non-bullous impetigo without associated systemic illness. We then produced a resource on antimicrobial prescribing guidelines which was issued to all GPs in the practice, and returned to re-audit one year later.

Results (if applicable)

What did you find?

At the first audit, we found that no patients were prescribed the recommended first-line treatment for impetigo, and 25.9% of patients were prescribed an antibiotic as a first-line treatment, against local and national guidelines. At re-audit, we saw a 12% improvement in GPs correctly prescribing the recommended first-line treatment. Although antibiotic prescriptions had slightly reduced, we still found that 20% of patients were inappropriately prescribed an antibiotic.

Discussion

Why does this matter?

It is clear that antimicrobial stewardship in general practice remains an ongoing issue. In 2019 in England, 71% of antibiotics were prescribed in general practice (Public Health England, 2020), yet at present there do not appear to be any effective strategies in place to overcome over prescribing. There are complex and multifaceted reasons why GPs may over prescribe in their practice, and a holistic approach to the problem is essential to tackle issues with antimicrobial stewardship.

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Closing date Monday 26th February 2024