Evaluation of a regional information campaign on the appropriate use of antibiotics: a prospective controlled study

First published: 19/12/2014

Last updated: 19/12/2014

Study Ongoing

Administrative details

EU PAS number

EUPAS7901

Study ID

7902

DARWIN EU® study

No

Study countries

Italy

Study description

An information campaign aimed at reducing antibiotic prescribing is going to be implemented in Emilia-Romagna, a region in Northern Italy with about 4,400,000 inhabitants, in December 2014. The campaign messages have been designed to increase awareness of the potential threats of unnecessary use of antibiotics. The active collaboration of doctors and pharmacists is expected to enhance the transfer of the campaign key messages to the general population, eventually reducing people's requests of antibiotic prescribing and influencing prescribers' attitudes as well.Leaflets, posters and (where the facilities exist) a short video will be available in waiting rooms of surgeries, in general practice as well as in hospitals and outpatients clinics, and in pharmacies across all the Emilia-Romagna Region. The primary outcome will be the average prescribing rate of antibiotics (J01C, J01D, J01F, J01M, J01XA codes of the Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical Classification System) to outpatients during the five-month period after the campaign start, expressed as defined daily doses per 1000 inhabitants/day. Changes in the prescribing rate of antibiotics in Emilia-Romagna (vs the same period of the previous year) will be assessed and compared to prescribing changes in the rest of Italy and in groups of regions defined by quartiles of prescription rates, taking the possible implementation of specific policies on antibiotics in other regions into account.

Study status

Ongoing

Research institutions and networks

Institutions

Emilia-Romagna Health and Social Agency (ASSR Emilia-Romagna)

Italy

First published: 23/04/2010

Last updated: 18/12/2017

Institution | Outdated | Laboratory/Research/Testing facility | ENCePP partner

Contact details

Study institution contact

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Study contact

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Primary lead investigator

Maria Luisa Moro

Primary lead investigator

Study timelines

Date when funding contract was signed

Planned: 01/09/2014

Actual: 01/09/2014

Study start date

Planned: 01/12/2014

Actual: 01/12/2014

Date of final study report

Planned: 30/06/2016

Sources of funding

- Other

More details on funding

ASSR Emilia-Romagna

Regulatory

Was the study required by a regulatory body?

No

Methodological aspects

Study type

Study type list

Study type:

Non-interventional study

Scope of the study:

Drug utilisation

Effectiveness study (incl. comparative)

Main study objective:

To evaluate the change in the average prescribing rate of antibiotics following a regional information campaign in the Emilia-Romagna (4,4 millions inhabitants), based on ad hoc leaflets, posters and a short video plus posting on the web and use of videoterminals in railway stations.

Population studied

Age groups

- Preterm newborn infants (0 – 27 days)
- Term newborn infants (0 – 27 days)
- Infants and toddlers (28 days – 23 months)
- Children (2 to < 12 years)
- Adolescents (12 to < 18 years)
- Adults (18 to < 46 years)
- Adults (46 to < 65 years)
- Adults (65 to < 75 years)
- Adults (75 to < 85 years)
- Adults (85 years and over)

Estimated number of subjects

4.400.000

Study design details

Outcomes

The change in the average prescribing rate of antibiotics (J01 codes of the Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical Classification System) to outpatients during the year 2015 with a focus on the January-March 2015 period, expressed as defined daily doses per 1000 inhabitants/day. compared to the same period of time in the previous year.

Data analysis plan

Changes in the prescribing rate of antibiotics in Emilia-Romagna (vs 2014 and the same period of the previous year) will be assessed for total population and for age categories and compared to prescribing changes in the rest of Italy and in groups of regions comparable for population structure and J01 prescription rates, taking the possible implementation of specific policies on antibiotics in other regions into account.

Data management

ENCePP Seal

The use of the ENCePP Seal has been discontinued since February 2025. The ENCePP Seal fields are retained in the display mode for transparency but are no longer maintained.

Data sources

Data source(s), other

Drug prescription in general medicine Italy, Emilia Romagna GPs drug prescription

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Data sources (types)

Administrative healthcare records (e.g., claims)

Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

CDM mapping

No

Data quality specifications

Check conformance

Unknown

Check completeness

Unknown

Check stability

Unknown

Check logical consistency

Unknown

Data characterisation

Data characterisation conducted

No