
PROJECT OVERVIEW

Knowledge, belief and attitude of General Practitioners, Pediatricians and selected specialists in prescribing cephalosporines, macrolides and broad-spectrum penicillins for Respiratory Tract Infections (RTIs) in Slovakia - a prospective study.

Basic goals of the project:

According to several publications (Babela, 2012; Liskova, 2012) there was significant increase e.g. in macrolide resistance in respiratory tract pathogens in Slovak community during past 10 years. Resistance data are extracted from regular reports from selected microbiology labs from all parts of Slovakia. Similar situation is reported from European countries, where for example according to Farrell DH (2008) macrolide resistance rates varied widely between countries, ranging from 3.8% in the Netherlands to 52.2% in Italy. High rates of resistance (>20%) were observed in Belgium, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Poland, the Slovak Republic and Spain. However, we do not have recent data concerning behavioral patterns of prescribers connected to this phenomenon, at least locally. We would like to approach selected GPs, Pediatricians, E.N.T. specialists and Pneumologists (approx. 380 total) with iPad based anonymous questionnaire to gather basic information concerning knowledge, belief and attitude towards prescription of key antibiotic groups used for treatment of RTIs (80% patients with RTIs are treated with 3 antibiotic groups mentioned above). Among others, we would like to focus on factors contributing to resistance increase such as appropriateness of prescription and patients' expectations to leave office with antibiotic, prescribing practice - what is influencing first line treatment and why (tests results, own experience, dosage, duration of treatment, etc.) and attitude towards influencing patients compliance with antibiotic choice (e.g. short treatment and simple dosage versus longer treatment and more frequent dosage). We would like to publish final data to European/international community to present our findings and discuss what could work to decrease resistance and increase patients compliance mainly from prescribers' behavioral patterns perspective (e.g. attitude towards qd dosage or short course of treatment). All results will be adjusted for local and international publications and presentations.

Project design:

Selection of GPs, Pediatricians, ENT specialists and Pneumologists on regional basis.
Expected total number: 380 doctors. Selection will be made to make sure all regions of Slovakia are represented in research with respect of population density.

Time schedule:

- 6 WEEKS: preparation of iPad application and questionnaire data for selected groups of responders
- 2-4 WEEKS: training for data collectors and one-shot data collection
- 6-8 WEEKS: data management and evaluation, final report preparation, data selection for local and international publication

Number of expected participants:

Total participants: 380 (290 GPs and Pediatricians + 90 specialists)

Expected costs:

iPad App creation, installation, application management, data storage management:

7900 EUR

Data evaluation, final report preparation, data preparation for local and international publication:

7800 EUR

Remuneration for involved centers (49 EUR/1 center):

18710 EUR

Preliminary costs (total):

34410 EUR

Evaluation report:

Evaluation will be executed by Department of Public Health and Healthcare Management at St. Elizabeth University in Bratislava, Slovakia. Final report will be submitted not later than 10 weeks after final data collection.

Expected publication activities:

SCI Publications: publications and poster submissions will be decided based on available results and “fit” with potential high profile congresses in EU and USA

Journals: Value in Health, Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, Emerging infectious Diseases (potentially)

Congresses: ECCMID, ICCAC, ICID, ISPOR - active poster presentation (EU, USA, 2014)

Non-SCI publications: local scientific journals for GP, Pediatricians and specialists (at least 2 publications) + active presentation on local scientific congresses

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