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TITLE:	
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Original citation:	
OpenAIR citation:	
Version history:	
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Types of clinical outcomes and methods for their assessment in the evaluation of pharmacist-led management of minor ailments: a systematic review Vibhu Paudyal, Scott Cunningham, Katie MacLure, Katie Gibson Smith, Cristin Ryan, Maria Cordina

Citation

Vibhu Paudyal, Scott Cunningham, Katie MacLure, Katie Gibson Smith, Cristin Ryan, Maria Cordina. Types of clinical outcomes and methods for their assessment in the evaluation of pharmacist-led management of minor ailments: a systematic review. PROSPERO 2016 CRD42016050847 Available from:

http://www.crd.york.ac.uk/PROSPERO/display_record.php?ID=CRD42016050847

Review question

1. To systematically review the types of clinical outcomes used in the evaluation of pharmacist-led minor ailments management.

2. To systematically review the methods of clinical outcomes assessment used in the evaluation of pharmacist-led minor ailments management.

3. To inform development and application of best practices regarding the types and methods of clinical outcomes assessment in the evaluations of pharmacist-led minor ailments management.

Searches

1.MEDLINE

2.EMBASE

3.CINAHL

4. International Pharmaceutical Abstracts (IPA)

5. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (CDSR)

6.Google Scholar

7.Centre for Review and Dissemination (CRD) database

The bibliography of included studies will be reviewed to further identify additional references. Relevant international experts will be contacted by email to seek additional studies.

Boolean operators such as truncations (*), wild cards (\$), adjacent search options (e.g. adj2) will be used where relevant. Refworks will be used to manage the search results.

Types of study to be included

There will be no restriction on the study designs included, for example any randomized studies, cohort studies and before and after evaluations.

Condition or domain being studied

Minor ailments

Participants/population

There will be no limitations to study populations. Both children and adults will be included.

Intervention(s), exposure(s)

Evaluations of pharmacy-led (including community and hospital) management including comparative evaluations of minor ailments management involving the following will be included:

- General Practice
- Out of hours (including Accident and Emergency)
- Walk-in centres
- Unscheduled care providers
- Self-care with no professional support including over the counter management in non-pharmacy settings.

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With regards to community pharmacy management, evaluation of both publicly-funded minor ailments schemes, over-the-counter treatment, service provision through patient group directions will be included. All minor ailment types will be included. An established typology (based on the list of minor ailments or the relevant pharmacy medicines) will be used to list the minor ailments included in the evaluation.

Comparator(s)/control

Evaluations of pharmacy-led (including community and hospital) management including comparative evaluations of minor ailments management involving the following will be included:

- General Practice
- Out of hours (including Accident and Emergency)
- Walk-in centres
- Unscheduled care providers

• Self-care with no professional support including over the counter management in non-pharmacy settings. With regards to community pharmacy management, evaluation of both publicly-funded minor ailments schemes, over-the-counter treatment, service provision through patient group directions will be included. All minor ailment types will be included. An established typology (based on the list of minor ailments or the relevant pharmacy medicines) will be used to list the minor ailments included in the evaluation.

Context

Exclusion criteria

- Evaluation not involving clinical outcomes assessment.
- Literature based only on conceptual models, i.e. lacking empirical evidence.

Primary outcome(s)

• Types of clinical outcomes used in the evaluations of minor ailments management

• Methods of clinical outcomes assessment in the evaluations of minor ailments management e.g. follow up, patient assessment, methods to obtain self-reported data etc.

Secondary outcome(s)

Recommendations for development and implementation of best practices with regards to the using of the types and methods of clinical outcomes assessment for a range of minor ailments or specific minor ailment types

Data extraction (selection and coding)

A data extraction tool will be developed based on the aims and objectives and will be piloted using two research papers. The following key data will be extracted:

• Details of the authors, country of publication/study, year of publication, study population, setting, patient identification and recruitment

- Details of any intervention including features of minor ailment schemes, comparator services
- Types of clinical outcomes used
- Measures of clinical outcomes assessment
- Any validation of clinical outcomes assessment
- Results, summary measures with p values and confidence intervals, where reported.

Independent data extraction of each included study will be undertaken.

Risk of bias (quality) assessment

An independent, duplicate quality assessment of each study will be undertaken. Validated tools will be used to perform critical appraisal such as those developed by the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP). Risk of bias assessment will be conducted for randomised controlled trials using the Cochrane Collaboration tool for assessing risk of bias. Studies will not be excluded based on quality criteria alone.

Strategy for data synthesis

The nature of aims and objectives will lend to a narrative synthesis of the results. Being a methodological systematic review, a meta-analysis is not warranted. Microsoft Excel will be used to manage the data

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extraction and quality assessment processes.

Analysis of subgroups or subsets None planned

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Anticipated or actual start date 01 November 2016

Anticipated completion date 31 July 2017

Funding sources/sponsors European Society of Clinical Pharmacy 2016 Grant

Conflicts of interest None known

Language English

Country Scotland

Stage of review Review_Ongoing

Subject index terms status Subject indexing assigned by CRD

Subject index terms Community Pharmacy Services; Humans; Pharmacists; Referral and Consultation

Date of registration in PROSPERO 04 November 2016

Date of publication of this version 30 November 2016

Revision note for this version Minor change of wording in Objective 3 (Review questions(s)) from 'measures' to 'methods' to ensure

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consistency.

Details of any existing review of the same topic by the same authors

Stage of review at time of this submission The review has not started

Stage	Started	Completed
Preliminary searches	No	No
Piloting of the study selection process	No	No
Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria	No	No
Data extraction	No	No
Risk of bias (quality) assessment	No	No
Data analysis	No	No

Revision note

Minor change of wording in Objective 3 (Review questions(s)) from 'measures' to 'methods' to ensure consistency.

Versions

04 November 2016 30 November 2016

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