

Research Project Summary – Information for Pharmacies

Study Title: The Use of Virtual Patient Technology in Pharmacist Education

<p>Brief summary of the project</p>	<p>Keele University has developed a virtual patient based educational tool for pre-registration and registered pharmacists on the topic of non-vitamin K oral anti-coagulants (NOACs) to treat atrial fibrillation (AF). It is hoped that the programme may contribute to CPD, better inform pharmacist practice and positively impact patient care.</p> <p>The programme is an online educational resource that uses a virtual patient to simulate a pharmacy scenario. It involves a patient starting a new medication for AF, for which the patient requires counselling.</p> <p>The study will explore the perspectives of pharmacists on the usefulness and usability of the programme to teach NOAC counselling in AF, determine ways it can be improved and identify how the virtual patient programme for NOAC counselling in AF can be incorporated into the education, training and CPD.</p>
<p>What will the pharmacy be expected to do?</p>	<p>The pharmacy should identify eligible pharmacists and ask them to read the online participant information sheet. No research staff member will be present, the responses are all recorded via a google form and sent directly to the study team. Questionnaire responses will not be shared with the participant's employer.</p>
<p>Search criteria</p>	<p>N/A – no database search required. This is an education tool for pre-registration and registered pharmacist.</p>
<p>What will the participant be expected to do?</p>	<p>Participants (pre-registration and registered pharmacists) will sign a consent form (online google sheet) and use the online virtual patient training programme. There is no time limit, but it is anticipated that it will take 20 minutes to complete.</p> <p>They will then complete an online questionnaire, and some participants may be re-contacted to take part in an interview with a member of the research team (either face-to-face or via Skype). The questionnaire and virtual patient session will take no longer than 1 hour in total to complete.</p>
<p>Links if interested</p>	<p>https://goo.gl/forms/Tcrcr7KIVKa6jxCU2 https://goo.gl/forms/TnK4HoDFDM4XITiw1 https://goo.gl/forms/KQYCoJL28s5p1e9j1 https://www.keelevp.com/virtual-patient/newly-diagnosed-af-patient</p>