surveillance. This study highlights a need for further studies and development of guidance on pseudomonas in patients on LTV.

Diagnostics and monitoring of asthma and co-morbidities

**P42 ASTHMA TREATMENT ADHERENCE CHECKS: PRESENT AND FUTURE**


Introduction In spite of its importance in optimising clinical outcomes and determining whether an escalation in therapy is indicated (e.g. initiating a biologic agent), the difficulty in identifying suboptimal adherence to asthma therapy persists. The most common method used to measure adherence by pharmacists in hospital asthma centres is the prescription refill check (PRC), but it is both flawed (e.g. assumption made that therapy collected has been appropriately administered) and can be time consuming to collect and interpret. This may therefore make it a barrier to effective and timely asthma management. The aim of this retrospective study was to quantify the time taken to complete a PRC from primary care using data retrieved from shared local care records (LCR) versus those obtained by contacting general practice (GP) directly, and the additional time taken when there was a need to obtain hospital prescription data.

Methods Data were scrutinised for patients for whom a PRC was conducted between August 2019 and May 2021 to ascertain the time interval taken between identification of the need for the PRC and its availability on the patient’s electronic record.

Results Data for 885 patients were scrutinised and are illustrated in table 1. A PRC using direct data extraction from a LCR took on average less than 2 days to complete. In contrast, there was an eleven fold increase in the time taken to complete a PRC when GP’s had to be contacted. Retrieval of data from another hospital also added a delay to availability of prescription data.

Conclusions Given the frequency of sub-optimal adherence and its impact, access to robust and complete data needs to be efficient. The stark disparity amongst sources suggests that while the utility of electronic monitoring of therapy is established, appropriate direct access to prescription data is essential. This would then streamline the process by reducing demand on healthcare professionals to provide the data, would minimise delays in treatment escalation decisions, and the significant decrease in hospital pharmacy resource needed to obtain this data would allow pharmacist’s time to be better spent improving non-adherence rather than detecting it.

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**P43 EXPERIENCES OF ASTHMA IN THE UK-RESIDENT ADULT SOUTH ASIAN POPULATION: A QUALITATIVE STUDY**

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Introduction and Objectives South Asian individuals living with asthma in the UK are more likely to experience excess morbidity and increased hospitalisation rates than any other ethnic group. Prevention is an integral part of self-management (Pincock, 2015). Failure to adhere to prescribed regimens is common amongst this population. This study investigated people’s experiences with asthma, including medication adherence, the use of non-pharmacological treatment approaches, and the healthcare professional (HCP)-patient relationship in asthma healthcare.

Methods Using a qualitative approach, fourteen adults (12 female, 2 male, aged between 18–50) who identified as South Asian with a diagnosis of asthma (at least step 2 of the BTS guidelines) took part in semi-structured interviews. Interpretative phenomenological analysis (IPA) was used, informed by a symbolic interactionist (SI) perspective; a micro level theoretical framework which suggests that society is shaped and upheld by social interaction and explores how people make sense of their social world (Carter & Fuller, 2015).

Results Four themes were developed, focusing on how the asthmatic identity is negotiated, managing medications, seeking non-pharmacological treatments, and the HCP-patient relationship (see figure 1). Despite suffering acute exacerbations, participants questioned whether they identified as asthmatic, which impacted their decision to use preventative medication. Cultural identity was linked to traditional treatments and medication adherence. Characteristics of developing a therapeutic relationship with HCPs were described, including patient involvement and mutual respect. This involved having open discussions on the use non-pharmacological treatments which were linked to participants’ cultural identity, illustrating the HCP’s desire to be culturally responsive.

Conclusions HCP’s should consider an explorative approach to consultation, to develop a culturally aware, therapeutic relationship and consider negotiation in prescribing. This could enhance the patients’ ability to self-manage, and reduce resistance to advice and guidance from HCPs. Cultural identity is an important aspect of treatment and should be discussed to...
THE IMPACT OF LACK OF PROFICIENCY IN ENGLISH ON ASTHMA CONTROL

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Introduction Health inequalities play a role in poor clinical outcomes for people living with asthma. The UK Severe Asthma Registry has noted this in the differences in disease between Caucasian and Non-Caucasian groups when it comes to accessing severe asthma services and biologics prescribing. Whilst it is acknowledged that there is a difference in disease in terms of possible endo types between these groups, it is also acknowledged that there are cultural and language barriers. The aim of this study is to investigate if there is a correlation between poor asthma control and lack of proficiency in English.

Method Indicators of poor asthma control are the use of oral corticosteroids (OCS) and the over use of short-acting bronchodilators (SABA). The AstraZeneca Respiratory Outcomes Heatmaps tool was used to identify areas with both poor Asthma management (defined as >6 SABA and >3 OCS prescriptions in 2019/20), and compared this with the corresponding ONS Datashine census data for proficiency in English in our local area. A lack of proficiency was defined as those who did not speak English as a first language, and don’t speak English well. Statistical analysis was undertaken using non-parametric Spearman’s Rho correlation, SPSS version 26.

Results We identified 13,562 patients on the asthma register from 27 local GP surgeries. We found no correlation between excess OCS prescribing and lack of English proficiency - Rho =0.202, p = 0.312, but there was a significant correlation between lack of English proficiency and >6 SABA inhalers per year - Rho = 0.551, p = 0.003 (significance at 0.05).

Discussion Inequalities are complex and amongst professionals there is a lack of understanding due to a lack of data. We have identified a correlation between a marker of poor asthma control, and a lack of proficiency in English. The findings from this study will be used to target interventions in the areas identified as hot spots on the heatmaps. Development of multilingual, multimedia resources for those with poor literacy, and those who do not have good English language skills will be invaluable, as so little currently exists.

Please refer to page A191 for declarations of interest related to this abstract.

ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH-RELATED FACTORS, IN PATIENTS WITH SEVERE ASTHMA

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Introduction Poorly-controlled asthma is associated with work absenteeism and loss of productivity. Less than 5% of asthma is stratified as ‘severe asthma’, which requires high-intensity multi-disciplinary care and is often associated with poor symptom control. Data regarding impact of severe asthma on workability is sparse; cross-sectional studies outside the UK have shown associations with disease severity, and poor physical and mental health status.1,2 We aimed to identify socio-demographic and health-related associations with employment in these patients.

Methods We interrogated the Birmingham Regional Severe Asthma Service (BRSS) Dendrite clinical registry (n=1453 patient records, 2004–21), and extracted baseline data on patients aged 16–64 years, and not in full-time education; variables comprised employment status, socio-demographics (age, gender, ethnicity, index of multiple deprivation (IMD), smoking status), general health (BMI, hospital anxiety and depression (HAD) scale, co-morbidities, atopy), and disease-related factors (pre-bronchodilator FEV1, asthma control, quality of life, maintenance corticosteroids, eosinophil count, hospital admissions and rescue treatments). We used hypothesis testing and logistic regression to examine the relationship between these independent variables and employment.