

NIHR Greater Manchester PSTRC

Plain English Publication Summary

Publication: [Protocol for a non-randomised feasibility study evaluating a codesigned patient safety guide in primary care](#)

Publication details (Vancouver format)

Morris RL, Gallacher K, Hann M, Rolfe C, Small N, Giles SJ, Sanders C, Campbell SM. Protocol for a non-randomised feasibility study evaluating a codesigned patient safety guide in primary care. *BMJ Open* 11 (2021)

What are the most important findings/conclusions in this paper? Why are they important?

This is the first study to test and get feedback on the 'patient safety guide for primary care' with both a paper version and mobile phone app. We developed the patient safety guide working with patients, carers, GPs and pharmacists. The next step is to test whether it is acceptable to other patients, carers and healthcare professionals and whether they think it's likely to work in routine practice.

What did you do?

This paper explains how we are going to test the 'patient safety guide for patients and carers'. We will test it in 2-parts, so that we have plenty of information about what works, and can find out if the guide is acceptable to patients, carers and general practice staff.

1. In part 1, 2 general practices will start using the guide with 30 of their registered patients and/or carers.
2. In phase 2, 6 general practices will start using the guide with 90 of their registered patients and/or carers.

Patients and/or carers will be sent a questionnaire at the beginning, and then six months later, to find out if there are changes to how they feel about the guide. We will also interview some people (including patients, carers and general practice staff) to talk about their views of the patient safety guide, the role of patients in patient safety, and how they have found using the patient safety guide in practice.

What we learn from phase 1 will help us decide if we need to change anything for phase 2.

Why did you conduct this research?

We are doing this research as the next step in the development and testing of the 'patient safety guide for patients and carers in primary care'.

What was known before your paper was published?

Involving patients in patient safety is an important part of national and international patient safety strategies. Most patient contact with health services is in primary care, but most research has only focused on describing patients' views of patient safety. There are not many studies looking at ways to improve patient safety by involving patients and carers.

The 'patient safety guide for patients and carers' has been developed using a co-design approach, meaning that patients, carers, general practitioners and pharmacists were all involved in its design. This helps to make sure the main patient safety questions are included. The patient safety guide aims to support communication between patients and clinicians, which is one of the most important parts of involving patients and carers in patient safety.

What is next? What is the potential impact of the work in this paper? What will change as a result of this paper (or the study it describes)?

This study will explore involving patients actively in their patient safety in primary care, because this hasn't been studied in much detail before. We will find out whether the co-design approach is acceptable to patients, carers and general practice staff. This study will also help us decide how to assess the patient safety guide in its main trial, and to figure out whether it would work in practice.

Does this paper link in to a particular study / project? If so, please summarise the study and explain how this paper has improved understanding, or will move the study forward.

This is part of the patient safety guide in primary care project and links with another paper:

Morris RL, Ruddock A, Gallacher K, Rolfe C, Giles S, Campbell SM. [Developing a patient safety guide for primary care: a co-design approach involving patients, carers and clinicians](#). *Health Expectations*. 24 (1) 42-52 (2021)