



ANDREA-LD

ANti-psychotic Drug REDuction in primary care for Adults with Learning Disabilites

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Bulletin updates

- Recruiting GP practices to take part in the study
- Practices to complete database search or audit
- Expected patient recruitment start date—01st April 2014

Key facts

Adults with LD

Taking risperidone or haloperidol for challenging behaviour

4 stages of reduction

Led by Primary Care but supported by research team

GP to take the lead for each practice

RECRUITING GP PRACTICES NOW!

ANDREA-LD is an exciting new study being run from Cardiff University, led by Prof Mike Kerr.

The study will evaluate whether certain anti-psychotic medication can be safely withdrawn in adults with learning disabilities. This medication withdrawal is supported by a specially designed programme for use in Primary Care.

An estimated 50,000 adults with learning disabilities in England and Wales are prescribed a variety of anti-psychotic medications, often for treatment of challenging behaviour with only, at most, one in six of people taking the drugs having ever displayed symptoms of psychosis.

This trial is open to adults with learning disabilities without a history of psychosis who are currently taking one of two anti-psychotic drugs (risperidone or haloperidol) and requires their Dr to be involved.

We are going to recruit 310 participants in total and are currently looking to GP practices in South Wales and South West England to get involved.

One GP and one or two practice nurses from each surgery will be recruited with the GP taking the lead.

We will be sending a letter to all practices in your area inviting you to take part in the study and providing more detail on what is involved.

If you are interested in finding out more or know of a practice that might be, please get in touch with the team:

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THANK YOU !

Practices already expressing interest.

Sketty and Killay Medical Centres	ABMU	The Taff Riverside Practice	Cardiff & Vale
Oak Tree Surgery	ABMU	Rumney Medical Practice	Cardiff & Vale
Kingsway Surgery	ABMU	Llandaff North Medical Centre	Cardiff & Vale
Ashfield Surgery	ABMU	Highlight Park Medical Practice	Cardiff & Vale
Bellevue Surgery	Aneurin Bevan	Clifton Surgery	Cardiff & Vale
Glanrhyd Surgery	Aneurin Bevan	Llangennech Surgery	Hywel Dda

The ANDREA-LD Project Team



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Background

Approximately 1 in 200 adults are recognised as having a learning disability. Illness in this population is high, including significant rates of challenging behaviour and mental illness.

Use of psychoactive medication is high and there is particular concern over the use of anti-psychotic medication that is prescribed for reasons other than the treatment of psychosis.

Control of challenging behaviour is the primary reason why such medications are prescribed despite the absence of good evidence for any therapeutic effect for this purpose.

This problem is central to the intervention being evaluated in this trial.



Aim

The central research question to be addressed is whether anti-psychotic medication prescribed to adults with learning disabilities for the treatment of challenging behaviour can be

withdrawn or reduced without behaviour or mental health deteriorating and treatment costs escalating.

Planned sample size	310
Follow-up duration	12 months
Planned trial period	39 months
Investigational medicinal products	Risperidone and Haloperidol

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