



Dear Colleagues,

**URGENT REQUEST TO JOIN OXFORD RCGP RSC INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

The Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) Research and Surveillance Centre (RSC) based at the University of Oxford is one of Europe's oldest surveillance systems. It spotted the 2009 Swine flu pandemic before the virologists. It is now turning its attention to how general practice might help us mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The RCGP RSC are now urgently looking to recruit practices who would like to participate in extended surveillance of COVID-19 for clinical trials of selected medicines that might reduce the duration and severity of COVID-19 including hospital admission and mortality. Our first candidate, based on evidence from SARS, MERS and COVID-19 in China will be an anti-malarial - we hope we will be ready to start almost immediately. This trial requires over 2,000 practice participants to determine whether this medicine is effective. We are working in an important partnership with TPP on this initiative.

**Please will you consider joining this network and allow data sharing direct from TPP SystemOne for clinical trials?**

By opting into this trial, your practice will help us test interventions, most likely the repurposing of existing drugs, to look at their impact on COVID-19 infections. The trial starts next week. We need over 300 practices to participate in PRINCIPLE our first "anti-COVID" trial, and expect there will be more clinical trials subsequently.

The steps required for a practice are being kept to a minimum. The proposed solution entails;

- Interested practices should contact the Oxford RCGP RSC Practice liaison team at [practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk).
- Your practice will then be sent an invitation to join an Oxford RCGP RSC 'Organisation Group' on SystemOne
- The Oxford RCGP RSC team will share SystemOne protocols, reports and templates with your practice for patient recruitment.
- Patients who are recruited will then download the *Airmid* app and consent to the clinical trial – training videos will be made available for these patients.
- Patients will then have the ability to access data entry surveys published by the research team at Oxford.
- The patient recorded data and EHR data will then be extracted and supplied to the researchers.

**This clinical trial will enable the RCGP and the Oxford RCS to collect data which will gauge the effectiveness of different interventions on Covid-19 infections.**

To join or for more details contact the Oxford RCGP RSC Practice liaison team at [practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:practiceenquiries@phc.ox.ac.uk).

Yours faithfully,

Simon de Lusignan

Richard Hobbs

John Parry

Martin Marshall

Director,  
Oxford RCGP RSC

Head Primary Care,  
University of Oxford

Clinical Director,  
TPP

Chairman,  
RCGP