

2010 Knowledge Transfer Scheme

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Title of research project: Take control of asthma: improving stakeholders' understanding of poor medication adherence in difficult asthma and the utility of a targeted management strategy

Abstract: This project involves communication and education of our recent work and the implementation of strategies to use this knowledge. It utilises clinical information that is routinely available to many healthcare professionals, but which we have shown is not used effectively. There is nothing patentable in this project as this represents a relatively straightforward change in clinical practice, albeit with the potential to have a major effect on asthma management, there is no suitable University funding scheme. We aim to:

- Develop a specific educational programme for key stakeholders, to deliver an awareness of the prevalence of poor adherence to maintenance asthma therapy in patients with difficult asthma and the link with serious hospital admission;
- Put in place strategies at a number of different levels, to systematically and routinely identify non-adherence in difficult asthma;
- We will assist local teams to establish and implement protocols to identify non-adherence in difficult asthma patients and facilitate implementation of strategies to manage non-adherence when identified;
- We will put in place systems to ensure 'sustainability', establish audit criteria and create an audit cycle to monitor the effectiveness of the programme.