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RECOVER Work Package 2 and the national coordinating team

Extended Point Prevalence Audit Survey (PPAS)

Results for Georgia





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Extended PPAS Georgia

General information

The point prevalence audit survey (PPAS) was initiated in January 2020 in 18 European countries to capture information with respect to antibiotic prescribing and diagnostic testing for patients presenting in primary care with symptoms of an acute respiratory tract infection. The anonymous registration of patients' characteristics, signs and symptoms, physical examination results and the management of general practitioners with respect to diagnostic testing, prescribing of antibiotics and other medicines, and provided self-care advice was very smoothly implemented in about 125 primary care practices throughout Europe.

This first PPAS was nearly finished when the COVID-19 pandemic hit Europe. Given the success of the PPAS, it was decided to extend the initial survey with COVID-19 specific items. Running this extended PPAS throughout Europe will provide information of how patients with respiratory tract infection are managed during the pandemic, what medicines are prescribed and advice provided, and will reveal marked differences between countries with respect to patient management.

Country information

- Country: GEORGIA
- Registration period: 01 March 2020 to 10 April 2020
- Total number of patient consultations: 240

Overall remarks on Georgian data

- Most patients were seen at the practice
- Most patients had mild severity illness
- Additional testing: O2 saturation was done in most patients seen at the practice and around 35% of patients who were assessed face-to-face did get a CRP
- In 9% of patients who were not assessed face-to-face additional diagnostic tests were performed
- COVID-19 was suspected in only very few patients
- GPs would have recommended testing in all patients suspected of COVID
- GPs were confident about their diagnosis, and somewhat less confident in the few patients in which they suspected COVID
- Only a small number of patients did get an antibiotic, and somewhat more (12%) when the GP suspected COVID
- When COVID was suspected, in half of the patients the authorities were contacted
- Almost none of the patients were referred to hospital
- GPs were confident to very confident about the management of their patients, irrespective of suspicion for COVID



Consultation (N=240)				
Consultation at	Practice	63.8%		
	Home	0.8%		
	Protective measures: yes	98.7%	apron/body protection	17.0%*
			face, nose/mouth protection	95.4%
			safety glasses	18.3%
			gloves	69.9%
	Telephone	34.6%		
Video/skype	0.8%			
Has patient already been tested for COVID?	Yes	0%	Result:	
			Positive	0%*
			Negative	0%
			Unknown	0%
	No	100%		
Patient characteristics				
Age	Median (IQR)	34 (25-42)		
Comorbidity	Yes	16.7%	chronic respiratory condition	25.0%*
			diabetes	22.5%
			cardiovascular disease	42.5%
Measured:				
Fever	Yes	80%”	Temp>=38 or <36	7.3%*
O ₂	Yes	86.5%”	Saturation <96%	19.4%*
Resp. rate	Yes	93.5%”	Resp. rate >20 or <12	4.2%^
Signs and symptoms				
Rhinitis	Yes	46.7%		
Sore throat	Yes	58.8%		
Cough	Yes	68.3%	short of breath (dyspnoea)	2.5%#
			abnormal auscultation	1.9%”
			(pleuritic) chest pain	3.8%#
			tachypnoea	0.8%#
General symptoms	Yes	68.8%	headache	35.8%#
			altered mental status	2.5%

			fatigue	26.3%
			diarrhoea	3.3%
Overall illness severity	Mild	72.1%		
	Moderate	27.5%		
	Severe	0.4%		
Confidence in assessment of the patient's condition	Very confident	8.8%	Very confident	0% [§]
	Confident	82.1%	Confident	55.6% [§]
	Moderately	8.8%	Moderately	44.4% [§]
	Unconfident	0.4%	Unconfident	0% [§]
Additional diagnostic tests	Yes	48.4% [”]	CRP CRP Median (IQR)	34.7%*
			COVID-19 test	5.3%
			Total white blood cell count	41.3%
			Chest X-ray	26.7%
Suspected aetiology	viral (no COVID-19)			52.1%
	COVID-19			1.3%
	bacterial			9.2%
	allergic			2.1%
	not clear			35.4%
Initial working diagnosis	acute pharyngitis/tonsillitis/abscess		16.7%	
	laryngitis/laryngotracheitis		0.4%	
	influenza-like-illness		22.5%	
	bronchiolitis		0.8%	
	acute bronchitis		8.3%	
	CAP		2.5%	
	exacerbation COPD/asthma		5%	
	upper RTI		45.4%	
	COVID-19		3.8%	
			Contacted public health authorities?	55.6%*
Would you recommend testing?			100%	
GP provided	advice for home isolation	86.7%	how many days? Median	10 (5-14)
	advice for symptomatic treatment	81.7%	(ICQ)	

	a scheduled follow-up visit/call	50%		
	prescribed medication	53.8%	inhaled medication	22.9% [#]
			antibiotic	7.1%
			antiviral medication	4.2%
			antihistamines	14.6%
	advice for family members	59.6%	home isolation	7.5% [#]
			social distancing	55.4%
			other	0%
	preventive measures for patient	93.3%	extra handwashing	75% [#]
			sneezing in sleeve	73.8%
			social distancing	89.2%
			nose/mouth protection	72.9%
	staying in separate room	11.7%		
	where to find reliable information	11.3%		
GP prescribed	Antibiotics if working diagnose was COVID-19	Yes		12.9%
Confidence that provided advice/treatment will benefit this patient	Very confident	8.8%	Very confident	0% [§]
	Confident	85.8%	Confident	88.9% [§]
	Moderately	5.4%	Moderately	11.1% [§]
	Unconfident	0%	Unconfident	0% [§]
	Very unconfident	0%	Very unconfident	0% [§]
	Referral to hospital	1.7%		
	Advise contact/refer to COVID-specific authority	10.8%		

* percentage from yes

" percentage from F2F contact

percentage from total (n=240)

^ percentage from adults and yes

§ if suspected etiology is COVID-19

