

Research and Audit in General Practice

Webinar: “Open Research to Inform Patient Outcomes”
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Research and Audit in General Practice

General Practice

- Cornerstone of many healthcare systems
- (& primary care) are fundamental to the success of a healthcare system
- (& primary care) Health provision is first-contact, comprehensive, continuous and personalised

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General Practice Research

- Leads to
 - improved patient outcomes
 - improved quality of care
 - increased job satisfaction
 - Improved clinical efficacy and effectiveness
- Spans a broad spectrum



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The situation in Ireland

- Active General Practice Academic Departments
- Criticism of outputs (Mant Report)
- Research not supported among GPs
- Some developments in terms of career developments
- Impact



iPCRn

Increase in audit activity

- Professional competence scheme
- Clinical audit is a process that has been defined as "a quality improvement process that seeks to improve patient care and outcomes through systematic review of care against explicit criteria and the implementation of change." (NICE, 2002)
- Showing a direct benefit to patients

iPCRn

Current ICGP research/activities

- **Projects**

1. Heartwatch
2. EU study on quality and costs – GPs & patients
3. Community Acquired Pneumonia Audit
4. Impact of CME learning on patient care
5. Patient self-management: online training & PECC-WONCA EU project

- **Other activities**

1. Professional Competence Scheme – audits
2. Quality Initiatives and Guidelines
3. Development of iPCRn

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The way forward

- Databases
- Networks
- Capacity
- Funding and Infrastructure

- Increased dissemination
- Integration
- Patient Involvement

