**Trial Title:** Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older peoPLE

**Internal Reference Number / Short title:** PRINCIPLE

**Ethics Ref:** 20/SC/0158

**IRAS Project ID:** 281958

**EudraCT Number:** 2020-001209-22

**Date and Version No:** 21 April 2020 version 2.1

**Chief Investigator and trial leader:** Professor Chris Butler
Department of Primary Care Health Sciences
University of Oxford
Radcliffe Observatory Quarter
Woodstock Road
Oxford
OX2 6GG

**Co-Principal Investigator and Co-Study Lead:** Prof Richard Hobbs, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences
University of Oxford

**Co-Principal Investigators:**
Prof Simon de Lusignan, RCGP Research Surveillance Centre, University of Oxford
Prof Gail Hayward, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences
University of Oxford

**Investigators:**
Dr Ly-Mee Yu, Primary Care Clinical Trials Unit, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford
Dr Emma Ogburn, Primary Care Clinical Trials Unit, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford
Dr Oliver Van Hecke, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences
University of Oxford
Ms Julie Allen, Primary Care Clinical Trials Unit, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford
Dr Emily Bongard, Primary Care Clinical Trials Unit, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford
Dr Hannah Swayze, Primary Care Clinical Trials Unit, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences, University of Oxford

Dr Nina Gobat, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences University of Oxford

Ben Saville, PhD, Berry Consultants, Texas, USA, & Department of Biostatistics, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Tennessee, USA

Prof Martin Llewellyn, Professor in Infectious Diseases, Medical Research Building, Room 1.08, BSMS, University of Sussex

Prof Stavros Petrou, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences University of Oxford

Dr Monique Andersson, Oxford University Hospital NHS Trust

Dr Susan Hopkins, Incident Director for COVID-19, Public Health England

Dr Sarah Tonkin Crine, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences University of Oxford

Dr Aleksandra Borek, Department of Primary Care Health Sciences University of Oxford

Dr James Ray, Oxford University Hospitals Emergency Medicine Consultant, NHS England Lead for Urgent and Emergency Care for Thames Valley and London

Maria Zambon, National Infection Service, Public Health England

Joanna Ellis, National Infection Service, Public Health England

Gayatri Amirthalingam, National Infection Service, Public Health England

Jamie Lopez Bernal, National Infection Service, Public Health England

**Sponsor:**

University of Oxford
Joint Research Office
1st floor, Boundary Brook House
Churchill Drive,
Headington
Oxford
OX3 7GB

**Funder:**

UKRI/NIHR
No potential conflict of interest

Confidentiality Statement

This document contains confidential information that must not be disclosed to anyone other than the Sponsor, the Investigator Team, HRA, host organisation, and members of the Research Ethics Committee and Regulatory Authorities unless authorised to do so.
Protocol signatures continued

**Trial Title:** Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older peoPLE (PRINCIPLE)

**EudraCT Number:** 2020-001209-22  
**Protocol Date and Version No:** v2.1 21 April 2020

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Protocol signature page

The undersigned has read and understood the trial protocol detailed above and agrees to conduct the trial in compliance with the protocol.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal Investigator</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Site name or ID number</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Please print name)</td>
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</table>
### TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. KEY TRIAL CONTACTS ........................................................................................................... 8
2. LAY SUMMARY ..................................................................................................................... 10
3. SYNOPSIS .......................................................................................................................... 10
4. ABBREVIATIONS ............................................................................................................... 12
5. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE .................................................................................. 13
6. TRIAL DESIGN .................................................................................................................... 16
7. PARTICIPANT IDENTIFICATION ...................................................................................... 17
   7.1 Trial Participants ............................................................................................................. 17
   7.1.1 Inclusion Criteria ........................................................................................................ 17
   7.1.2 Exclusion Criteria ....................................................................................................... 17
8. TRIAL PROCEDURES .......................................................................................................... 18
   8.1 Recruitment .................................................................................................................... 18
   8.2 Screening and Eligibility Assessment .......................................................................... 20
   8.3 Informed Consent .......................................................................................................... 20
   8.4 Randomisation ............................................................................................................... 20
   8.5 Blinding and code-breaking .......................................................................................... 20
   8.6 Baseline Assessments ................................................................................................. 21
   8.7 Subsequent Visits .......................................................................................................... 21
   8.8 Sample Handling .......................................................................................................... 22
   8.9 Qualitative Sub-study .................................................................................................... 22
   8.10 Early Discontinuation/Withdrawal of Participants ....................................................... 23
   8.11 Definition of End of Trial ............................................................................................ 23
9. TRIAL INTERVENTIONS ....................................................................................................... 23
   9.1 Investigational Medicinal Product(s) (IMP) Description ............................................ 23
   9.2. Blinding of IMPs ......................................................................................................... 24
   9.3. Storage of IMP ............................................................................................................ 24
   9.4. Compliance with Trial Treatment ............................................................................... 24
   9.5. Accountability of the Trial Treatment ......................................................................... 24
   9.6. Concomitant Medication ............................................................................................ 24
10. SAFETY REPORTING ........................................................................................................ 24
    10.1 Adverse Event Definitions ......................................................................................... 24
    10.2 Assessment results outside of normal parameters as AEs and SAEs .......................... 25
    10.3 Assessment of Causality ............................................................................................ 25
    10.4 Procedures for Reporting Adverse Events .................................................................. 26
    10.5 Reporting Procedures for Serious Adverse Events .................................................... 26
    10.5.1. Other events exempt from immediate reporting as SAEs ................................. 26
    10.5.2. Procedure for immediate reporting of Serious Adverse Events ......................... 27
10.5.3 Expectedness..............................................................................27
10.6 SUSAR Reporting........................................................................27
10.7 Development Safety Update Reports...........................................27
11 STATISTICS ..................................................................................27
11.1 Master Statistical Analysis Plan (M-SAP)........................................27
11.2 Open Adaptive Platform Trial .....................................................27
11.2.1 Primary Endpoint & Analysis ..................................................28
11.2.2 Adaptive Design .....................................................................28
11.2.3 Interim Analyses .....................................................................28
11.2.4 Allocation & Response Adaptive Randomisation ....................29
11.2.5 Sample Size Justification .......................................................29
11.2.6 Virtual Trial Simulations .......................................................29
11.2.7 Procedure for Accounting for Missing, Unused, and Spurious Data. ..................................................29
11.3 Primary Analysis Population ......................................................29
11.4 Procedures for Reporting Unplanned Deviation(s) from the Master Statistical Analysis Plan ....30
11.5 Qualitative sub-study analysis....................................................30
12 DATA MANAGEMENT ....................................................................30
12.1 Source Data ..............................................................................30
12.2 Access to Data ...........................................................................30
12.3 Data Recording and Record Keeping .........................................30
13 QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES .......................................31
13.1 Risk assessment .........................................................................31
13.2 Monitoring ................................................................................32
13.3 Trial committees .......................................................................32
14 PROTOCOL DEVIATIONS .............................................................32
15 SERIOUS BREACHES ...................................................................32
16 ETHICAL AND REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS ......................32
16.1 Declaration of Helsinki ...............................................................32
16.2 Guidelines for Good Clinical Practice ......................................33
16.3 Approvals ................................................................................33
16.4 Other Ethical Considerations ....................................................33
16.5 Reporting ..................................................................................33
16.6 Transparency in Research .........................................................33
16.7 Participant Confidentiality .........................................................33
16.8 Expenses and Benefits .............................................................34
17 FINANCE AND INSURANCE..........................................................34
17.1 Funding ....................................................................................34
17.2 Insurance ..................................................................................34
17.3 Contractual arrangements

18 PUBLICATION POLICY

19 DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW PRODUCT/PROCESS OR THE GENERATION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

20 ARCHIVING

21 APPENDIX A: SCHEDULE OF PROCEDURES

22 APPENDIX B: AMENDMENT HISTORY

APPENDIX 1: USUAL CARE ARM

1 Background and rationale

2 Changes to outcome measures

3 Detail of intervention

3.1 Investigational Medicinal Product (IMP) description

3.2 Storage of IMP

4 Safety reporting

5 References

APPENDIX 2: USUAL CARE PLUS HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE ARM

1 Background and rationale

1.1 Evidence for potential Hydroxychloroquine benefits in COVID-19

2 Outcome measures related to hydroxychloroquine

3 Detail of intervention

3.1 Investigational Medicinal Product (IMP) description

3.2 Storage of IMP

3.3 SmPC precautions and concomitant medication

3.3.1 Precautions

3.3.2 Concomitant medication

3.3.3 Pregnancy and Breastfeeding

4 Safety reporting

5 References

APPENDIX 3: USUAL CARE PLUS AZITHROMYCIN ARM

1 Background and rationale

1.1 Evidence for potential Azithromycin benefits in COVID-19

1.2 Importance of treating CAP or CAP risk in the elderly or immuno-compromised

2 Changes to outcome measures

3 Detail of intervention

3.1 Investigational Medicinal Product (IMP) description

3.2 Storage of IMP

3.3 SmPC precautions and concomitant medication

3.3.1 Precautions
1. KEY TRIAL CONTACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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</table>
| Chief Investigator    | Professor Chris Butler  
Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences  
Gibson Building  
Radcliffe Observatory Quarter  
Woodstock Road  
Oxford  
OX2 6GG  
christopher.butler@phc.ox.ac.uk |
| Sponsor               | Joint Research Office  
1st floor, Boundary Brook House  
Churchill Drive,  
Headington  
Oxford OX3 7GB  
ctrg@admin.ox.ac.uk  
Tel: +44 (0)1865572224  
Fax: +44 (0)1865572228 |
| Funder(s)             | UKRI/NIHR                                                                              |
| Clinical Trials Unit  | Primary Care Clinical Trials Unit,  
Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences  
Radcliffe Observatory Quarter  
Woodstock Road  
Oxford  
OX2 6GG  
principle@phc.ox.ac.uk  
01865 289296 |
| Statistician          | Ben Saville,  
Berry Consultants,  
Austin, Texas, USA,  
And  
Department of Biostatistics,  
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine,  
Nashville, Tennessee,  
USA. |
Dr Ly-Mee Yu  
Primary Care Clinical Trials Unit,  
Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences  
Radcliffe Observatory Quarter  
Woodstock Road  
Oxford  
OX2 6GG

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **DMSC Chair:** | Prof. Deborah Ashby  
Chair in Medical Statistics and Clinical Trials  
Director of the School of Public Health  
Imperial College London Faculty of Medicine, School of Public Health,  
153 Medical School  
St Mary's Campus  
Imperial College London  
deborah.ashby@imperial.ac.uk  
(0)20 7594 8704  
**DMSC Members:** Prof Simon Gates  
Cancer Research Clinical Trials Unit (CRCTU)  
Institute of Cancer and Genomic Sciences  
University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham  
B15 2TT  
S.Gates@bham.ac.uk  
Prof Gordon Taylor  
College House,  
University of Exeter, St Luke's Campus,  
Heavitree Road,  
Exeter, EX1 2LU, UK  
g.j.taylor@exeter.ac.uk  
Prof Nick Francis  
Primary Care and Population Science,  
University of Southampton, Southampton, UK.  
Nick.Francis@soton.ac.uk

| **TSC Chair** | Prof Paul Little,  
Primary Care and Population Science,  
University of Southampton, Southampton, UK.  
P.Little@soton.ac.uk  
**TSC Members** | Prof Philip Hannaford,  
NHS Professor of Primary Care  
University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK  
p.hannaford@abdn.ac.uk |
2. LAY SUMMARY
The risk of complications from suspected COVID-19 coronavirus infection is generally greater in people aged 50 years and older with underlying health conditions, and in those aged 65 years and older. The infection causes is having a devastating effect on people's health, and society in the UK and internationally (1-4). So far, there are no specific treatments for COVID-19 that have been proven in well conducted clinical trials to be effective. Most cases of probable COVID-19 infections are being managed in the community. An ideal treatment for patients with suspected COVID-19 infection in the community would be one that is safe, with few side-effects, can be provided by existing NHS services, and helps patients recover quicker and without having to go to hospital.

Setting up a new clinical trial for each potential treatment becomes available is particularly time consuming and costly (5-7). We propose establishing a platform, randomised controlled trial in primary care that can rapidly test low-risk interventions for people at higher risk of poorer outcome from the illness. Using an efficient, open (no placebo) clinical trial design in conditions of current usual care, our trial aims to give rapid answers about the effectiveness of trial treatments. The platform trial will be flexible. It will allow the further treatments to be added into the trial while the trial is already in progress, should such suitable treatments become available (5). This means that a new trial does not need to be started afresh each time an additional suitable treatment becomes available. This is particularly important as new candidate interventions are being considered on a regular basis. The overall goal is to find treatments as quickly as possible that will help affected people recover sooner, and avoid the need for hospital admission.

3. SYNOPSIS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trial Title</th>
<th>Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older peoPLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internal ref. no. (or short title)</td>
<td>PRINCIPLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trial registration</td>
<td>ISRCTN 86534580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor</td>
<td>University of Oxford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funder</td>
<td>UKRI/NIHR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Phase</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trial Design</td>
<td>Pragmatic, platform, randomised controlled trial of interventions for COVID-19 in PRIMARY CARE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trial Participants</td>
<td>Patients ≥50-64 years with comorbidities detailed below, and aged ≥65 with or without comorbidity presenting within 14 days since onset of symptoms with a...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
new continuous cough and/or high temperature during time of prevalent COVID-19 infections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Size</th>
<th>Approximately 3000 (1500 per arm) but may be increased if additional arms are introduced and may also be modified in the light of emerging data.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planned Trial Period</th>
<th>The trial will start as soon as permissions are in place and procedures and structures implemented. The platform trial will be ongoing until cases of COVID-19 wane to a low level and/or there are no new interventions that require evaluation in pragmatic randomised controlled trial in primary care. March 2022 has been decided as the formal end date at this stage, but that may need to be amended, depending on circumstances prevailing at the time.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planned Recruitment period</th>
<th>The first inclusion is planned for as soon as possible, and the duration of the trial will depend on evolving circumstances.</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Outcome Measures</th>
<th>Timepoint (s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Primary</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To assess effectiveness of trial treatments in reducing the need for hospital admission or death, for patients aged ≥50 years with serious comorbidity, and aged ≥65 with or without comorbidity and suspected COVID-19 infection during time of prevalent COVID-19 infections</td>
<td>Hospital admission or mortality related to suspected COVID-19</td>
<td>Within 28 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Secondary** |                  |               |
| To explore whether trial treatment reduces 1) Duration of severe symptoms 2) Time taken to self-report recovery 3) Contacts with the health services 4) Consumption of antibiotics 5) Hospital assessment without admission 6) Oxygen administration 7) Intensive Care Unit admission 8) Mechanical ventilation 9) To determine if effects are specific to those with the infections syndrome | 1-2 Patient report on day they feel to have recovered 3. Contacts with health services reported by patients and/or captured by reports of patients ‘medical records where the practice is a member of RSC 4. Bi-weekly reports from participants primary care medical records 5-8 and 10 patient report/carer report/medical record in primary care and hospital care 9. Swab results either at baseline or day 5 for COVID-19 will indicate an “Intention to Treat Infected” group within the overall cohort for sub analysis. Blood test on | Daily online symptoms score. Telephone call or text day 7, 14 and 28 if data not being received online  
GP notes review where available through Oxford RCGP RSC network or other sources of routinely collected data after 28 days  
HES/ONS/EMIS/Medical record data linkage after 28 days where patients have been assessed in hospital |
but who test positive for COVID-19
10) Duration of hospital admission
11) Viral shedding
12) Negative effects on well being

recovery (optional) for evidence of COVID-19 infection.
11. Follow up swabs at day 5 (if available) will indicate ongoing shedding allowing for comparison between groups
12. WHO-5 Well Being Index

Swab result available from medical records and from the supporting laboratory and/or convalescent blood test for evidence of COVID-19 infection

WHO 5 Well Being Index at baseline, day 14, and day 28 either via online diary or telephone

1. To explore patient experiences of consulting, being tested and taking (trial) medication for suspected COVID-19.
To explore healthcare professionals’ views of taking part in research during pandemics.

1. Telephone interview with patient.

1. After 28 days.

Telephone interview with healthcare professional.

Intervention(s) All trial interventions are detailed in the Appendices. Further interventions may be added or replaced during the course of the trial, subject to suitable interventions becoming available and all necessary approvals being first obtained.

Comparator In the first instance, this will be a two-arm trial, with the intervention am being usual care plus a trial drug and the comparator being usual care. There will be no placebo control in this study in the first instance. Additional arms may be added as the trial progresses. These will be detailed in the Appendices. If a trial arm that included a study drug is shown to be superior, then that will become the standard of care (usual care) in the trial and any further interventions will be compared against that intervention.

### 4. ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AE</td>
<td>Adverse event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR</td>
<td>Adverse reaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CI</td>
<td>Chief Investigator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRF</td>
<td>Case Report Form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT</td>
<td>Clinical Trials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CTA | Clinical Trials Authorisation
---|---
CTRG | Clinical Trials and Research Governance
DMSC | Data Monitoring Committee / Data Monitoring and Safety Committee
DSUR | Development Safety Update Report
GCP | Good Clinical Practice
GP | General Practitioner
HRA | Health Research Authority
HCP | Healthcare professional
IB | Investigators Brochure
ICF | Informed Consent Form
ICH | International Conference on Harmonisation
IMP | Investigational Medicinal Product
MHRA | Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
NHS | National Health Service
NIHR | National Institute of Health Research
RES | Research Ethics Service
PHE | Public Health England
PI | Principal Investigator
PIL | Participant/ Patient Information Leaflet
R&D | NHS Trust R&D Department
RCGP RSC | Royal College of General Practitioners Research Surveillance Centre
REC | Research Ethics Committee
RSI | Reference Safety Information
SAE | Serious Adverse Event
SAR | Serious Adverse Reaction
SDV | Source Data Verification
SMPC | Summary of Medicinal Product Characteristics
SOP | Standard Operating Procedure
TSC | Trial Steering Committee
SUSAR | Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reactions
TMF | Trial Master File

5. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE
Introduction

There are no specific interventions against COVID-19 that have been proven, in rigorous trials, to alter the disease course by reducing the need for hospital assessment and admission.

We urgently need to know whether there are readily available treatments that might modify the course of COVID-19 infections, particularly amongst those who are at higher risk of complications. At the present time, those are higher risk appear to be people aged 50 and over with comorbidity and those aged 65 and over.\(^{(1-3, 13)}\)

We therefore propose a platform trial that has the capability of rapidly evaluating potential drug treatments in the high-risk population group, but that will also be flexible enough to allow the addition of further interventions into the trial platform, should such interventions suitable for pragmatic evaluation in Primary Care become available during the course of the trial. New interventions will not be added into the trial without first obtaining the required permissions.

The Research Team has already conducted the world’s first publicly funded platform, open, response-adaptive randomised controlled trial in primary care. Conducted in 13 countries, the ALIC4E trial of oseltamivir for influenza-like illness in primary care has been at the forefront of such efficient trial designs.\(^{(14)}\)

In the first instance, PRINCIPLE will be a two-arm trial. There will be no placebo control. The primary outcome measure will be hospital admission or mortality related to suspected COVID-19.

Analysis will be by intention-to-treat. However, all participants recruited into the study will be asked to provide a swab so that their COVID-19 status can be ascertained by laboratory analysis. We will therefore, in addition to an “intention to treat analysis”, conduct an “intention to treat infected” analysis.

The study aims to be rapidly initiated, so we can urgently determine if potential drug treatments (that are available for rapid pragmatic evaluation) benefit patients. All approved intervention arms introduced will be outlined in an appendix to this protocol. Treatments which are found to be ineffective should not be commissioned, as ineffective treatments simply put people at unnecessary risk of side-effects and waste resources. We urgently need to know whether potential COVID-19 treatments that are available for rapid pragmatic evaluation, might benefit patients and enhance the sustainability of NHS care during this crisis.

COVID 19

Europe is now the centre of the COVID-19 epidemic caused by the highly infectious SARS-COV2 virus.\(^{(4, 15)}\) As of 22 March 2020 in the UK, 5,018 confirmed cases, and 233 deaths have been reported in the UK, and modelling studies suggest the pandemic will worsen rapidly in the UK and elsewhere.\(^{(4, 16)}\)

The UK case definition for possible COVID-19 is dependent on care setting. COVID-19 is defined, where patients are well enough to remain in the community, as suspected for those who meet the following criteria:

- A new continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

And/or
• high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to take your temperature)

**A pragmatic trial**

The aim of PRINCIPLE is to be the national Primary Care platform trial for UK COVID-19, assessing the effectiveness of trial treatments in reducing the need for hospital admission or death for patients with suspected COVID-19 infection aged ≥50 years with serious comorbidity, and aged ≥65 with or without comorbidity, and during time of prevalent COVID-19 infections in the context of current care delivery. Thus, the trial will need to be as streamlined as possible so that it fits with minimal disruption into routine care during a period of widespread infection and considerable pressure on the NHS and society. In line with common practice for pragmatic trials, this trial will be an open trial with no placebo control. The primary outcome is hospitalisation and death, with the decision to hospitalise being made by clinicians independent of the trial according to clinical criteria.

**Platform trial**

A platform trial, in contrast to traditional two-arm design, allows multiple arms to be considered simultaneously, and interventions can be dropped, added and/or replaced as evidence emerges for effectiveness, or lack of it. All arms are detailed in the Appendices to this master protocol. The intent is to establish an on-going trial infrastructure within a master protocol that uses all the data already accumulated for the assessment of current and subsequently introduced interventions.

New interventions will only be added after submission to the appropriate approval bodies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Outcome Measures</th>
<th>Timepoint(s) of evaluation of this outcome measure (if applicable)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Primary Objective</strong></td>
<td>Hospital admission or mortality related to suspected COVID-19</td>
<td>Within 28 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To assess effectiveness of trial treatments in reducing the need for hospital admission or death, for patients aged ≥50 years with comorbidity, and aged ≥65 with or without comorbidity and suspected COVID-19 infection during time of prevalent COVID-19 infections</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Secondary Objectives</strong></td>
<td>1-2 Patient report on day they feel to have recovered 3. Contacts with health services reported by patients and/or captured by reports of patients ‘medical records where the practice is a member of RSC</td>
<td>Daily online symptoms score. Telephone call or text day 7, 14 and 28 if data not being received online</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3) Contacts with the health services
4) Consumption of antibiotics
5) Hospital assessment without admission
6) Oxygen administration
7) Intensive Care Unit admission
8) Mechanical ventilation
9) To determine if effects are specific to those with the infections syndrome but who test positive for COVID-19
10) Duration of hospital admission
11) Viral shedding
12) Negative effects on well being

4. Bi-weekly reports from participants primary care medical records
5-8 and 10 patient report/carer report/medical record in primary care and hospital care
9. Swab results either at baseline or day 5 for COVID-19 will indicate an “Intention to Treat Infected” group within the overall cohort for sub analysis. Blood test on recovery (optional) for COVID-19.
11. Follow up swabs (if available) at day 5 will indicate ongoing shedding allowing for comparison between groups
12. WHO-5 Well Being Index

GP notes review where available through Oxford RCGP RSC network or other sources of routinely collected data after 28 days

HES/ONS/EMIS/Medical record data linkage after 28 days where patients have been assessed in hospital

Swab results available medical records and from the supporting laboratory and/or convalescent blood test for evidence of COVID-19 infection

WHO 5 Well Being Index at baseline day 14 and day 28 either via online diary or telephone

Qualitative sub study
1) To explore patient experiences of consulting, being tested and taking (trial) medication for suspected COVID-19.
2) Telephone interview with patient.
3) Telephone interview with healthcare professional.
4) After 28 days.
5) Once practice has completed recruitment.

6. TRIAL DESIGN
This will be an open, prospective, individually randomised, platform, controlled clinical trial in community care. The trial will initially be two-arm, but additional arms may be added as the trial progresses.

The trial will be implemented in the first instance in practices that are already part of the RCGP RSC Network. Currently over 500 practices are part of this network, with 100 already offering a sentinel viral
swabbing service which is being scaled up. Due to the pandemic, almost all practices in the UK have been asked to join the RCGP RSC Network.

7. PARTICIPANT IDENTIFICATION

7.1 Trial Participants

Patients ≥50 years with serious comorbidity, and patients aged ≥65 with or without comorbidity presenting in the community within 14 days since onset of symptoms, with a new continuous cough and/or high temperature during a time of prevalent COVID-19 infections.

A new continuous cough is taken to mean, “coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).”

A high temperature is taken to mean, “you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to take your temperature)”

The study is for people with ongoing symptoms. People who feel they are already well on the way to recovery should not take part.

7.1.1 Inclusion Criteria

- Participant is willing and able to give informed consent for participation in the study;
- Participant is willing to comply with all trial procedures;
- Onset of symptoms of possible COVID-19 in the community (continuous cough and/or high temperature) within 14 days of inclusion;
- Patients aged ≥50-64 years with any of the following listed comorbidities:
  - Known weakened immune system due to a serious illness or medication (e.g. chemotherapy);
  - Known heart disease and/or hypertension;
  - Known asthma or lung disease;
  - Known diabetes not treated with insulin;
  - Known mild hepatic impairment;
  - Known stroke or neurological problem;
  OR
- Patients aged ≥65 with or without comorbidity

7.1.2 Exclusion Criteria
- Pregnancy;
- Breastfeeding;
- Known severe hepatic impairment;
- Known severe renal impairment;
- Known porphyria;
- Type 1 diabetes or insulin dependent Type 2 Diabetes mellitus;
- Known G6PD deficiency;
- Known myasthenia gravis;
- Known severe psoriasis;
- Known severe neurological disorders (especially those with a history of epilepsy—may lower seizure threshold);
- Previous adverse reaction to, or currently taking, hydroxychloroquine, chloroquine, azithromycin or other macrolides or ketolides;
- Patients taking the following drugs: penicillamine, amiodarone, sotalol, ciclosporin, digoxin, chloroquine, bromocriptine, cabergoline, ergotamine, ergometrine, methysergide or any ergot derivatives.
- Already taking antibiotics for an acute condition
- Patient currently admitted in hospital
- Known congenital or documented QT prolongation
- Known allergy to soya or peanut due to the risk of hypersensitivity reactions
- Known retinal disease;
- Almost recovered (generally much improved and symptoms now mild or almost absent)
- Judgement of the recruiting clinician deems ineligible.

8 TRIAL PROCEDURES

8.1 Recruitment

Recruitment will be possible through a variety of mechanisms due to the changing pandemic environment, and will include:

People who are concerned about COVID-19 continue to contact their general practices in large numbers. In the first instance, we will ask participating general practices to record whether a person phoning about COVID-19 is potentially eligible for the study. The practice will then ask the person if they are interested in finding out about potential trial participation or seek verbal consent if they are happy to be contacted by the trial team to discuss this further. If they are, information will be provided verbally and online either by the GP surgery or their contact details passed to the trial team who will provide such information on how they might join the study. Full information will be available to view on a web site and subsequently on the Participant Information Sheet (PIS). A simplified Participant Information Leaflet may also be provided to supplement the full PIS. This information will inform potentially eligible and interested patients about how to access further trial information and consider participation, as well as the procedures involved in joining the study, and what participation would involve. Practices can also choose to screen contacts from the previous (up to) 14 days for potentially eligible participants to be approached to discuss participation.

In addition to receiving calls from potentially eligible participants, participating practices will also be able to contact patients, preferably by text (or by letter), who they have screened from their GP Practice list and who fall into the correct age and co-morbidity categories, to tell them about the study and to let them know that, should they develop relevant symptoms, they may wish to contact the practice or trial team directly to discuss participation in the trial.
The Study Team will be contacted directly by some potentially eligible patients due to word of mouth and media exposure. They may approach the Study Team by calls, emails and other mechanisms. The Study Team will then also be able to provide such people with information about potentially joining the trial, and the steps involved.

Agencies from national bodies, such as NHS 111, and COVID-19 ‘Hot Hubs’ and hospital emergency departments which receive COVID-19 calls will be able to give information via a trial poster about possible trial participation and direct interested patients to the online information on and/or how to contact the Study Team.

An online screening, eligibility and consent procedure will be followed, with telephone calls as back-up for potential participants to be able to ask questions and clarifications about the study and their potential participation.

Participants will preferably complete the Informed Consent Form (ICF) online. They will be able to download their consent form for their records. This online process avoids risk from paper copies handled by people with infection, and is efficient during a time or rapid recruitment during a pandemic. Remote online consent or via telephone call is also required as the majority of GP practices may not conduct face-to-face appointments in the COVID-19 pandemic, and all potential COVID-19 sufferers are being informed by a national campaign to contact clinicians by telephone or online.

During this process, we will ask the potential participant to, if possible, include a phone number and email address for a Study Partner, who may provide assistant to the study participant in completing trial procedures. Identifying a Study Partner is not a requirement of study participation, merely a suggested mechanism to aid participation for consenting patients.

Eligibility can be checked at study sites. In addition, eligibility can be checked centrally by a medically qualified clinician or a Research Nurse suitably trained and experienced who has been delegated this responsibility, with appropriate access to the participant’s medical records. If participant’s medical notes cannot be accessed centrally, the clinician/delegate will contact the participants GP for information to enable the study team to confirm eligibility.

Once informed consent has been obtained, and eligibility confirmed, participants will be randomised via a secure online link using our in-house Sortition module. The participant, trial team and participant’s GP will be notified electronically of what treatment allocation they have been randomised to. The participant and GP can review the PIS and completed ICF at any time using a secure log-in access code.

All participants will be provided with 2 sampling kits for self-sampling by their practice, study team, Public Health England (PHE) or other central service, if sampling kits are available. One sample will be taken as close to study entry as possible, to assess COVID-19 status, and the second five days after enrolment to assess COVID-19 status and viral shedding. Where swabbing facilities are unavailable, for example, if there is no supply of suitable swabs, patients may still participate in the trial and be included in the intention to treat analysis only.

Participants will receive clear instructions on how to self-sample, as per standard advice. Once the sample has been taken, they will be asked to place the sample in the provided container, sealed in a double envelope, which will be posted to a laboratory according to their standard practice for COVID-19 swab testing. For trial purposes, we will not store the swabs after testing but PHE may keep the specimen for up to 5 years following their own approved processes. Participants will be informed of their COVID-19 swab result by their GP.

Participants included in the study from a limited locality in London, will in addition, be asked if they wish to be put in touch with a research team from Imperial Colleague, who together with the Oxford RCGP RSC, are conducting a study of immunological changes and household spread. This exploratory study would be
conducted under a separate, approved protocol, and would share any data with the PRINCIPLE Study on patients who also consent into the Imperial College study.

Once recruited, participants will be issued with an online link where they will be asked to record the presence and severity of a few simple symptoms each day. Where online data is not being entered by participants, the research team will contact the participants and/or their study partner following days 2, 7, 14 and 28. The study team will make no more than three attempts to contact the participant/Trial Partner at each of these follow-up points. We will also obtain consent to ascertain relevant data from hospital records about length of stay and ICU admission and ventilation.

The RCGP RSC will report to the central trial office at least twice weekly about healthcare contacts in the participating patient's clinical records, as they are able to download this information centrally for study participants. This will be used as confirmation and a back-up for information obtained directly from study participants and other data sources outlined above. Where notes review is not possible using this route – for example, where a patient has been recruited through an urgent or unscheduled care contact and therefore their registered GP practice has not been involved and does not wish to register with the RCGP RSC, the registered GP surgery will be contacted separately by the trials team to request a limited notes review.

8.2 Screening and Eligibility Assessment

Participants will be screened after they read the PIS, by completing online eligibility questions in lay terms (based on section 7), and if they meet screening criteria, they will be asked to complete an online consent form (see above). A screening trial ID number will be assigned. The participant will go on to enter online baseline information, including their address and contact details and those of a Study Partner, if they have a Study Partner available to help them with the study. The trial team and responsible clinician or delegate will be notified electronically, a clinician/delegate who has access to the patient’s medical records will provide information to the study team to enable them to confirm eligibility centrally. Once deemed eligible, the clinician or a member of the trial team will go on to randomise the participant. The participant, GP, and trial team will be notified of the study participation and the treatment group allocated.

8.3 Informed Consent

Written and verbal versions of the Participant Information Sheet (PIS) and the Informed Consent Form (ICF) will be presented to the participants detailing no less than: the exact nature of the study; the implications and constraints of the protocol, and, the known side-effects and risks involved in taking part. The study will provide a PIS that includes all necessary information in appropriate wording and format for the participant. It will be clearly stated that the participant is free to withdraw from the study at any time for any reason without prejudice to future care, and with no obligation to provide the reason for withdrawal.

Adequate time will be given to the participant to consider the information given to them and to ask any questions they may have about the trial before deciding whether they will participate in the study. However, they must still be recruited within the stated number of days of the onset of their symptoms to participate.

8.4 Randomisation

Participants will be randomised using a fully validated and compliant web-based randomisation system called Sortition. At the baseline assessment, the recruiter or a member of the trial team will enter the participant’s baseline data into the online system, which will then enable the randomisation to take place. The randomisation process will take only a few moments via the online system and will not delay trial participation. Full details of response adaptive randomisation are described in section 11.2.4.

8.5 Blinding and code-breaking
PRINCIPLE will be an open-label trial. The participant and the recruiting clinician will know the participant’s allocation. Therefore, no unblinding or code breaking is required in the event of a relevant emergency. However, those managing the data will be blind to participant allocation.

The trial team and recruiting clinicians will be blinded to emerging results. During the course of the trial, only those on the Data Safety & Monitoring Committee will have access to the unblinded interim results.

8.6 Baseline Assessments

Once eligibility is confirmed, participants will be randomised using Sortition online. A sampling kit with two sets of swabs and an insert containing instructions will be sent to the participant’s home for self-sampling as soon after study inclusion as possible and then again 5 days later, unless a sample can be taken face-to-face by the general practice, or another facility soon after inclusion, in which case the initial self-swab will not be necessary. While the aim is to have a swab result for all patients, if a swab cannot be done for supply or other logistical reasons, this will not exclude the patient form participating in the study. However, they will only be analysed in the intention to treat analysis. All participants, whether in the intervention or control group, will be asked to provide self-swab or self-swab at study enrolment and day 5, if swabbing facilities for this are available. If participants take their own swab, they will put it in the secure container and double bag, and post it to the PHE laboratory supporting the study. Participants will be told how study materials and any medication they are randomised to receive can be obtained, either through collection at a pharmacy, GP practice, or by home delivery. GPs will be able to issue the study medication directly to participants, it may be issued centrally from the trial team.

8.7 Subsequent Visits

There is no requirement for participants to have a research-specific face-to-face visit as part of their study participation, as requiring additional health care contacts should be avoided if at all possible, during the COVID-19 pandemic. All subsequent measurements consist of self-completed questionnaires online or through telephone calls from the trial team and primary care and hospital record searches.

Participant follow-up will be primarily online, where they will be asked to complete questions each day for 28 days. If not completed, the trial team will contact the participant and/or their Study Partner to obtain the information. In addition, at day 14 and 28 the World Health Organisation – Five Well-Being Index (WHO-5) will be administered, completed online or telephone call, at the preference of the participant.

Each day, participants, or their study partner, will be asked to rate the severity of a set number of symptoms, record contacts with the health services including hospital admission, record medication use, new infections in the household, and the five questions of WHO 5 Well Being Index on days 14 and 28. The latter instrument has been validated for measuring wellbeing over time. It is becoming increasingly apparent the COVID-19 infection may have a considerable negative impact on well-being; exploring impact of interventions on this is important. (22)

A subset of participants will be contacted after 28 days by text/telephone to invite them to participate in a process evaluation sub-study telephone interview about their experiences. One follow-up telephone call may be made if there is no response.

The participants who consented to be contacted for an optional covid-19 blood test (if it becomes available) will be contacted by the study team within 6 months of completing the study and given more information in an additional participant information sheet and consent form, including where blood sampling will take place and that blood samples will not be stored.

The practice network that will be implementing the trial in the first instance, the Oxford Royal College of General Practitioners Surveillance Network, has the capacity to extract patient information from the
clinical records twice a week. This more-or-less real-time ascertainment of primary care will augment information captured from patients themselves, their families or from the hospital records about intensive care admission and ventilation. Participant records will be accessed up to 3 months following enrolment to ascertain follow up data to day 28 from enrolment. Data will be collected in real time as far as possible, RCGP RCS, EMIS and NHS Digital will be utilised if required. We are engineering a new digital platform to enable daily extracts shortly.

Where notes review is not possible using these routes – for example where a patient has been recruited through an urgent or unscheduled care contact and therefore their registered GP practice has not been involved and does not wish to register with the RCGP RSC, the registered GP surgery will be contacted separately by the trials team to request a limited notes review.

8.8 Sample Handling

We will request two biological samples to test for COVID-19 from all consenting participants, the first at baseline and the second at day 5. Unless a swab can be taken face-to-face in the course of usual care, this will be a self-swab process with the practice generating the required forms. Once the swab has been taken it will be put in the regulation contained packaging, double bagged, and posted to the PHE laboratory that is supporting the study using their existing, safe, compliant processes. The trial team will utilise PHE and their existing processes and documentation. The trial team do not intend to store the swab once tested, and it won’t be stored for the purpose of this trial. The swab material will fall under PHE and not the trial remit, and PHE may retain the swab for up to 5 years.

If a blood test for covid-19 becomes available, participants who have consented to being contacted will receive further information about this test and give consent if they wish to take part. We anticipate participants will be informed of their blood test result and blood samples wont be stored.

8.9 Qualitative Sub-study

A qualitative sub-study will be nested within the trial. Qualitative work will capture data to understand how patients conceptualise their illness and how they respond to taking medication(s) as part of the trial. Once participants have completed the trial, we will interview their respective clinicians to explore their views of taking part in trials during a pandemic.

Recruitment:

When patient participants consent to take part in the trial, we will ask whether they would be happy to be contacted by telephone to be invited for a telephone interview. Patient participants will be contacted by telephone by a member of the research team within 3 months to invite them to participate after they complete their day 28 follow up. The researcher will provide study information over the telephone. The Interview Patient PIS, and Interview Patient ICF will be available on the study website and will be emailed to participants if requested.

Once a practice has completed patient recruitment for the trial and one of their patients has been interviewed as part of the process evaluation sub-study, we may ask the practice contact to identify 1-2 healthcare professionals who would be willing to share their experiences of taking part in the trial. Healthcare professionals will include clinicians and non-clinicians with the main criteria for inclusion in interviews being that HCP participants should have carried out trial activities in their practice. Potential HCP participants will be contacted in person or by email by the practice contact. They will be provided with the Interview HCP Invitation Email, Interview HCP PIS and Interview HCP ICF by email.

All participants will be given at least 24 hours to consider whether to participate and will be asked to contact the research team with expressions of interest.
Patients recruited to both the intervention and usual care arms will be purposively sampled across the recruiting period with approximately 15-20 patients in each arm (30-40 interviews in total). We will seek to obtain maximum variation in age and symptom severity (as reported in daily diary on day 0).

When the research team receives responses from HCPs, they will collect basic demographics to purposively select participants based on practice location, practice size, practice patient recruitment and job role. We will aim to complete 20-25 interviews with HCPs.

All participants will only be required to take part in a single interview.

Interviews:

Interviews will be conducted by telephone and all participants will be asked to provide verbal consent prior to interviews starting. The researcher will make a written record of this consent using the Qualitative ICFs which will be emailed to the participant. Interviews will be audio-recorded with participant’s permission.

Patient interviews will follow a semi-structured topic guide (Interview Patient Topic Guide) and ask about reasons for consulting and illness perceptions prior to the consultation, experiences of the consultation, the COVID-19 testing process (and result where the participant has been notified) and medication adherence. The topic guide will be informed by the Common Sense Model which describes how people perceive and cope with symptoms of illness.

HCP interviews will follow the Interview HCP Topic Guide and will ask about experiences of carrying out trial activities, recruiting patients and the work required to set up a clinical trial during a pandemic.

Interviews with patient participants will be expected to last approximately 30-45 minutes and interviews with HCPs will be expected to last 15-30 minutes.

8.10 Early Discontinuation/Withdrawal of Participants

Each participant has the right to withdraw from the study at any time. In addition, the Investigator may discontinue a participant from the study at any time if the Investigator considers it necessary for any reason including:

- Ineligibility (either arising during the study or retrospectively having been overlooked at screening)
- Withdrawal of consent

The reason for withdrawal will be recorded on the CRF. Data that has already been collected about the participant will be kept and used. Swabs may be stored outside of the trial remit, for PHE purposes adhering to their retention policy. Optional covid-19 blood test samples will not be stored.

8.11 Definition of End of Trial

Last data capture of last participant, when: no further suitable interventions are available and/or COVID 19 is no longer prevalent. March 2022 has been decided as the formal end date at this stage, but that may need to be amended, depending on circumstances prevailing at the time.

9 TRIAL INTERVENTIONS

9.1 Investigational Medicinal Product(s) (IMP) Description

*Trial Drug information can be found in the relevant Appendices.*
9.2. Blinding of IMPs

There is no blinding of IMPs in the trial.

9.3. Storage of IMP

GP practices can order a supply of trial medication from Public Health England using the existing Inform process. All GP practices in England are already set up on Inform, as they use this system to order influenza vaccines form Public Health England. GPs will be provided with an envelope by the study team which will be labelled appropriately for trial medication, and they will add the patient’s details to this label. This pack, containing instructions on using the medication will be provided to the patient or their representative. Medication may either be issued by the patient’s registered GP surgery or by a surgery acting as a hub for a number of local surgeries.

Alternatively, study medication will be repackaged by accredited licensed, central facility and may be delivered to primary care centres or to the Primary Care Clinical Trials Unit for further distribution to study participants as they are included. Distribution of trial packs to study participants will be tracked via courier or call/text message.

9.4. Compliance with Trial Treatment

Participants will receive a daily email asking for them to log on with a unique access code to an electronic system where they will record their symptoms. If uncompleted, the trial team will contact the participant and/or their Study Partner to obtain the data. Non-compliance can be assessed daily.

9.5. Accountability of the Trial Treatment

A risk-adapted approach will be used for drug accountability. Accountability logs will be kept by PC-CTU for when they ship drug.

9.6. Concomitant Medication

Please see Appendices for details of Trial Drugs and concomitant medication.

10 SAFETY REPORTING

Daily symptom diaries and participant telephone calls will record any symptoms and side effects from the trial medication. This information will be analysed as part of the whole trial analysis.

10.1 Adverse Event Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adverse Event (AE)</th>
<th>Any untoward medical occurrence in a participant to whom a medicinal product has been administered, including occurrences which are not necessarily caused by or related to that product.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adverse Reaction (AR)</td>
<td>An untoward and unintended response in a participant to an investigational medicinal product which is related to any dose administered to that participant. The phrase &quot;response to an investigational medicinal product&quot; means that a causal relationship between a trial medication and an AE is at least a reasonable possibility, i.e. the relationship cannot be ruled out. All cases judged by either the reporting medically qualified professional or the Sponsor as having a reasonable suspected causal relationship to the trial medication qualify as adverse reactions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Serious Adverse Event (SAE) | A serious adverse event is any untoward medical occurrence that:
| - results in death
| - is life-threatening
| - requires inpatient hospitalisation or prolongation of existing hospitalisation
| - results in persistent or significant disability/incapacity
| - consists of a congenital anomaly or birth defect*.

Other ‘important medical events’ may also be considered a serious adverse event when, based upon appropriate medical judgement, the event may jeopardise the participant and may require medical or surgical intervention to prevent one of the outcomes listed above.

NOTE: The term “life-threatening” in the definition of “serious” refers to an event in which the participant was at risk of death at the time of the event; it does not refer to an event which hypothetically might have caused death if it were more severe.

*NOTE: Pregnancy is not, in itself an SAE. In the event that a participant or his/her partner becomes pregnant whilst taking part in a clinical trial or during a stage where the foetus could have been exposed to the medicinal product (in the case of the active substance or one of its metabolites having a long half-life) the pregnancy should be followed up by the investigator until delivery for congenital abnormality or birth defect, at which point it would fall within the definition of “serious”.

Serious Adverse Reaction (SAR) | An adverse event that is both serious and, in the opinion of the reporting Investigator, believed with reasonable probability to be due to one of the trial treatments, based on the information provided.

Suspected Unexpected Serious Adverse Reaction (SUSAR) | A serious adverse reaction, the nature and severity of which is not consistent with the Reference Safety Information for the medicinal product in question set out:
| - in the case of a product with a marketing authorisation, in the approved summary of product characteristics (SmPC) for that product
| - in the case of any other investigational medicinal product, in the approved investigator’s brochure (IB) relating to the trial in question.

NB: to avoid confusion or misunderstanding of the difference between the terms “serious” and “severe”, the following note of clarification is provided: “Severe” is often used to describe intensity of a specific event, which may be of relatively minor medical significance. “Seriousness” is the regulatory definition supplied above.

10.2 Assessment results outside of normal parameters as AEs and SAEs
There are no additional assessment results in this study

10.3 Assessment of Causality
The relationship of each adverse event to the trial medication must be determined by a medically qualified individual according to the following definitions:

- **Unrelated** – where an event is not considered to be related to the IMP
- **Possibly** – although a relationship to the IMP cannot be completely ruled out, the nature of the event, the underlying disease, concomitant medication or temporal relationship make other explanations possible.
- **Probably** – the temporal relationship and absence of a more likely explanation suggest the event could be related to the IMP.
- **Definitely** – the known effects of the IMP, its therapeutic class or based on challenge testing suggest that the IMP is the most likely cause.

All AEs (SAEs) labelled possibly, probably or definitely will be considered as related to the IMP.

### 10.4 Procedures for Reporting Adverse Events

All AEs will be collected from daily participant diaries, calls to participants/Study Partners and RCGP data downloads.

The severity of events will be assessed on the following scale: minor problem/moderate problem/major problem.

It will be left to the Investigator’s clinical judgment to decide whether or not an AE is of sufficient severity to require the participant’s removal from treatment. A participant may also voluntarily withdraw from treatment due to what he or she perceives as an intolerable AE.

### 10.5 Reporting Procedures for Serious Adverse Events

Hospitalisation and death due to COVID-19 are our primary outcomes so we will collect this data using a risk-adapted approach and will not report such as SAEs. SAE information will be collected from daily diaries, calls to participants and their Study Partner and RCGP data downloads and hospital records and analysed as part of the interim and whole trial analysis and will be reviewed at each Data Safety & Monitoring Committee meeting.

SAEs other than hospitalisation or death due to COVID-19 infection must be reported by the person who has discovered the SAE or nominated delegate within 24 hours of becoming aware of the event. The sponsor or delegate will perform an initial check of the report, request any additional information, and ensure it is reviewed by the CI or other delegated personnel for relatedness and expectedness as soon as possible taking into account the reporting time for a potential SUSAR according to the relevant competent authority. Additional and further requested information (follow-up or corrections to the original case) will be detailed on a new SAE Report Form and reviewed by the sponsor or delegate. If the event has not resolved, at the 28 day time point the SAE will be reviewed again to see if resolution has occurred. If the event is considered ‘resolved’ or ‘resolving’ no further follow up is required. If not, the event must be followed up until such a time point.

### 10.5.1. Other events exempt from immediate reporting as SAEs
Hospitalisations will be defined as at least a 1 night admission to hospital.

Hospitalisation for a pre-existing condition, including elective procedures planned prior to study entry, which has not worsened, does not constitute a serious adverse event and standard supportive care for the disease under study are not SAEs, and do not require SAE reporting.

10.5.2. Procedure for immediate reporting of Serious Adverse Events

- Study team will complete an SAE report form for all reportable SAEs.
- GP practice/study team/RCGP will provide additional, missing or follow up information in a timely fashion.

The CI or delegate will review the SAE once reported, collect as much information and report to the Sponsor within the timeframe according to the PC-CTU SOPs.

10.5.3 Expectedness

For SAEs that require reporting, expectedness of SARs will be determined according to the relevant RSI section of the Summary of Product Characteristics/IB. The RSI will be the current Sponsor and MHRA approved version at the time of the event occurrence. For assessment of expectedness in the Development Safety Update Report, see section 10.7 below.

10.6 SUSAR Reporting

All SUSARs will be reported by the sponsor delegate to the relevant Competent Authority and to the REC and other parties as applicable. For fatal and life-threatening SUSARS, this will be done no later than 7 calendar days after the Sponsor or delegate is first aware of the reaction. Any additional relevant information will be reported within 8 calendar days of the initial report. All other SUSARs will be reported within 15 calendar days.

Principal Investigators will be informed of all SUSARs for the relevant IMP for all studies with the same Sponsor, whether or not the event occurred in the current trial.

10.7 Development Safety Update Reports

The DSUR will be developed and submitted annually on the anniversary date that the trial receives Clinical Trial Authorisation +60 days. Due to the nature of this trial and the importance of sharing the science of COVID-19 and the drug, internationally, we expect to produce reports to the UK Government and regulatory agency more frequently upon request.

11 STATISTICS

11.1 Master Statistical Analysis Plan (M-SAP)

The statistical design and pre-specified analyses will be described in detail in a Master Statistical Analysis Plan (M-SAP) drafted by a Trial Statistician and signed off by the CI and Lead/senior statistician. The M-SAP will be accompanied by arm-specific appendices to describe any planned deviations from the M-SAP. A broad overview of the design and primary analyses is provided below.

11.2 Open Adaptive Platform Trial

PRINCIPLE is an open, adaptive, platform trial to evaluate emerging treatments of the novel COVID-19 virus. A “platform trial” is a trial in which multiple treatments for the same disease are tested simultaneously. The backbone of the trial is an adaptive clinical trial design. Pre-specified decision criteria allow for dropping a treatment for futility, declaring a treatment superior, or adding a new treatment to be tested. If at any point a treatment is deemed superior to the control arm, the superior treatment will
replace the control arm as the new standard of care, and all subsequent treatments will be compared to the new standard of care. Because the process of dropping and adding treatments may be on-going for an indefinite period of time, platform trials may be better conceived of as a process rather than a singular clinical trial. In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the trial may continue as long as the pandemic persists.

The PRINCIPLE trial will begin as a two arm, 1:1 randomised trial but will have the capability to add additional interventions over time. The evaluation of any new interventions will be governed by this master protocol and M-SAP (including adaptive algorithm and decision criteria), with any planned deviations from the master protocol and M-SAP to be specified in arm-specific appendices. The inclusion of any new interventions will require additional arm-specific appendices to the master protocol and M-SAP.

11.2.1 Primary Endpoint & Analysis

The primary endpoint is hospital admission or death as a result of COVID-19 infection. The primary analysis will be a Bayesian generalised linear model of the primary outcome regressed on treatment and stratification covariates (age, comorbidity). Let \( \theta_j \) denote the log odds ratio comparing the odds of hospitalisation/death for persons in treatment group \( j \) versus persons in the Usual Care arm. A corresponding Bayesian posterior distribution will be derived for the estimated log odds ratio. The primary analysis for intervention \( j \) will test the following hypothesis:

\[
H_0: \theta_j \geq 0 \\
H_1: \theta_j < 0
\]

If the Bayesian posterior probability of superiority for a treatment versus Usual Care is sufficiently large (e.g. \( \geq 0.99 \)), the null hypothesis will be rejected and the intervention will be deemed superior to Usual Care. The exact threshold of the superiority decision criterion (e.g. 0.99) will be determined \emph{a priori} via simulation to control the one-sided Type I error of the study at approximately 0.025, and will be specified in the M-SAP. The M-SAP will also specify details of the primary analysis when the Usual Care arm is replaced by a superior treatment, and for when the comparison of a treatment versus control includes non-concurrent randomisations.

11.2.2 Adaptive Design

The pre-specified design will allow adaptations to the trial based on the observed data. These adaptations include the declaration of success or futility of an intervention at an interim analysis, the addition or removal of treatment arms, and changes in the randomisation probabilities. Adaptations will occur at a given interim analysis if pre-specified conditions are satisfied. The adaptive algorithm will be documented in the M-SAP, including prespecified criteria for decisions regarding futility or effectiveness of interventions and/or replacing interventions in the trial.

11.2.3 Interim Analyses

The first interim analysis will occur when first 100 randomised participants have the opportunity to complete 28 days of follow-up, followed by subsequent weekly interim analyses. At each interim analysis, all enrolled intervention arms will be evaluated for success or futility using the Bayesian primary analysis. If the Bayesian posterior probability of superiority of a given intervention is sufficiently large (e.g. \( \geq 0.99 \)), superiority will be declared. If there are additional intervention arms in the study (either currently or subsequently), the superior arm will replace the Usual Care arm as the new standard of care.
If the Bayesian posterior probability of a clinically meaningful treatment effect (≥ 0.05 decrease in the proportion hospitalized/dead) is sufficiently small (e.g. < 0.01) the intervention arm will be dropped from the study for futility. If there are no other intervention arms available, the trial will be suspended; otherwise accrual continues to the remaining treatment arms. The exact futility threshold will be pre-specified in the M-SAP and determined via simulation.

11.2.4 Allocation & Response Adaptive Randomisation

Initially, randomisation will be fixed 1:1 for a comparison between two trial arms, with stratification by age (less than 65, greater than or equal to 65), and comorbidity (yes/no). If a second intervention arm is added to the study, randomisation allocation will be modified (e.g. 1:1:1) stratified by age and comorbidity, and the additional intervention will be included in the interim analyses (with evaluation for success and futility) as detailed in the M-SAP. If there are at least 3 arms (2 intervention arms plus Usual Care) in the study, each interim analysis may incorporate modified randomisation probabilities via response adaptive randomisation (RAR). Full details for implementing RAR will be provided in the M-SAP; the general idea is to allocate more participants to the intervention arms that have the best observed outcomes.

11.2.5 Sample Size Justification

Given the open perpetual trial structure, the trial does not have a finite ending based on sample size. Rather, the trial will continue until either superiority or futility is claimed for an intervention, or until the pandemic expires in the population. We estimate that approximately 1500 participants per arm (3000 participants total if only a single intervention vs. usual care) will be required to provide 90% power for detecting a 5 percentage point benefit in the proportion of subjects experiencing hospitalisation/death. This calculation is based on the assumption of an underlying 20% combined hospitalisation/death rate in the study population, with an intervention lowering the hospitalisation/death rate to 15%, with some adjustments for the multiple interim analyses. On average, we expect fewer participants to be required when there is a large treatment benefit or complete lack of benefit. For example, if the true benefit is a 10 percentage point decrease in hospitalisation/mortality (20% usual care vs. 10% treatment), on average only 250 subjects per arm are required to provide sufficient power. The primary advantage of the adaptive design is the ability to adapt the sample size to the observed data, thus addressing the primary hypothesis as quickly and as efficiently as possible.

11.2.6 Virtual Trial Simulations

Because of the adaptive platform trial structure, there exists no simple formula(s) to calculate power and Type I error (false positive rate). Hence, virtual trial simulations will be used to fully characterize and quantify the power and Type I error of the design. These simulations will be conducted prior to the first interim analysis (with results described in the M-SAP/appendices), and will be used to optimize the adaptive decision criterion and RAR parameters. The simulations will include a comprehensive evaluation of trial performance across a wide range of assumptions (e.g. underlying distribution of outcome in control arm, treatment effect, accrual rates, etc.). This will include summaries regarding the number of subjects required to make a success or futility conclusions for each intervention. For example, we will quantify the probability of claiming superiority at the first and each of the subsequent interim analyses. Complete details of the simulations will be provided in the M-SAP and corresponding appendices.

11.2.7 Procedure for Accounting for Missing, Unused, and Spurious Data.

Full details of handling missing data will be specified in the M-SAP.

11.3 Primary Analysis Population
The primary analysis population is defined as all randomized participants according to the groups they were randomly allocated to, regardless of deviation from protocol and irrespective of their COVID-19 status. Secondary analyses will conduct the primary analysis on the subset of participants with confirmed COVID-19.

11.4 Procedures for Reporting Unplanned Deviation(s) from the Master Statistical Analysis Plan

Analyses will be carried out in accordance with the M-SAP and corresponding appendices. Any additional analysis that is not specified in the M-SAP/appendices or any unplanned deviation(s) from the M-SAP/appendices will be specified in the Statistical Report. Reasons for these changes will be documented and authorised by the Chief Investigator.

11.5 Qualitative sub-study analysis

Audio-recordings of interviews will be transcribed verbatim and transcripts analysed using thematic analysis. Patient and HCP interviews transcripts will be analysed separately but findings will be compared and triangulated if deemed appropriate. Thematic analysis allows the research team to take a pragmatic approach to data collection, remaining grounded in the data but ensuring that the analysis answers the research objectives. NVivo software will be used to assist with the organisation and coding of data. Codes will be compared with one another to create categories, grouping similar codes together. A thematic framework will be developed to code all data and represent key themes for both sets of interviews.

12 DATA MANAGEMENT

The data management aspects of the study are summarised here with details fully described in the Data Management Plan.

12.1 Source Data

Source documents are where data are first recorded, and from which participants’ CRF data are obtained. These include, but are not limited to, hospital records (from which medical history and previous and concurrent medication may be summarised into the CRF), clinical and office charts, laboratory and pharmacy records, diaries, microfiches, radiographs, and correspondence.

If the participant fails to complete data online and after three attempts at contacting the participant/Trial Partner, the RCGP RSC may be utilised to obtain missing data. Data collected will include participant identifiable information and will be accessed at the University of Oxford according to PC-CTU Information Governance policies and GDPR. Data will only be held for the duration of which its required, this will be reviewed annually.

CRF entries will be considered source data if the CRF is the site of the original recording (e.g. there is no other written or electronic record of data). All documents will be stored safely in confidential conditions.

On all study-specific documents, other than the signed consent, the participant will be referred to by the study participant number/code, not by name.

12.2 Access to Data

Direct access will be granted to authorised representatives from the Sponsor and host institution for monitoring and/or audit of the study to ensure compliance with regulations.

12.3 Data Recording and Record Keeping
A CTU data manager will be assigned to the study, as delegated by the CI, and will be responsible for overseeing the receiving, entering, cleaning, querying, analysing and storing all data that accrues from the study by designated persons. The data will be entered into the volunteers’ CRFs in an electronic format by the participant or trial team (using OpenClinica™ database via Sentry). OpenClinica™ is stored on a secure server – data will be entered in a web browser on PCs in the Clinical Trials Unit building and then transferred to the OpenClinica Database by encrypted (Https) transfer. OpenClinical™ meets FDA part 11B standards. This includes safety data, laboratory data and outcome data. Safety data will also be collected through electronic diaries which are stored on a secure server.

Sentry is an online secure data entry system developed in-house at PC-CTU and hosted at Oxford. It is designed to collect sensitive data, such as participant contact details, and securely retain them separate from a trial’s clinical data. Sentry can also act as a central participant portal to manage online eligibility, eConsent and ePRO - acting as an intermediary between the participant and the clinical databases. Sentry is accessed via a secure HTTPS connection and all stored sensitive data is encrypted at rest to AES-256 standards.

The Investigators will maintain appropriate medical and research records for this trial, in compliance with the requirements of the Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trial) Regulations 2004, ICH E6 GCP and regulatory and institutional requirements for the protection of confidentiality of volunteers. The Chief Investigator, Principal Investigator, Co-Investigators and Clinical Research Nurses will have access to records. The Investigators will permit authorized representatives of the sponsor, and regulatory agencies to examine (and when required by applicable law, to copy) clinical records for the purposes of quality assurance reviews, audits and evaluation of the study safety and progress.

For the qualitative sub-study:

Each interview will be audio-recorded with the participant’s permission. Recordings will allow verbatim transcription of interviews in Microsoft Word. Transcription will be completed by an independent transcription company who holds a contract with the University of Oxford. Once transcribed and transcripts are checked, audio-recordings will be deleted. Transcripts will be labelled with a unique participant number and will omit any identifiable data either identifying the participant or their general practice.

### 13 QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES

The study will be conducted in accordance with the current approved protocol, GCP, relevant regulations and PC-CTU Standard Operating Procedures. All PIs, coordinating centre staff and site staff will receive training in trial procedures according to GCP where required.

Regular monitoring will be performed according to GCP using a risk based approach. Data will be evaluated for compliance with the protocol and accuracy in relation to source documents where possible. Following written standard operating procedures, the monitors will verify that the clinical trial is conducted and data are generated, documented and reported in compliance with the protocol, GCP and the applicable regulatory requirements. The Study Monitor may also assess SAE’s.

The PC-CTU Trial Management Group will be responsible for the monitoring of all aspects of the trial’s conduct and progress and will ensure that the protocol is adhered to and that appropriate action is taken to safeguard participants and the quality of the trial itself. The TMG will be comprised of individuals responsible for the trial’s day to day management (e.g. the CI, trial manager, statistician, data manager) and will meet regularly throughout the course of the trial.

#### 13.1 Risk assessment
A risk assessment and monitoring plan will be prepared before the study opens and will be reviewed as necessary over the course of the study to reflect significant changes to the protocol or outcomes of monitoring activities.

13.2 Monitoring

The monitoring will be performed by the PC-CTU Quality Assurance Manager or delegate. The level of monitoring required will be informed by the risk assessment.

13.3 Trial committees

A Data Monitoring and Safety Committee (DMSC) and Trial Management Group (TMG) will be appointed in line with standard CTU procedures. The responsibilities of each group are as follows:

- **DMSC** - to review the data at each interim analysis as described in the Statistical Analysis section, as the updates to the randomisation scheme occur in order to ensure that the process is working correctly and to review and monitor the accruing data to ensure the rights, safety and wellbeing of the trial participants.

- **TSC** – the Trial Steering Committee ensure the rights, safety and wellbeing of the trial participants. They will make recommendations about how the study is operating, any ethical or safety issues and any data being produced from other relevant studies that might impact the trial.

- **TMG** - is responsible for the day-to-day running of the trial, including monitoring all aspects of the trial and ensuring that the protocol is being adhered to. It will include Co-Investigators and will meet weekly in the first instance. A core project team (PT) from within the TMG will meet daily as required for daily operational decision making.

14 PROTOCOL DEVIATIONS

A study related deviation is a departure from the ethically approved study protocol or other study document or process (e.g. consent process or administration of study intervention) or from Good Clinical Practice (GCP) or any applicable regulatory requirements. Any deviations from the protocol will be documented in a protocol deviation form and filed in the study master file.

A PC-CTU SOP is in place describing the procedure for identifying non-compliances, escalation to the central team and assessment of whether a non-compliance/deviation may be a potential Serious Breach.

15 SERIOUS BREACHES

A “serious breach” is a breach of the protocol or of the conditions or principles of Good Clinical Practice which is likely to affect to a significant degree –

   (a) the safety or physical or mental integrity of the trial subjects; or

   (b) the scientific value of the research.

In the event that a serious breach is suspected the Sponsor must be contacted within 1 working day. In collaboration with the C.I., the serious breach will be reviewed by the Sponsor and, if appropriate, the Sponsor will report it to the approving REC committee and the relevant NHS host organisation within seven calendar days.

16 ETHICAL AND REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

16.1 Declaration of Helsinki
The Investigator will ensure that this study is conducted in accordance with the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki.

16.2 Guidelines for Good Clinical Practice

The Investigator will ensure that this trial is conducted in accordance with relevant regulations and with Good Clinical Practice.

16.3 Approvals

Following Sponsor approval, the protocol, informed consent form, participant information sheets and any proposed informing material will be submitted to an appropriate Research Ethics Committee (REC), regulatory authorities, and host institution(s) for written approval. The PI and coordinating centres for each country will ensure and confirm correct regulatory approvals are gained prior to recruitment.

The Investigator will submit and, where necessary, obtain approval from the above parties for all substantial amendments to the original approved documents.

16.4 Other Ethical Considerations

If a particular arm is deemed futile and dropped, no further participants will be randomised to this arm and anyone who is currently on this arm will be informed it has been dropped.

Once a particular intervention has been declared superior and effective, that will become the comparator arm (i.e. standard care).

The vast majority of participant’s, due to their co-morbidities, will be exempt from prescription charges. All participants will receive a £20 voucher to cover any prescriptions and other expenses they may incur as a consequence of study participation.

We do not intend to recruit people who do not have capacity to provide consent for themselves to participate into this study.

16.5 Reporting

The CI shall submit once a year throughout the clinical trial, or on request, an Annual Progress Report to the REC, HRA (where required), host organisation, funder (where required) and Sponsor. In addition, an End of Trial notification and final report will be submitted to the MHRA, the REC, host organisation and Sponsor.

16.6 Transparency in Research

Prior to the recruitment of the first participant, the trial will have been registered on a publicly accessible database.

Results will be uploaded to the European Clinical Trial (EudraCT) Database within 12 months of the end of trial declaration by the CI or their delegate.

Where the trial has been registered on multiple public platforms, the trial information will be kept up to date during the trial, and the CI or their delegate will upload results to all those public registries within 12 months of the end of the trial declaration.

16.7 Participant Confidentiality
The study will comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018, which require data to be de-identified as soon as it is practical to do so. The processing of the personal data of participants will be minimised by making use of a unique participant study number only on all study documents and any electronic database(s). All documents will be stored securely and only accessible by study staff and authorised personnel. The study staff will safeguard the privacy of participants’ personal data.

16.8 Expenses and Benefits

All participants will be reimbursed with a £20 voucher, to cover the payment of a prescription, should they incur this as a result of study participation, and a token of recognition of giving their time and contribution to the study. The vast majority of participants will not have to pay a prescription charge, should a prescription be issued as a result of trial participation. Most people with the co-morbidities outlined in the age range required for eligibility, are not required to pay for prescriptions.

Participants who complete a telephone interview as part of the qualitative sub-study will be reimbursed with a (second) £20 voucher for their time to participate.

17 FINANCE AND INSURANCE

17.1 Funding

The study is funded by the UKRI/NIHR via a MRC call.

17.2 Insurance

The University has a specialist insurance policy in place which would operate in the event of any participant suffering harm as a result of their involvement in the research (Newline Underwriting Management Ltd, at Lloyd’s of London). NHS indemnity operates in respect of the clinical treatment that is provided.

17.3 Contractual arrangements

Appropriate contractual arrangements will be put in place with all third parties.

18 PUBLICATION POLICY

The Investigators (those listed on the protocol and others to be decided at publication) will be involved in reviewing drafts of the manuscripts, abstracts, press releases and any other publications arising from the study. Authors will acknowledge the study funders. Authorship will be determined in accordance with the ICMJE guidelines and other contributors will be acknowledged.

19 DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW PRODUCT/ PROCESS OR THE GENERATION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Ownership of IP generated by employees of the University vests in the University. The University will ensure appropriate arrangements are in place as regards any new IP arising from the trial.
20 ARCHIVING

Archiving will be done according to the UOXF PC-CTU SOP and study specific working instructions.
REFERENCES


## APPENDIX A: SCHEDULE OF PROCEDURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedures</th>
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22 APPENDIX B: AMENDMENT HISTORY

<table>
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<th>Amendment No.</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Emma Ogburn; Chris Butler; Gail Hayward</td>
<td>Inclusion criteria: change ‘known heart disease’ to ‘Known heart disease and/or hypertension’; Exclusion criteria: exclude patients taking the following drugs: penicillamine, amiodarone, ciclosporin, chloroquine. Update section 9.6 to include vision changes and lowering of blood sugar. Update change in Funder and update Investigator list to reflect UKRI funder bid.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Emma Ogburn; Chris Butler; Gail Hayward, Hannah Swayze</td>
<td>Inclusion of TSC; central facility to distribute patient packs; addition of third arm; update of secondary outcomes to include WHO wellbeing questions; qualitative sub study; sign posting to other RCGP RSC study; eligibility confirmation by research nurse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hannah Swayze; Chris Butler; Emma Ogburn; Gail Hayward</td>
<td>Trial rationale; secondary outcomes to include blood test; 14 days of covid-19 symptoms; call to participant at day 2; poster</td>
</tr>
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</table>

List details of all protocol amendments here whenever a new version of the protocol is produced.

Protocol amendments must be submitted to the Sponsor for approval prior to submission to the REC committee, HRA (where required) or MHRA.
APPENDIX 1: USUAL CARE ARM

1 Background and rationale

COVID-19 disproportionately affects people over 50 years old with comorbidities and those over 65 years old. The infection causes considerable morbidity and mortality in this population group in particular, and is having a devastating effect on people's health, and society in the UK and internationally. (1-4) So far, there are no specific treatments for COVID-19 that have been proven in rigorous clinical trials to be effective. Clinicians managing suspected COVID-19 infections in the community will make clinical judgement about best treatment based on the clinical situation, but care is usually supportive to begin with, unless patients deteriorate and require hospital admission (https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng163). The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence does not recommend the immediate use of antibiotics, unless there are signs of pneumonia present (https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng163).

This usual care arm will follow current NHS care provision, and provide a control against which the effect of new interventions that are added to usual care can be assessed. If a new trial intervention plus usual care is found to beneficial compared to this usual alone care arm, then the usual care alone arm will be dropped, and the intervention that is found to be most effective will become the standard of care within the trial.

2 Changes to outcome measures

None

3 Detail of intervention

Participants randomised to the usual care arm will receive usual clinical care as per NHS care delivery practice.

3.1 Investigational Medicinal Product (IMP) description

Not applicable

3.2 Storage of IMP

Not applicable

4 Safety reporting

Mechanisms for safety reporting are outlined in the trial protocol.

5 References


APPENDIX 2: USUAL CARE PLUS HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE ARM

1 Background and rationale

1.1 Evidence for potential Hydroxychloroquine benefits in COVID-19

A candidate intervention for COVID-19, a drug called hydroxychloroquine, has become available following early evaluation in some studies in China.(1, 2) Hydroxychloroquine is a hydroxylated version of the drug chloroquine.(2, 3) Both agents are commonly in use as anti-malarials, and are used in a variety of autoimmune diseases. They have received significant recent interest as potential modifiers of disease activity in COVID (4)19.(2, 5) Hydroxychloroquine is already available within the NHS on prescription for other indications, and has a generally benign safety profile.(6) Chloroquine is available to buy in the UK over the counter in some formulations and is used as antimalarial prophylaxis and treatment.

Chloroquine is known to block virus infection by increasing endosomal pH required for virus/cell fusion, as well as interfering with the glycosylation of cellular receptors of SARS-CoV.(5) Besides its antiviral activity, chloroquine has an immune-modulating activity, which may synergistically enhance its antiviral effect in vivo.(3) Chloroquine is widely distributed in the whole body, including lungs, after oral administration.(2) The EC\textsubscript{90} value of chloroquine against the 2019-nCoV in Vero E6 cells was 6.90 μM in one study (1) which can be clinically achievable as demonstrated in the plasma of rheumatoid arthritis patients who received 500 mg administration.(6)

Hydroxychloroquine has been found to be effective against intracellular micro-organisms including malaria and intracellular bacteria Coxiella burnetii and Tropheryma Whippelii.(3) Both chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine have been shown to have in vitro antiviral activity against SARS coronavirus in a number of studies.(3) Most recently activity against SARSCOV2 was shown to be greater for hydroxychloroquine than chloroquine (7).

In human COVID-19 trials in China, chloroquine has been shown to reduce length of hospital stay and severity of symptoms in a trial of 100 people (4), and there are multiple other trials registered as ongoing (https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT04315896?term=hydroxychloroquine&cond=Corona+Virus+Infection&draw=2&rank=3).(2)

2 Outcome measures related to hydroxychloroquine

There are no outcome measures related specifically to this usual care plus hydroxychloroquine arm

3 Detail of intervention

Participants randomised to the usual care plus hydroxychloroquine arm will receive usual clinical care as per NHS guidelines, plus a course of oral hydroxychloroquine 200mg twice daily for seven days.

3.1 Investigational Medicinal Product (IMP) description

Hydroxychloroquine sulphate 200 milligram (mg) tablets. The tablets are for oral administration.
One tablet (200mg) hydroxychloroquine to be taken twice daily for 7 days by mouth (14 tablets in total).

Special instructions: Each dose should be taken with a meal or glass of milk. Antacids may reduce absorption of hydroxychloroquine so it is advised that a 4-hour interval be observed between taking hydroxychloroquine and an antacid.

This is the standard therapeutic dose for its normal indication in adults which is for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, discoid and systemic lupus erythematosus, and dermatological conditions caused or aggravated by sunlight.

The Marketing Authorisation holder is Zentiva Pharma UK Limited Guildford Surrey GU1 4YS United Kingdom. Marketing authorisation number is PL 17780/0748.

### 3.2 Storage of IMP

Hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin: Stored at room temperature in locked cupboards in restricted access rooms in the Primary Care Clinical Trials Unit (PC-CTU); in locked cupboards in restricted access rooms in GP Practices; in Pharmacies.

### 3.3 SmPC precautions and concomitant medication

Hydroxychloroquine: Hydroxychloroquine will be used for short-term use (7 days) in this trial. The SmPC and precautions listed below focus on longer term chronic use.

#### 3.3.1 Precautions

Hydroxychloroquine might lower blood sugar levels in some people. If participants develop these symptoms, they will be advised in the Patient Information documents to eat something sweet and seek clinical advice if the symptoms continue.

Hydroxychloroquine occasionally causes blurred vision, which typically resolves once the medication is stopped. Participants will be advised via the Participant Information documents that if they develop any problems with vision, they should stop taking the medication immediately, seek clinical advice, and not drive or operate any heavy machinery.

#### 3.3.2 Concomitant medication

Hydroxychloroquine sulfate has been reported to increase plasma digoxin levels. Serum digoxin levels should be closely monitored in participants receiving concomitant treatment. Hydroxychloroquine sulfate may also be subject to several of the known interactions of chloroquine even though specific reports have not appeared. These include: potentiation of its direct blocking action at the neuromuscular junction by aminoglycoside antibiotics; inhibition of its metabolism by cimetidine which may increase plasma concentration of the antimalarial; antagonism of effect of neostigmine and pyridostigmine; reduction of the antibody response to primary immunisation with intradermal human diploid-cell rabies vaccine. As with chloroquine, antacids may reduce absorption of hydroxychloroquine so it is advised that a 4 hour interval be observed between hydroxychloroquine and antacid dosaging. As hydroxychloroquine may enhance the effects of a hypoglycaemic treatment, a decrease in doses of insulin or anti diabetic drugs may be required. Halofantrine prolongs the QT interval and should not be administered with other drugs that have the potential to induce cardiac arrhythmias, including hydroxychloroquine. Also, there may be an increased risk of inducing ventricular arrhythmias if hydroxychloroquine is used concomitantly with other arrhythmogenic drugs, such as amiodarone and moxifloxacin. An increased plasma ciclosporin level was reported when ciclosporin and hydroxychloroquine were co-administered. Hydroxychloroquine can lower the convulsive threshold. Co-administration of hydroxychloroquine with other antimalarials known to
lower the convulsion threshold (e.g. mefloquine) may increase the risk of convulsions. Also, the activity of anti-epileptic drugs might be impaired if co-administered with hydroxychloroquine. In a single-dose interaction study, chloroquine has been reported to reduce the bioavailability of praziquantel. It is not known if there is a similar effect when hydroxychloroquine and praziquantel are co-administered. Per extrapolation, due to the similarities in structure and pharmacokinetic parameters between hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine, a similar effect may be expected for hydroxychloroquine. There is a theoretical risk of inhibition of intra-cellular α-galactosidase activity when hydroxychloroquine is co-administered with agalsidase.

3.3.3 Pregnancy and Breastfeeding
A moderate amount of data on pregnant women (between 300 – 1000 pregnancy outcomes), including prospective studies in long-term use with large exposure, have not observed a significant increased risk of congenital malformations or poor pregnancy outcomes. Hydroxychloroquine crosses the placenta. Only limited non-clinical data are available for hydroxychloroquine, data on chloroquine have shown developmental toxicity at high supratherapeutic doses and a potential risk of genotoxicity in some test systems. Therefore, hydroxychloroquine sulfate should be avoided in pregnancy except when, in the judgement of the physician, the individual potential benefits outweigh the potential hazards. Careful consideration should be given to using hydroxychloroquine during lactation, since it has been shown to be excreted in small amounts in human breast milk, and it is known that infants are extremely sensitive to the toxic effects of 4-aminoquinolines.

4 Safety reporting
Hydroxychloroquine: has a well-documented safety profile and is a commonly used medication in a primary care setting (see above).

Common symptoms of hydroxychloroquine include abdominal pain; appetite decreased; diarrhoea; emotional lability; headache; nausea; skin reactions; vision disorders; and vomiting.

Mechanisms for safety reporting are outlined in the trial protocol.

5 References

APPENDIX 3: USUAL CARE PLUS AZITHROMYCIN ARM

1. Background and rationale

1.1 Evidence for potential Azithromycin benefits in COVID-19

Atypical macrolides, especially Azithromycin, have activities that may be beneficial in the treatment of COVID-19 patients, and especially those in the at-risk or age range of the PRINCIPLE trial.

Firstly, Azithromycin appears to have some anti-viral mechanisms. In COVID-19, Azithromycin appears to inhibit viral replication and therefore reduces shedding. In the small open observational trial of Gautret et al the addition of azithromycin to hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) (at 200 tds for 10 days) in 6 of the 14 HCQ subjects of the total 36 COVID-19 patients in the study significantly reduced viral shedding at 3 days to 15% (one subject) versus 70% in the HCQ arm and 95% in the indirect control arm, with no shedding at 6 days in the combination arm versus 50% and 90% respectively. (Azithromycin was also used in some of the Chinese observational and interventional studies.

Azithromycin has also been shown to be active in vitro against Zika and Ebola viruses,(2-4) and to prevent severe respiratory tract infections when administrated to patients suffering viral infection.(5) Inhibition of viral infections by azithromycin may be linked to its suppressive effect on the production of viral interferon.(6) Longer term administration of low dose azithromycin in COPD has been shown to suppress proinflammatory cytokine production, potentiate macrophage phagocytosis and anti-inflammatory cytokine expression.(7-9) Azithromycin use is also associated with a decrease in the expression of human HLA (human leukocyte antigen) complex molecules in the respiratory tract, including HLA-A, HLA-B, HLA-DPA1, HLA-DRA, HLA-DRB4.(10)

1.2 Importance of treating CAP or CAP risk in the elderly or immuno-compromised

An important secondary pathway to severe illness and death with COVID-19 may be secondary infection and sepsis in the immune-compromised state, especially secondary community or hospital acquired pneumonia. Older people are more susceptible to pneumonia because of comorbidities, a weakened immune system and are therefore more likely to die.(11) The onset of pneumonia in the elderly can often be rapid, and for severe pneumonia, the prognosis is poor: as many as one in five will die.(11) Severe pneumonia is more prevalent the older you are and in those with more serious underlying diseases.(12) The leading cause of death is respiratory insufficiency. Death has been shown to increase in those not responding to initial antimicrobials, and consequently, the initial selection of the agent is important.
Common causative organisms in the elderly admitted to the hospital with pneumonia include *Haemophilus influenza, Staphylococcus aureus, Streptococcus pneumoniae,* and *Mycoplasma pneumoniae.* In severe pneumonia, *S. aureus, Klebsiella pneumoniae,* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* have been identified as common causative organisms. Older patients often have polymicrobial infections, which may be a factor in non-responders. Assessment of 12,945 US Medicare inpatients over 65 with pneumonia found that initial treatment with a second-generation cephalosporin plus macrolide ([HR, 0.71; 95% CI, 0.52-0.96], a non-pseudomonas third-generation cephalosporin plus a macrolide (HR, 0.74; 0.60-0.92), or a fluoroquinolone alone (HR, 0.64; 0.43-0.94) was associated with lower 30-day mortality. (13)

For CAP management NICE guidance currently recommends Amoxicillin 500mg tds combined with Clarithromycin 500mg bd for 5 days or, in penicillin sensitive, Clarithromycin 500mg bd for 5 days or Doxycycline 200mg stat then 100mg daily for the next 4 days. They also recommend starting therapy within 4 hours. The identification of the early stages of pneumonia in older patients can prove challenging since traditional symptoms and signs, including fever, may be lacking.

Azithromycin will have at least as broad a spectrum of action as clarithromycin in terms of bacterial infections and the additional potential anti-viral activity which has not been observed for other macrolides like Clarithromycin. It will also cover atypical organisms.

2 Changes to outcome measures

The addition of this usual care plus azithromycin arm will not require any changes to outcome measures

3 Detail of intervention

Participants randomised to the usual care plus azithromycin arm will receive usual clinical care as per NHS guidelines, plus a course of oral azithromycin 500mg daily for three days. We will use the IMP distribution methods described in the protocol to deliver IMP to participants.

3.1 Investigational Medicinal Product (IMP) description

Azithromycin 500 mg daily for 3 days. The tablets are for oral administration.

Special instructions:

Azithromycin must be taken at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after antacids as this affects overall bioavailability.

The marketing authorisation holders are:

Sandoz Ltd., Frimley Business Park, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 7SR, UK. Marketing authorisation numbers PL 04416/0668 PL 04569 0925 PL 04569 0926

Generics [UK] Limited t/a Mylan, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 1TL, UK. Marketing authorisation numbers PL 04569/0925 PL 04569/0926

Accord-UK Ltd, (Trading style: Accord), Whiddon Valley, Barnstaple, Devon, EX32 8NS, UK. Marketing authorisation numbers PL 0142/1016 PL 0142/1017
3.2 Storage of IMP

Azithromycin: Stored at room temperature in locked cupboards in restricted access rooms in the Primary Care Clinical Trials Unit (PC-CTU); in locked cupboards in restricted access rooms in GP Practices; in Pharmacies.

3.3 SmPC precautions and concomitant medication

3.3.1 Precautions

Azithromycin is a commonly prescribed antibiotic with an established safety profile. The SmPC advises caution using azithromycin in the following conditions:

- Elderly people with proarrhythmic conditions due to the risk of developing cardiac arrhythmia and torsades de pointes including patients with congenital or documented QT prolongation; receiving treatment with other active substances known to prolong QT interval such as antiarrhythmics (e.g. amiodarone and sotalol), cisapride, and fluorquinolones such as moxifloxacin and levofloxacin; known hypokalaemia and hypomagnesaemia; significant hepatic or renal impairment; patients with neurological or psychiatric disorders; myasthenia gravis. Azithromycin as other with the use of nearly all antibacterial agents, alters the normal flora of the colon leading to overgrowth of Clostridium difficile which can lead to Clostridium difficile associated diarrhoea.

3.3.2 Concomitant medications

Effects of other medicinal products on azithromycin:

**Antacids**

In a pharmacokinetic study investigating the effects of simultaneous administration of antacids and azithromycin, no effect on overall bioavailability was seen, although the peak serum concentrations were reduced by approximately 25%. In patients receiving both azithromycin and antacids, the medicinal products should not be taken simultaneously. Azithromycin must be taken at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after the antacids.

Co-administration of azithromycin prolonged-release granules for oral suspension with a single 20 ml dose of co-magaldrate (aluminium hydroxide and magnesium hydroxide) did not affect the rate and extent of azithromycin absorption.

Co-administration of a 600 mg single dose of azithromycin and 400 mg efavirenz daily for 7 days did not result in any clinically significant pharmacokinetic interactions.

**Fluconazole**

Co-administration of a single dose of 1200 mg azithromycin did not alter the pharmacokinetics of a single dose of 800 mg fluconazole. Total exposure and half-life of azithromycin were unchanged by the
coadministration of fluconazole, however, a clinically insignificant decrease in $C_{\text{max}}$ (18%) of azithromycin was observed.

**Nelfinavir**

Co-administration of azithromycin (1200 mg) and nelfinavir at steady state (750 mg three times daily) resulted in increased azithromycin concentrations. No clinically significant adverse effects were observed and no dose adjustment is required.

**Rifabutin**

Coadministration of azithromycin and rifabutin did not affect the serum concentrations of either medicinal product.

Neutropenia was observed in subjects receiving concomitant treatment of azithromycin and rifabutin. Although neutropenia has been associated with the use of rifabutin, a causal relationship to combination with azithromycin has not been established.

**Terfenadine**

Pharmacokinetic studies have reported no evidence of an interaction between azithromycin and terfenadine. There have been rare cases reported where the possibility of such an interaction could not be entirely excluded; however, there was no specific evidence that such an interaction had occurred.

**Cimetidine**

In a pharmacokinetic study investigating the effects of a single dose of cimetidine, given 2 hours before azithromycin, on the pharmacokinetics of azithromycin, no alteration of azithromycin pharmacokinetics was seen.

**Effect of azithromycin on other medicinal products:**

**Ergotamine derivatives**

Due to the theoretical possibility of ergotism, the concurrent use of azithromycin with ergot derivatives is not recommended.

**Digoxin and colchicine (P-gp substrates)**

Concomitant administration of macrolide antibiotics, including azithromycin, with P-glycoprotein substrates such as digoxin and colchicine, has been reported to result in increased serum levels of the P-glycoprotein substrate. Therefore, if azithromycin and P-gp substrates such as digoxin are administered concomitantly, the possibility of elevated serum concentrations of the substrate should be considered.

**Coumarin-Type Oral Anticoagulants**

In a pharmacokinetic study with healthy volunteers that were administered a 500 mg/day oral dose of azithromycin for 3 days and were then administered a single 10 mg/kg oral dose of cyclosporin, the resulting cyclosporin $C_{\text{max}}$ and AUC$_{0-5}$ were found to be significantly elevated. Consequently, caution should be exercised before considering concurrent administration of these drugs. If coadministration of these drugs is necessary, cyclosporin levels should be monitored and the dose adjusted accordingly.
Theophylline

There is no evidence of a clinically significant pharmacokinetic interaction when azithromycin and theophylline are co-administered to healthy volunteers. As interactions of other macrolides with theophylline have been reported, alertness to signs that indicate a rise in theophylline levels is advised.

Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole

Coadministration of trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole DS (160 mg/800 mg) for 7 days with azithromycin 1200 mg on Day 7 had no significant effect on peak concentrations total exposure or urinary excretion of either trimethoprim or sulfamethoxazole. Azithromycin serum concentrations were similar to those seen in other studies.

Zidovudine

Single 1000 mg doses and multiple 1200 mg or 600 mg doses of azithromycin had little effect on the plasma pharmacokinetics or urinary excretion of zidovudine or its glucuronide metabolite. However, administration of azithromycin increased the concentrations of phosphorylated zidovudine, the clinically active metabolite, in peripheral blood mononuclear cells. The clinical significance of this finding is unclear, but it may be of benefit to patients.

Azithromycin does not interact significantly with the hepatic cytochrome P450 system. It is not believed to undergo the pharmacokinetic drug interactions as seen with erythromycin and other macrolides. Hepatic cytochrome P450 induction or inactivation via cytochrome-metabolite complex does not occur with azithromycin.

Asteimizole, alfentanil

There are no known data on interactions with astemizole or alfentanil. Caution is advised in the co-administration of these medicines with azithromycin because of the known enhancing effect of these medicines when used concurrently with the macrolid antibiotic erythromycin.

Atorvastatin

Coadministration of atorvastatin (10 mg daily) and azithromycin (500 mg daily) did not alter the plasma concentrations of atorvastatin (based on a HMG CoA-reductase inhibition assay).

However, post-marketing cases of rhabdomyolysis in patients receiving azithromycin with statins have been reported.

Carbamazepine

In a pharmacokinetic interaction study in healthy volunteers, no significant effect was observed on the plasma levels of carbamazepine or its active metabolite in patients receiving concomitant azithromycin.

Cisapride

Cisapride is metabolized in the liver by the enzyme CYP 3A4. Because macrolides inhibit this enzyme, concomitant administration of cisapride may cause the increase of QT interval prolongation, ventricular arrhythmias and torsades de pointes.

Cetirizine

In healthy volunteers, coadministration of a 5-day regimen of azithromycin with cetirizine 20 mg at steady-state resulted in no pharmacokinetic interaction and no significant changes in the QT interval.

Didanosins (Dideoxyinosine)
Coadministration of 1200 mg/day azithromycin with 400 mg/day didanosine in 6 HIV-positive subjects did not appear to affect the steady-state pharmacokinetics of didanosine as compared with placebo.

Efavirenz

Coadministration of a 600 mg single dose of azithromycin and 400 mg efavirenz daily for 7 days did not result in any clinically significant pharmacokinetic interactions.

Indinavir

Coadministration of a single dose of 1200 mg azithromycin had no statistically significant effect on the pharmacokinetics of indinavir administered as 800 mg three times daily for 5 days.

Methylprednisolone

In a pharmacokinetic interaction study in healthy volunteers, azithromycin had no significant effect on the pharmacokinetics of methylprednisolone.

Midazolam

In healthy volunteers, coadministration of azithromycin 500 mg/day for 3 days did not cause clinically significant changes in the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of a single 15 mg dose of midazolam.

Sildenafil

In normal healthy male volunteers, there was no evidence of an effect of azithromycin (500 mg daily for 3 days) on the AUC and C\text{max} of sildenafil or its major circulating metabolite.

Triazolam

In 14 healthy volunteers, coadministration of azithromycin 500 mg on Day 1 and 250 mg on Day 2 with 0.125 mg triazolam on Day 2 had no significant effect on any of the pharmacokinetic variables for triazolam compared to triazolam and placebo.

3.3.3 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

Pregnancy

There are no adequate data from the use of azithromycin in pregnant women. In reproduction toxicity studies in animals azithromycin was shown to pass the placenta, but no teratogenic effects were observed. The safety of azithromycin has not been confirmed with regard to the use of the active substance during pregnancy. Therefore azithromycin should only be used during pregnancy if the benefit outweighs the risk.

4 Safety reporting

Mechanisms for safety reporting are outlined in the protocol. In brief, we will collect symptoms and side effects of azithromycin from symptom diaries and participant telephone calls.

Common symptoms of azithromycin include diarrhoea, abdominal pain, nausea and flatulence. It may also cause headache, dizziness, insomnia, altered taste, pins and needles, changes in vision or hearing, rash, itching, joint pains or fatigue.

5 References

Thank you for completing the screening questionnaire, you have passed the screening stage for the trial. Please read the [Participant Information Sheet](#) if you haven't already done so, and if you are willing to participate please select ‘Yes’, TYPE your FIRST and LAST names below and then click Submit. If you agree, please select ‘Yes’ to confirm that you have read and understood the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I confirm I have read and understood the information sheet version number <em><strong><strong>-</strong></strong></em>-<strong>/</strong><em>/</em><em><strong>/</strong>__/</em>_<strong>/</strong>__ for the above study. I have had the opportunity to ask questions and had these answered satisfactorily.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. I understand my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time, without giving any reason, and without my medical care or legal rights being affected.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. I understand that I will be randomised to receive either: standard care plus the trial treatment or standard care and I will not be able to choose which I will receive.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. I understand that relevant sections of my GP and Hospital medical notes and data collected during the study may be looked at by members of the research team and individuals from University of Oxford. It may also be reviewed by relevant people from regulatory authorities and from the NHS Trust(s). I give permission for these individuals to have access to my records.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. I consent to being contacted by the research team for the purposes of trial follow up and I understand that this will require me to provide my contact details to the research team.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6. I consent to my GP being informed of my participation within the study.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. I agree to take part in the study</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ADDITIONAL (optional, not required for study participation)</strong></td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I agree to provide the research team with the contact details of my Trial Partner. I confirm my Trial partner is aware of their role and willing to answer questions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I am happy to be contacted by the research team to be invited to a telephone interview at the end of the study. (Taking part in the interview is optional and will not affect your study participation. If you agree to be contacted, the research team will contact you with details of the interview in approximately 28 days. You can then decide whether you want to take part or not.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I am happy to be contacted by the research team to be invited to a blood test for COVID-19 infection within six months of completing the study

Signature:
First Name:___________________ Last Name:___________________

You will have the opportunity to print a copy of the consent form after submission. Please contact the study team if you would like a copy sent to you.

By submitting, I confirm that I am the person whose name is stated above.

If you have any questions about this or any other part of the study please contact the study team:
Tel: 0800 138 0880   Email principle@phc.ox.ac.uk

Participant:
Name: ___________________________ Date: __ __ / __ __ / __ __ __ __

You will have the opportunity to print a copy of the consent form after submission. Please contact the study team if you would like a copy sent to you.
Welcome to the PRINCIPLE Trial!

Thank you so much for agreeing to take part.

Instructions for participants

Thank you for taking part in the PRINCIPLE trial.

This information booklet will help guide you through what will happen during your time in the trial.

Please read on for more details about the trial medication and other key details.

Contact us

If you have any questions, please contact us on:

E-mail: principle@phc.ox.ac.uk
Telephone: 0800 138 0880

Summary

Please take your trial medication (unless in Usual Care Group) for the *required number* of days. More detail is provided in the study medication card about how and when to take your medication.

During the trial period, we ask you to answer a few short questions each day in an online daily diary about your symptoms. If we do not receive your diary answers, we will call you and/or your trial partner to ask a few short questions.

Your participation will last for a total of 28 days. We will ask for your consent to contact you if we are able to offer a blood test for COVID-19, in the recovery phase of your illness.
Taking your trial medication
(unless in Usual Care Group)

Please see the drug information card for guidance on how you should take your medication.

Completing the daily online diary

We ask you to complete a short daily symptoms diary for 28 days. This will take less than ten minutes of your time each day.

- You will be issued with a unique code and an internet link, which will take you to a secure online system to collect your diary entries confidentially.
- You will receive a text asking you to submit your answers on the same day; you may prefer to do this at a regular time for your own convenience and routine.
- You will be asked to record whether you are experiencing a few simple symptoms, and to rate the severity of these symptoms.
- Please ensure that you submit your diary to us at the end of the questions, so we receive all of your answers.
- If we do not receive your completed diary, or you are unable to access the online diary, we will contact you and/or your nominated trial partner on day 7, day 14 and day 28 of the follow up period to collect this information.
- Finally, we will also ask that you, or someone close to you notifies us if you are admitted to hospital.
Your participation in this trial will help us identify which treatments are beneficial for COVID.

We are very grateful for your contribution.
URGENT: We are supporting a study to find treatments for COVID-19

Dear [insert patient name] OR TO PATIENTS AT THE [insert practice name] SURGERY

At the [insert practice name] we are taking part in a research study to help find treatments for COVID-19. We are writing with information on how you may be able to join this study.

The study is called PRINCIPLE. It is run by the University of Oxford, and is funded by the UK government as a national priority study. The study aims to find treatments that reduce hospital admission and speed recovery for people with symptoms of COVID-19. People included in the study must be **aged over 65, or aged 50-64 with underlying health conditions**. They will either receive usual care, or usual care plus a study drug. All study drugs are widely used to treat other conditions and have been assessed as being safe for use in this study. As many people as possible who join the study will also be tested for COVID-19.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 (a new or worsening continuous cough and/or a high temperature), and have had them for less than 15 days, you may be able to take part in this study.

For more information about the study and signing up, please visit the study website (XXX) If you have any questions, or do not have internet access, please call the PRINCIPLE study team on 0800 138 0880.

We are pleased to be supporting this important research, as we urgently need to find effective, early treatments for COVID-19 that can be used in the community.

So, please make contact if you have symptoms of COVID-19 and are aged over 65, or aged 50-64 with underlying health conditions!

Yours Sincerely

[insert practice name]
PRINCIPLE TRIAL: TEXT MESSAGE INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS (111)

This is a message from the NHS 111 service in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak. A clinical trial exploring treatment for the COVID-19 virus is taking place. If you experience a new or worsening continuous cough and/or a high temperature and have had it for less than 14 days and are not starting to feel better, please click here to find out more. Please call the Trial Team if you have any questions or do not have access to online systems: 0800 138 0880
PRINCIPLE TRIAL: TEXT MESSAGE INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

This is a message from Dr XX at XX Medical Practice. A clinical trial exploring treatment for the COVID-19 virus is taking place. If you experience a new or worsening continuous cough and/or a high temperature and have had it for less than 14 days and are not starting to feel better, please click here to find out more. Please call the Trial Team if you have any questions or do not have access to online systems: 0800 138 0880
**PRINCIPLE – Text message for Daily Diary**

**Daily Diary – days 1-3**
Hello from the PRINCIPLE trial team. Please click today’s daily diary. Also remember to send the swab to PHE. If you have trial medication please remember to take it today. Any questions or problems (no medication/swab received by day 3) please call us on XXXXXXXX. Thank you for your time. To opt out of these messages send ‘PRINCIPLE STOP’ to XXXX.

**Daily Diary – days 4-7 (or up to day 10 if meds not received until day 2/3)**
Hello, this is the PRINCIPLE trial team. Please click [insert link] to complete today’s daily diary. If you have trial medication please remember to take the full course. If you have any questions or there is a problem please call trial team on XXXXXXXX. Thank you for your time. To opt out of these messages send ‘PRINCIPLE STOP’ to XXXX.

**Daily Diary – days 8-27**
Hello, this is the PRINCIPLE trial team. Please click [insert link] to complete today’s daily diary. Thank you for your time. To opt out of these messages send ‘PRINCIPLE STOP’ to XXXX.

**Daily Diary – day 28**
Hello, this is the PRINCIPLE trial team. Please click [insert link] to complete the last daily diary. We will call you within the next 1 – 3 days to collect some final trial data. Thank you for your participation in the PRINCIPLE trial, your time has helped to contribute to this important research.
Help the fight against COVID-19

Has your doctor or nurse said you are likely to have a COVID-19 infection?
Or do you have these symptoms?

- Continuous new or worsening cough
- High temperature

And have had them for fewer than 15 days?

Are you aged 65 and above?
Or aged 50 to 64 with any of these illnesses?

- High blood pressure and/or heart disease
- Diabetes not treated with insulin
- Stroke or neurological problems
- Asthma or lung disease
- Weakened immune system due to serious illness or medication (e.g. chemotherapy).
- Liver disease

Then you could be eligible to join the PRINCIPLE trial and help the fight against COVID-19.

The PRINCIPLE trial aims to find treatments that reduce hospital admission and improve symptoms for people with COVID-19.

To find out more, please visit:

Link: xxxxxxxxx

Tel: 0800 138 0880

email: principle@phc.ox.ac.uk
Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older people

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION LEAFLET

We would like to invite you to take part in a study about treatments for COVID-19 infection called PRINCIPLE.

Before you decide if you would like to take part it is important that you understand why we are doing this research and what it would involve for you.

Please take time to read the following information carefully and decide if you wish to take part.

You may like to talk to others, friends or family members about the trial. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.
What is the purpose of the trial?

COVID-19

The risk of complications from COVID-19 is generally greater in people aged 50 years and older with underlying health conditions and in those aged 65 years and older. This new viral infection can lead to significant medical problems, hospitalisation, and sometimes death.

So far, there are no treatments that have been proven in clinical trials to be effective in treating COVID-19 infection. Most of the infections are being managed in the community and it is essential that we identify treatments that help to reduce the progression of the disease and therefore the need for hospital admission. An ideal treatment would be one that is safe, with few side-effects, helps prevent disease progression, and can be administered in the community.

The Trial

As yet, there are currently no known treatments for COVID-19 that have been proven to be effective. Our trial aims to evaluate potential treatments as they are identified. To be able to do this, we aim to test one or more suitable, potential treatments for COVID-19, as soon as they become available.

We will evaluate drugs that are well known and have been used for many years around the world. Please see Appendices for drug specific information and the known side-effects.

We want to make treatments that are proven to be effective as widely and as rapidly available as possible. However, we do not want to give people medication that does not work, and may simply put them at unnecessary risk of side effects.

At the moment we really do not have enough information about whether any benefits from taking these drugs outweigh any possible harms from these drugs. So, we do not know yet if these drugs do work for COVID-19, and that is why we urgently need to do a proper trial so we have the information we need to guide the provision of best care for all.

Aim

We aim to find out whether selected treatments given to those at higher risk of becoming more ill when they are infected with COVID-19 helps reduce the need for hospitalisation and the length of stay required, helps people recover quicker and get fewer complications.
We aim to test as many people as possible included in the study for COVID-19, some will receive the trial treatment we are testing and some will be allocated to current usual care without the medication we are testing.

**Can I take part?**

We intend to recruit at least 3000 people to the trial.

To take part, you need to be experiencing symptoms that are likely to be caused by a COVID-19 infection - a new continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual) and/or a high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to take your temperature). You need to have had these symptoms for **fewer than 15 days**. The study is for people with ongoing symptoms. People who feel they are already well on the way to recovery should not take part.

You also need to be **aged 50 to 64, with at least one of the following conditions:**

- weakened immune system due to a serious illness or medication (e.g. chemotherapy)
- heart disease or high blood pressure
- asthma or lung disease
- Diabetes not treated with insulin
- liver disease
- stroke or neurological problem

Or you can take part if you have symptoms of COVID-19 and are **aged 65 and over**.

You should continue to take your usual prescribed medicines if you join the study.

**Do I have to take part?**

Participation is entirely voluntary. It is up to you to decide whether to take part in the trial or not. A decision not to take part will not affect the standard of care you receive from the NHS in any way, now or in the future.
**What will happen to me if I take part?**

You will visit our website if you experience symptoms of COVID-19. The information on the website is the same as the information in this leaflet. Once you have read it, if you are interested in taking part, we will ask you to complete a short online form to see if you are eligible. If you do not have internet access or would like to call us instead, then you can contact us using the contact details on page 12.

**Informed Consent**

If we think you are eligible to participate in the study, you will be asked to complete a consent form online or by telephone. Instructions on how to fill out the form will be provided, so you will know what to do. You will be able to download and keep a copy of your informed consent form.

**Initial Questionnaire**

Then, you will be asked to complete a short questionnaire giving some details about you and the symptoms you have been experiencing. We will also collect some contact details such as your name, email address and telephone number. We will also ask you to provide details of a Trial Partner. This could be a relative, spouse, friend or carer, if such a person is available, who we will contact for information about you if we are unable to get hold of you for whatever reason. So a Trial Partner is someone who you know who might be able to help you with the study. A Trial Partner does not have to live with you, but you just need to be in regular contact with them.

**Letting Your GP Know**

Once you have completed the informed consent and additional questions the website will notify the trial team and your GP with this information. A qualified medical practitioner will then check that there are no other medical reasons why you cannot participate.

If we find that you cannot participate, we will let you know by email or phone. If you are able to take part in the trial, our computer system will randomise you to let us know which group you will be in. There is more information on this in the next section.

**Randomisation**
The final part of the process will tell you whether you will receive standard care (which includes a swab, if available) or standard care plus the trial treatment (includes a swab, if available). You will be randomly allocated (like rolling a dice) by our computer system to one of these groups and neither you, your GP or the trial team can decide which group you will be in.

You will receive an email or phone call to let you know which group you have been allocated to; your GP and the trial team will also receive this email.

Swab

We hope to be able to offer swab tests for the COVID-19 coronavirus to everyone who takes part in the trial. This will be a nose and/or a throat swab. If we have swabs available, we will ask you to provide a swab at the start of the trial, and then again 5 days later.

However, there is a worldwide shortage of swabs so we may not be able to offer swab tests to all who take part in the trial. If you are offered a swab, you will be given instructions on how to take your own sample at home using a swab kit. We will also tell you how to post the sample to the labs using the envelopes we provide. If you are not able to get the swab to a post box, then store it in a fridge and post it when you are able to do so.

You will be asked to send the swab to Public Health England or another central laboratory service using the packaging we provide. The swab aims to give an idea of whether you have COVID-19, and the result will be sent to your GP. The swab test for COVID-19 has a high false negative rate and so although the swab result may be negative, you may still have COVID-19 and we advise that you continue with the medication regardless of the result. Public Health England (PHE) may keep the specimen for up to 5 years, following their own approved processes.

Blood test

We are also asking everyone in the study for their consent to be contacted once their symptoms have passed, to have a blood test for COVID-19 coronavirus. You do not have to agree to be contacted about a blood test to take part in the trial. Even if you agree that we can ask you to have a blood test, you will be able to say no at the time if you don’t want one.

Trial Treatment

If you are randomised to the standard care plus trial treatment group, arrangements will be made for the drug to be delivered to you or you may collect/nominate an individual to collect the drug from a local pharmacy, or local GP. You will also receive instructions on how to take it and for how long and asked to confirm receipt via text or telephone call. Should your condition worsen at any time during the trial, you should not contact the study team but contact your GP or other
usual services that are open to you.

**Follow-Up**

You will receive a text message from us to ask you to complete questions relating to your symptoms and how well you feel every day for up to 28 days after you start the trial. This will be an online daily diary. If the trial team don’t receive your daily diary answers online, they will text or telephone you on day 2, 7, day 14 and day 28 of the follow up period and ask you a brief set of questions over the phone.

**What happens if I am admitted to Hospital?**

It is important that we know if you are admitted to hospital at any point during the 28 day follow up period. We need to know this whether or not you are taking the trial medication. We will give you a card that you can carry to let other healthcare professionals know that you are taking part in this trial. It is also really important that someone close to you knows that you are taking part in the trial, so that if you are admitted to hospital, they can use the details on the card to let us know.

We may also access your medical records and data held about you in central NHS registries and databases (including NHS Digital, Public Health England, other equivalent bodies, and genetic or other research databases if you have provided samples to them) to collect information on any hospital admission that you may have during the follow up period.

---

**What will happen to me if I take part? Flowchart.**

You may receive a text or letter from your practice with a link to this participant information sheet, be told about the study by another health care provider, by the trial team or you may be made aware via national media coverage. You then let us know you are interested in taking part by completing the online form you are directed to. The form will ask you some questions about your health and your symptoms. You will also complete a consent form to say that you want to take part.

We will then ask a qualified clinician to confirm that there are no medical issues to stop you from taking part.
After this, our computer system will allocate you at random (like rolling a dice) to receive either:

- Standard Care as advised by the NHS plus Trial Treatment or
- Standard Care as advised by the NHS

Neither you, your GP or the trial team can choose which group you will be allocated.

Follow-up
You should receive a swab kit if available and instructions of how to take your own sample at the start of the trial and possibly on day 5. We will also tell you how to post the sample to the labs. If randomised to the trial treatment group, you will be provided with the drug which you will be asked to take for the required number of days.

You will also be asked to answer some questions each day online for up to 28 days telling us about any symptoms you might be experiencing and how well you are feeling. We will ask you to complete this diary online, if we don’t receive the information from you, we will call you to remind you to answer the questions.

During the follow up period we will also ask that you, or someone close to you notifies us if you are admitted to hospital.

Optional Follow-up
We are planning to interview a group of participants after the main trial. This is optional and you will be able to confirm on the consent form whether you are happy to be contacted by the research team. If you agree to be contacted, the research team will contact you with details of the interview in approximately 28 days. You can then decide whether you want to take part or not.

We are planning to test all participants for COVID-19 coronavirus infection from a blood sample if a suitable test becomes available.

This is optional, and you will be able to confirm on the consent form whether you are happy to be contacted by the research team. If you agree to be contacted, the research team will contact you with details of the blood test within six months of completing the study. You can then decide whether you want to take part or not in the blood test. You can still take part in the trial even if you don’t want to give a blood sample.
**What are the possible disadvantages or side effects of taking part?**

With any medicine, including ones that are already used within the NHS, there is a risk of side effects.

Please see Appendices for details of the side-effects common to each drug. You will be able to tell us if you are experiencing any of these symptoms in your daily diary.

**What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

By taking part in this trial, you will be contributing towards the understanding of how we can treat COVID-19 and how the symptoms progress. This may or may not help to reduce the duration and severity of symptoms when people fall ill. We hope that all participants will receive a swab (based on worldwide availability), and be told if the swab is positive or not for COVID-19. We also hope to reduce the burden on the NHS. This may not always be possible, due to supply issues.

At the moment, we really do not know if the trial treatments are effective against COVID-19. The trial has been designed so that the results will be analysed not just at the end of the trial, but as the trial goes along. So as soon as we have an answer about the effectiveness of a drug we are testing, we can make recommendations about best care.

Because we have designed the trial in such a way that the results will be analysed as it goes along, as soon as we get evidence that one arm is more effective, we will be able to allocate more people to the most effective arm of the study. In this way more people in the trial will have a greater chance of getting the most effective trial treatment. If it turns out that one of the first drug we are evaluating, is more effective than usual care, then this will become the standard of care in the trial, and any new drug added into the trial will be compared against it.

**What will happen if I do not want to continue with the trial?**

If you decide to take part, you can still withdraw at any time without giving a reason. Information collected up to that point will still be used.

The swab sample that you provide and send to Public Health England will still be processed and
stored for up to five years, according to their standard processes.

If you wish to withdraw from the trial, please contact the trial team using the contact details on page 12. The decision to withdraw will not affect the standard of care you receive from the NHS in any way, now or in the future.

**Expenses and Payments**

You will be reimbursed for your participation through gift vouchers worth a total of £20. You will receive the voucher at the end of your follow up period, once we have received your completed symptom diary.

**What if there are any problems?**

If you have any questions about this trial, please contact the Trial Team (See Page 12 for contact details).

The University of Oxford, as Sponsor, has appropriate insurance in place in the unlikely event that you suffer any harm as a direct consequence of your participation in this trial.

If you wish to complain about any aspect of the way in which you have been approached or treated, or how your information is handled during the course of this trial, you should contact the trial team on principle@phc.ox.ac.uk or 0800 138 0880 or you may contact the University of Oxford Clinical Trials and Research Governance (CTRG) office on 01865 616480, or the head of CTRG, email cтрg@admin.ox.ac.uk

**What will happen to my data?**

Data protection regulation requires that we state the legal basis for processing information about you. In the case of research, this is ‘a task in the public interest.’ The University of Oxford is the data controller and is responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

Responsible members of the University of Oxford, Host Organisations, Sponsor auditors, and the Medicines and Health Care Products Regulatory Authority, may be given access to the trial data for monitoring and/or audit of the trial to ensure that the research is complying with applicable regulations.

We will be using information from you and your medical records and data held about you in central NHS registries and databases (including NHS Digital, Public Health England, other equivalent bodies, and genetic or other research databases if you have provided samples to
them) in order to undertake this trial and will use the minimum personally-identifiable information possible. We will keep identifiable information about you for up to six months after the trial has finished. This excludes any research documents with personal information, such as consent forms, which will be held securely at the University of Oxford for 20 years after the end of the study.

Berry Consultants may assist with the statistical analysis for this trial and we will have to share the trial data with them in order for them to do this. The company is based in the USA, however no identifiable data will be given to them during this process.

The Royal College of General Practitioners Research Surveillance Centre may be used in order to gather data you haven’t completed in your daily diaries. Data collected will include participant identifiable information and will be accessed at the University of Oxford according to PC-CTU Information Governance policies and GDPR. Data will only be held for the duration of which its required, this will be reviewed annually.

If we use a courier or home delivery service to provide you with trial materials, we will provide them with your name and address. These companies will use and store your data in accordance with GDPR.

Data protection regulation provides you with control over your personal data and how it is used. When you agree to your information being used in research, however, some of those rights may be limited in order for the research to be reliable and accurate.

Further information about your rights with respect to your personal data is available at: https://compliance.web.ox.ac.uk/individual-rights

You can find out more about how we use your information by contacting principle@phc.ox.ac.uk

**What if relevant new information becomes available during the trial?**

Sometimes during the course of a research project, new information becomes available about the treatment that is studied.

**If this happens, the trial team will tell you about it and discuss with you whether you want to continue in the trial or not.**

If you decide to continue you may be asked to sign an updated consent form.

**What will happen to the results of the trial?**

Results will be published in scientific journals, presented at scientific conferences, and published on the Oxford University departmental website. It will not be possible to identify you in any
report, publication or presentation. If you would like to receive copies of any publications arising from this trial, please contact the trial team (details are on page 12.

Who is organising and funding the research?

Funding has been provided by UK Research and Innovation/Medical Research Council. PRINCIPLE has been set up by the Primary Care Clinical Trials Unit at the University of Oxford.

Who has reviewed the trial?

All research in the NHS is looked at by an independent group of people called a Research Ethics Committee (REC). The REC is there to protect your safety, rights, wellbeing and dignity. This trial has been ethically reviewed and was approved by the xxx Research Ethics Committee. This trial has also received approval from the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). The MHRA regulates the use of all medicines in the UK.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information leaflet and considering taking part in this trial.

If you would like any further information about this trial, you can contact the trial team here:
**Trial Address:**
PRINCIPLE Trial
Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences
Radcliffe Primary Care
Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, Woodstock Road
Oxford
OX2 6GG

**Trial Team:**
Tel. 0800 xxxxxx

**Trial Email Address:**
principle@phc.ox.ac.uk
Participant Pictorial Information Sheet

Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older people

PRINCIPLE Trial

Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older peoPLE
Pictorial Participant Information Booklet v1.0, 20th April 2020,
EudraCT number:2020-001209-22
Professor Christopher Butler  IRAS Project no. 281958  REC Reference no.:20/SC/058
### What is the trial about?

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.</strong></td>
<td>COVID-19 is caused by a new virus that is spreading quickly in many countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.</strong></td>
<td>Being infected with the virus is more likely to cause more serious problems if you are older, or you have medical problems such as high blood pressure or heart disease.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. At the moment, we do not have treatments for COVID-19 that we know definitely work.

4. The aim of this trial is to test possible treatments for COVID-19 in older adults. We hope to find treatments that stop people from getting more unwell.
### Who can take part?

| 5. | Anybody aged 65 years or over.  

**AND**  

Anybody aged 50 to 64 years with:  
- Weakened immune system (e.g. taking chemotherapy)  
- Heart disease  
- Lung disease  
- Diabetes not treated with insulin  
- Liver disease  
- Stroke or neurological problem  

**WITH**
A new or worsening continuous cough and/or fever. If you are starting to feel better, this study isn't for you.

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**What will happen if I take part?**

<p>| | |</p>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>If you develop a fever or a new worsening continuous cough, please visit our trial website (see end of this leaflet).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>We will ask you to fill in a short form online, to check that you can take part</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older peoPLE
Pictorial Participant Information Booklet v1.0, 20th April 2020,
EudraCT number:2020-001209-22
Professor Christopher Butler  IRAS Project no. 281958  REC Reference no.:20/SC/058
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<tr>
<td><strong>8.</strong></td>
<td>Your care will not be affected, whether or not you do take part in the trial.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9.</strong></td>
<td>If you are suitable to take part in the trial, you will be asked to fill in a consent form online, and to answer a few questions about yourself and your symptoms.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10.</strong></td>
<td>We will ask you to add details of a ‘trial partner’. This is somebody that might be able help you with the study, and who we can also contact for information about</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>how you are getting on.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>The information that you give us will be shared with your GP and the study team, so that we can double check that everything is in order for you to take part.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>If you can take part, you will be randomly (like tossing a coin) entered into a group:- Or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>a) Usual care for your symptoms</strong></td>
<td><strong>b) You will receive one of the treatments that we are testing, in addition to usual care for your symptoms.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>We will provide you with the trial medication and instructions on how to take it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td><strong>If swabs are available, we may also ask you to take swabs from your nose and throat, to test for the virus that causes COVID-19.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>We will provide instructions on how to take the swabs and to post</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older peoPLE
Pictorial Participant Information Booklet v1.0, 20th April 2020,
**EudraCT number:**2020-001209-22
Professor Christopher Butler  IRAS Project no. 281958  REC Reference no.:20/SC/058
<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>them off for testing.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Whichever group you are in, we will ask you to answer a few questions each daily in an online diary for up to 28 days, so that we know how you are feeling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>If you are unable to answer questions online, or forget to complete the questions, we might give you a phone call or send you a text message reminder.</td>
</tr>
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<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>16.</strong> If you are admitted to hospital, we would ask you, or someone close to you, to let us know.</td>
<td><strong>17.</strong> If you agree to join the study, we will contact you at 28 days to see whether you are happy for us to arrange to speak with you in more detail about your experience of taking part in the trial. We will also ask if you are prepared to have a blood test once you are feeling better.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## What will happen to my information?

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td><strong>We will use the information you give us to find out which treatments work. We may also look at your general practice and hospital medical records for further information about you and your illness.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td><strong>Any information that we collect about you will be kept safe. Your name will not go on any reports, presentations or publications.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older peoPLE
Pictorial Participant Information Booklet v1.0, 20\textsuperscript{th} April 2020,

**EudraCT number:**2020-001209-22
Professor Christopher Butler   IRAS Project no. 281958   REC Reference no.:20/SC/058
What are the disadvantages of taking part?

| 20. | There is a risk of side effects when taking any medicine. If you are taking a trial medication and have any symptoms, you can record them in the daily online diary. |
## What are the benefits of taking part?

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>You will be contributing to important research to find effective treatments for COVID-19.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>We have designed the trial so that whilst the trial is ongoing, if we find that one treatment is more effective, more people might receive this treatment. This means that more people in the trial have a chance of receiving the most effective trial treatment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Will I be reimbursed for taking part?

23. You will receive a gift voucher for £20 once we receive your completed online symptom diary, as a thank you for taking part.

What if I do not want to carry on being part of the trial?
24. You can decide to stop taking part at any time without needing to give a reason. This will not affect the care you receive now or in the future.

25. If you decide to withdraw from the trial, we will use the information collected up to that point, unless you tell us not to.
What if there is a problem?

26. If you have a concern about any aspect of this trial at any time, you can contact the trial team or the University of Oxford Clinical Trials and Research Governance (CTRG) office (Contact details below).

Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older peoPLE
Pictorial Participant Information Booklet v1.0, 20th April 2020,
EudraCT number:2020-001209-22
Professor Christopher Butler   IRAS Project no. 281958   REC Reference no.:20/SC/058
## Trial contact details

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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</thead>
</table>
| ![Telephone Image] | **Trial team:**
| | **principle@phc.ox.ac.uk**
| | 0800 138 0880
| | **CTRG:**
| | **c trg@admin.ox.ac.uk**
| | 01865 616480 |

---

## Thank you!

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>![Thank You Image]</td>
<td><strong>28.</strong> Thank you for taking the time to think about taking part in this trial.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
22 April 2020

Christopher Butler
University of Oxford
Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, Woodstock Road
Oxford
OX2 6GG

Dear Dr Butler

Study title: Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older peoPLE
REC reference: 20/SC/0158
Protocol number: PRINCIPLE
EudraCT number: 2020-001209-22
Amendment number: SA3
Amendment date: 22 April 2020
IRAS project ID: 281958

Thank you for submitting the above amendment, which was received on 22 April 2020. I can confirm that this is a valid notice of a substantial amendment and will be reviewed by the Sub-Committee of the REC at its next meeting.

Documents received

The documents to be reviewed are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annex 2: Notification of Amendment [AmendmentFormMHRAEudract_ReadyForSubmission (1)]</td>
<td>SA3</td>
<td>22 April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copies of advertisement materials for research participants [PRINICPLE Patient recruitment Poster_v1.0 22.04.20]</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>22 April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter from sponsor [SA3 Sponsor Approval 22.04.20]</td>
<td></td>
<td>22 April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other [PRINCIPLE TRIAL - text message info v1.2 20.04.2020_t + clean]</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>20 April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other [PRINCIPLE TRIAL - text message info (111) v1.1 20.04.2020_t + clean]</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>20 April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other [PRINCIPLE_Screening_v2.2_22Apr2020]</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>22 April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other [PRINCIPLE_Eligibility Information CRF_v2.3_21Apr2020]</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>21 April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other [PRINCIPLE_Call CRF_v2.2_21Apr2020]</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>21 April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participant consent form [PRINICPLE Consent Form V1.2]</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>21 April 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Notification of the Committee's decision

The Committee will issue an ethical opinion on the amendment within a maximum of 35 days from the date of receipt.

R&D approval

All investigators and research collaborators in the NHS should notify the R&D office for the relevant NHS care organisation of this amendment and check whether it affects R&D approval for the research.

HRA Learning

We are pleased to welcome researchers and research staff to our HRA Learning Events and online learning opportunities– see details at: https://www.hra.nhs.uk/planning-and-improving-research/learning/

20/SC/0158: Please quote this number on all correspondence

Yours sincerely

Alison Doherty
Approvals Administrator

Email: berkshire.rec@hra.nhs.uk

Copy to: N/A N/A CTRG
FW: IRAS 281958. Amendment confirmation of REC Validation, categorisation and implementation information

Flag for follow up.

Berkshire <berkshire.rec@hra.nhs.uk>
Fri 4/24/2020 09:15
Christopher Butler; CTRG Sponsorship Correspondence; Hannah Swayze; Kevin Ahmed

IRAS 281958 SL27_Acknowledge ...
129 KB

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Amendment Confirmation of REC Validation, Categorisation and Implementation Information

Dear Dr Butler,

| IRAS Project ID:            | 281958          |
| Short Study Title:         | PRINCIPLE       |
| Date complete amendment submission received: | 22 April 2020 |
| Amendment No./ Sponsor Ref: | SA3             |
| Amendment Date:            | 22 April 2020  |
| Amendment Type:            | Substantial    |

**Outcome of HRA and HCRW Assessment**

HRA and HCRW Approval for the amendment is **pending**. HRA and HCRW Approval for the amendment will be separately confirmed by email.

**Implementation date in NHS organisations in England and/or Wales**

2 days from date amendment information together with this email, is supplied to participating organisations (provided HRA and HCRW Approval for the amendment is in **pending**).
Dear Dr Butler,

IRAS Project ID: 281958
Short Study Title: PRINCIPLE
Amendment No./Sponsor Ref: SA3
Amendment Date: 22 April 2020
Amendment Type: Substantial CTIMP - for review

I am pleased to confirm HRA and HCRW Approval for the above referenced amendment.

You should implement this amendment at NHS organisations in England and Wales, in line with the conditions outlined in your categorisation email.

User Feedback

The Health Research Authority is continually striving to provide a high quality service to all applicants and sponsors. You are invited to give your view of the service you have received and the application procedure. If you wish to make your views known please use the feedback form available on the HRA website: [http://www.hra.nhs.uk/about-the-hra/governance/quality-assurance/](http://www.hra.nhs.uk/about-the-hra/governance/quality-assurance/).
Prof C Butler  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD  
NUFFIELD DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY CARE HEALTH SCIENCES,  
RADCLIFFE OBSERVATORY QUARTER, WOODSTOCK ROAD  
OXFORD  
OX2 6GG  
UNITED KINGDOM  

23/04/2020  

Dear Prof C Butler,

THE MEDICINES FOR HUMAN USE (CLINICAL TRIALS) REGULATIONS 2004 S.I. 2004/1031  

Our Reference: CTA 21584/0426/001-0005  
Eudract Number: 2020-001209-22  
Product: Plaquenil-Hydroxychloroquine, Azithromycin  
Protocol number: PRINCIPLE  
Substantial Amendment Code Number: Code Number: SA3 Version: Date: 2020/04/22  

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF AMENDMENT  

I am writing to inform you that the Licensing Authority accepts the proposed amendment to your clinical trial authorisation (CTA), received on 22/04/2020.  

This amendment may therefore be made.  

You are reminded that where it is appropriate, the Ethics Committee should also be notified of amendments.  

Yours sincerely,  

Clinical Trials Unit  
MHRA
23 April 2020

Christopher Butler
University of Oxford
Radcliffe Observatory Quarter, Woodstock Road
Oxford
OX2 6GG

Dear Dr Butler

Study title: Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older peoPLE
REC reference: 20/SC/0158
Protocol number: PRINCIPLE
EudraCT number: 2020-001209-22
Amendment number: SA3
Amendment date: 22 April 2020
IRAS project ID: 281958

The above amendment was reviewed by the Sub-Committee in correspondence.

Ethical opinion

The members of the Committee taking part in the review gave a favourable ethical opinion of the amendment on the basis described in the notice of amendment form and supporting documentation.

Approved documents

The documents reviewed and approved at the meeting were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### Membership of the Committee

The members of the Committee who took part in the review are listed on the attached sheet.

### Working with NHS Care Organisations

Sponsors should ensure that they notify the R&D office for the relevant NHS care organisation of this amendment in line with the terms detailed in the categorisation email issued by the lead nation for the study.

### Statement of compliance

This Committee is recognised by the United Kingdom Ethics Committee Authority under the Medicines for Human Use (Clinical Trials) Regulations 2004, and is authorised to carry out the ethical review of clinical trials of investigational medicinal products.

The Committee is fully compliant with the Regulations as they relate to ethics committees and the conditions and principles of good clinical practice.

The Committee is constituted in accordance with the Governance Arrangements for Research Ethics Committees and complies fully with the Standard Operating Procedures for Research Ethics Committees in the UK.

### HRA Learning
We are pleased to welcome researchers and research staff to our HRA Learning Events and online learning opportunities—see details at: https://www.hra.nhs.uk/planning-and-improving-research/learning/

| 20/SC/0158: | Please quote this number on all correspondence |

Yours sincerely
PP

Mr David Carpenter
Chair

E-mail: berkshire.rec@hra.nhs.uk

Enclosures: List of names and professions of members who took part in the review

Copy to: N/A N/A CTRG

South Central - Berkshire Research Ethics Committee

Attendance at Sub-Committee of the REC meeting in correspondence.

Committee Members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr David Carpenter</td>
<td>Retired Social Scientist</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Proven</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also in attendance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position (or reason for attending)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alison Doherty</td>
<td>Approvals Administrator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Hannah

I can confirm that the above referenced substantial amendment has been reviewed in CTRG and we are happy for it to be submitted to the relevant organisations for approval. This email can be forwarded as confirmation of sponsor approval for the amendments as required.

- Email documents to the REC that originally reviewed the study. The REC will review the amendments and categorise it. If necessary, they will transfer the amendments internally to HRA for them to review as well.
  - If the amendment does not require HRA review, the REC will state this in their categorisation letter.
  - If it is sent on to the HRA, the HRA will advise you when you can send final REC and HRA approved documents to your local sites.

- Copy in CTRG generic email address (ctrg@admin.ox.ac.uk) so the sponsor has final documents and is included in subsequent correspondence.

Please make your MHRA submission, through the Common European Submission Platform (CESP).

Please send a copy of the approval letters to the CTRG generic email address (ctrg@admin.ox.ac.uk) once you have received them. Please do not implement your amendments until all approvals are in place.

Best wishes
Elaine

Elaine Chick
Deputy Head CTRG, Research Services
University of Oxford
Boundary Brook House, Headington, OX3 7LQ Tel: 01865 616481
Elaine.chick@admin.ox.ac.uk
https://researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/ctrg

PID14903-A003-SP001-AC001
### Participant identifier
![Participant identifier]

### Participant initials
![Participant initials]

---

**Day 7, 14 and 28 Call CRF**

**Date**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Today’s date: ___ / ___ / ___</th>
<th>Day: Day 7 [ ] Day 14 [ ] Day 28 [ ]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

---

### Hospital Admission

1. Have you/participant been admitted to hospital? [ ] Yes [ ] No

1a) If yes, what date did you/participant go to hospital?  ___/___/___

1b) Were you/participant admitted overnight? [ ] Yes [ ] No

1c) How many nights did you/participant stay in hospital? ___ nights

1d) Did you/participant stay in an Intensive Care Unit during your stay in hospital? [ ] Yes [ ] No

1e) Did you/participant receive oxygen while in hospital? [ ] Yes [ ] No

1f) Did you/participant receive mechanical ventilation while in hospital? [ ] Yes [ ] No

---

### Symptoms

2. Do you/participant feel recovered today? (i.e. symptoms associated with illness are no longer a problem). [ ] Yes [ ] No

2a) If yes, on what date did you/participant feel recovered?  ___/___/___

3. How well are you/participant feeling today? Please rate how you are feeling now using a scale of 1 – 10, where 1 is the worst you can imagine, and 10 is feeling the best you can imagine.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Worst</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>Best</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

4. On how many days have you/participant taken the prescribed dose of study medication? 

5. Have you/participant posted your swab? [ ] Yes [ ] No

---

As you are feeling recovered that is all the questions for today. Thank you for your time.
### Day 7, 14 and 28 Call CRF

**Participant identifier**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participant initials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Has anybody else in your/participant’s house become unwell today with a respiratory illness?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### As you/participant do not feel recovered, please can you rate the following symptoms:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fever</th>
<th>Cough</th>
<th>Shortness of breath</th>
<th>Muscle ache</th>
<th>Nausea / Vomiting</th>
<th>Other Healthcare Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**As you/participant do not feel recovered, please can you rate the following symptoms:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>No problem</th>
<th>Mild problem</th>
<th>Moderate problem</th>
<th>Major problem</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>11.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other Healthcare Services**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13a)</td>
<td>GP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13a)i)</td>
<td>If yes, how many times did you visit the GP?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13b)</td>
<td>Other primary Care services (e.g. walk-in services/pharmacist)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13b)i)</td>
<td>If yes, how many times did you visit these services?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13c)</td>
<td>NHS 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13c)i)</td>
<td>If yes, how many times did you call NHS 111?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13d)</td>
<td>A&amp;E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13d)i)</td>
<td>If yes, how many times did you visit A&amp;E?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13e)</td>
<td>Have you been in contact with any other healthcare service?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13e)i)</td>
<td>If yes, how many times?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Do you have any other symptoms with your current illness:**

________________________________________________________________________________
### Notification of Death—TRIAL TEAM USE ONLY

14. Has the trial team been notified of the participant’s death?
   - Yes [ ]
   - No [ ]

### Wellbeing (to be completed on days 14 and 28 ONLY)

15. Please indicate for each of the 5 statements which is closest to how you have been feeling over the past 2 weeks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>15a) Over the past 2 weeks...</th>
<th>All of the time</th>
<th>Most of the time</th>
<th>More than half the time</th>
<th>Less than half the time</th>
<th>Some of the time</th>
<th>At no time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15b) ... I have felt cheerful and in good spirits</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15c) ... I have felt calm and relaxed</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15d) ... I have felt active and vigorous</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15e) ... I woke up feeling fresh and rested</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15f) ... my daily life has been filled with things that interest me</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Completed by: Print name ......................................................Sign ...........................................Date _ _ / _ _ _ / _ _ _ _
### Screening CRF

1. Are you willing to give informed consent for participation in the study?  
   - Yes [ ]  
   - No [ ]

2. Do you have symptoms of possible COVID-19 in the community which have been present for less than 15 days?  
   - Yes [ ]  
   - No [ ]

   **Defined:**
   - A new continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
   - **and/or**
   - A high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to take your temperature)

2a) What date did you start to feel unwell with this illness (DD/MMM/YYYY)?  
   [ ]

2b) Are you feeling almost recovered from this illness (i.e. generally much improved and your symptoms are now mild or almost absent)?  
   - Yes [ ]  
   - No [ ]

3. Are you aged 65 years old or over, or aged 50 to 64 years old with at least one of the comorbidities/conditions listed below?  
   - Yes [ ]  
   - No [ ]

   - Weakened immune system due to a serious illness or medication (e.g. chemotherapy)
   - Heart disease or high blood pressure
   - Asthma or lung disease
   - Diabetes not treated with insulin
   - Liver disease
   - Stroke or neurological problem

4. Are you pregnant or planning on becoming pregnant within the next few weeks?  
   - Yes [ ]  
   - No [ ]

5. Are you breastfeeding or planning on starting during the course of the trial?  
   - Yes [ ]  
   - No [ ]

6. Do you have porphyria?  
   - Yes [ ]  
   - No [ ]

7. Do you take insulin for diabetes?  
   - Yes [ ]  
   - No [ ]

8. Do you have a G6PD deficiency?  
   - Yes [ ]  
   - No [ ]

9. Do you have myasthenia gravis?  
   - Yes [ ]  
   - No [ ]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10. Do you have severe psoriasis?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Do you have a history of epilepsy?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Have you had a previous <strong>allergic (adverse) reaction</strong> to any of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Azithromycin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Chloroquine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <strong>Clarithromycin</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Hydroxychloroquine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Are you currently taking any of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Amiodarone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Chloroquine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Ciclosporin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Digoxin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Hydroxychloroquine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Penicillamine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Sotalol</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. <strong>Do you have a disease which affects the retina (e.g. macular degeneration)?</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Are you currently taking antibiotics for a recently diagnosed illness?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Are you currently admitted in hospital?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Do you have a specific heart rhythm abnormality called &quot;prolonged QT syndrome&quot; or condition that prolongs the heart QT interval?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Do you have an allergy to soya or peanuts?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Have you previously participated in the PRINCIPLE trial?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Completed by: Print name ............................................................................ Sign ........................................ Date ___/___/____
## Eligibility Information CRF

1. Participant’s NHS number: ___________________________________________

2. Participant is ≥65 years old, or aged ≥50 with at least one of the comorbidities listed below?
   - Weakened immune system due to a serious illness or infection
   - Heart disease or hypertension
   - Asthma or lung disease
   - Diabetes not treated with insulin
   - Mild hepatic impairment
   - Stroke or neurological problem
   - Yes ☐ No ☐

3. Pregnant or planning on becoming pregnant within the next few weeks?
   - Yes ☐ No ☐

4. Breastfeeding or planning on starting during the course of the trial?
   - Yes ☐ No ☐

5. Has porphyria?
   - Yes ☐ No ☐

6. Has type 1 diabetes or insulin dependent type 2 diabetes mellitus?
   - Yes ☐ No ☐

7. Has a G6PD deficiency?
   - Yes ☐ No ☐

8. Has myasthenia gravis?
   - Yes ☐ No ☐

9. Has severe psoriasis?
   - Yes ☐ No ☐

10. Has a severe neurological disorder (especially those with a history of epilepsy)?
    - Yes ☐ No ☐

    Has had a previous adverse reaction to any of the following, that you are aware of:
    - Azithromycin
    - Chloroquine
    - Hydroxychloroquine
    - Any other macrolides or ketolides
    - Yes ☐ No ☐
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is currently taking any of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Amiodarone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>• Azithromycin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ciclosporin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Digoxin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Hydroxychloroquine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Penicillamine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Sotalol</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Any other macrolides or ketolides</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Any ergot derivatives (e.g. bromocriptine, cabergoline, ergotamine,</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ergometrine, methysergide)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Has a retinal disease (e.g. macular degeneration)?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Has a known severe hepatic impairment?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Has a known severe renal impairment?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Is the patient currently taking antibiotics for an acute condition?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Is the patient currently admitted to hospital?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Known congenital or documented QT prolongation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Allergy to soya or peanuts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Has previously taken part in the PRINCIPLE trial?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Is there any other reason you would exclude this participant?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comments:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description of information needed</td>
<td>Label Text</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Name, address and telephone number of the sponsor**  
 (the main contact for information on the product, clinical trial and emergency unblinding) | University of Oxford  
 Joint Research Office  
 1st floor, Boundary Brook House  
 Churchill Drive,  
 Headington  
 Oxford  
 OX3 7GB  
 Tel: +44 (0)1865572224  
 Fax: +44 (0)1865572228 |
| **Pharmaceutical dosage form, route of administration, quantity of dosage units, and in the case of open trials, the name/identifier and strength/potency;** | Azithromycin (250mg) tablets.  
 The tablets are for oral administration. |
| **Batch and/or code number** to identify the contents and packaging operation; | PRINCIPLE trial.  
 University of Oxford  
 Chief Investigator: Prof. Chris Butler |
| **Trial reference code** allowing identification of the trial, site, investigator and sponsor if not given elsewhere; |  |
| **Trial subject identification number/treatment number and where relevant, the visit number;** |  |
| **Kit/Pack number** Investigator (if not included previously) |  |
| **Directions for use**  
 (reference may be made to a leaflet or other explanatory document intended for the trial subject or person administering the product) | Take two 250mg tablets (making 500mg in total) azithromycin once a day for 3 days by mouth (6 tablets in total)  
 Special instructions: Azithromycin must be taken at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after antacids. |
| **“For clinical trial use only” or similar wording;** | For clinical trial use only |
| **Storage conditions** | Store below 25°C |
| **Period of use**  
 (use-by date, expiry date or re-test date as applicable), in month/year format and in a manner that avoids any ambiguity | 3 days  
 Expiry date: month/year  
 Shelf life is 24 months. |
<p>| <strong>“keep out of reach of children” except when the product is for use in trials</strong> | Keep out of reach of children |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>where the product is not taken home by subjects</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description of information needed</td>
<td>Label Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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1st floor, Boundary Brook House  
Churchill Drive,  
Headington  
Oxford  
OX3 7GB  
Tel: +44 (0)1865572224  
Fax: +44 (0)1865572228 |
| **Pharmaceutical dosage form, route of administration, quantity of dosage units, and in the case of open trials, the name/identifier and strength/potency;** | Azithromycin (500mg) tablets.  
The tablets are for oral administration. |
| **Batch and/or code number** to identify the contents and packaging operation; | PRINCIPLE trial.  
University of Oxford  
Chief Investigator: Prof. Chris Butler |
| **Trial reference code** allowing identification of the trial, site, investigator and sponsor if not given elsewhere; | PRINCIPLE trial.  
University of Oxford  
Chief Investigator: Prof. Chris Butler |
| **Trial subject identification number/treatment number and where relevant, the visit number;** | |
| **Kit/Pack number** | |
| **Investigator** (if not included previously) | |
| **Directions for use** (reference may be made to a leaflet or other explanatory document intended for the trial subject or person administering the product) | Take one tablet (500mg) azithromycin once a day for 3 days by mouth (3 tablets in total)  
Special instructions: Azithromycin must be taken at least 1 hour before or 2 hours after antacids. |
| **“For clinical trial use only” or similar wording;** | For clinical trial use only |
| **Storage conditions** | Store below 25°C |
| **Period of use** (use-by date, expiry date or re-test date as applicable), in month/year format and in a manner that avoids any ambiguity | 3 days  
Expiry date: month/year  
Shelf life is 24 months. |
<p>| <strong>“keep out of reach of children” except when the product is for use in trials</strong> | Keep out of reach of children |
| where the product is not taken home by subjects |  |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Title</th>
<th>Principle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EudraCT No</td>
<td>2020-001209-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Version/Date</td>
<td>1.1, 22.04.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of information needed</th>
<th>Label Text</th>
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</thead>
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| **Name, address and telephone number of the sponsor**  
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1st floor, Boundary Brook House  
Churchill Drive,  
Headington  
Oxford  
OX3 7GB  
Tel: +44 (0)1865572224  
Fax: +44 (0)1865572228 |
| **Pharmaceutical dosage form, route of administration, quantity of dosage units,**  
in the case of open trials, the name/identifier and strength/potency; | Hydroxychloroquine sulphate 200 milligram (mg) tablets.  
The tablets are for oral administration. |
| **Batch and/or code number** to identify the contents and packaging operation; | PRINCIPLE trial.  
University of Oxford  
Chief Investigator: Prof. Chris Butler |
| **Trial reference code** allowing identification of the trial, site, investigator and sponsor if not given elsewhere; | PRINCIPLE trial.  
University of Oxford  
Chief Investigator: Prof. Chris Butler |
| **Trial subject identification number/treatment number and where relevant, the visit number;** | |
| **Kit/Pack number** | |
| **Investigator** (if not included previously) | |
| **Directions for use**  
(reference may be made to a leaflet or other explanatory document intended for the trial subject or person administering the product) | Take one tablet (200mg)  
hydroxychloroquine twice daily for 7 days by mouth (14 tablets in total)  
Special instructions:  
Each dose should be taken with a meal or glass of milk.  
Antacids may reduce absorption of hydroxychloroquine so it is advised that a 4-hour interval be observed between taking hydroxychloroquine and an antacid. |
| **“For clinical trial use only” or similar wording;** | For clinical trial use only |
| **Storage conditions** | Store below 25°C |
| **Period of use**  
(use-by date, expiry date or re-test date as applicable), in | 7 days  
Expiry date: month/year |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>month/year format and in a manner that avoids any ambiguity</th>
<th>Shelf life is 36 months.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“keep out of reach of children” except when the product is for use in trials where the product is not taken home by subjects</td>
<td>Keep out of reach of children</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>