

Medicine Use Reviews (MURs): What is their effect on self reported adherence? A pilot study

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Background

- Medicines Use Reviews (MURs)
 - Introduced in April 2005
- Aims of service to improve¹:
 - patient knowledge
 - Concordance
 - Use of medicines
- In 2006 uptake slower than expected
 - Acceptance of pharmacist role by patients & GPs a major challenge²



Aims of study

Pilot study:

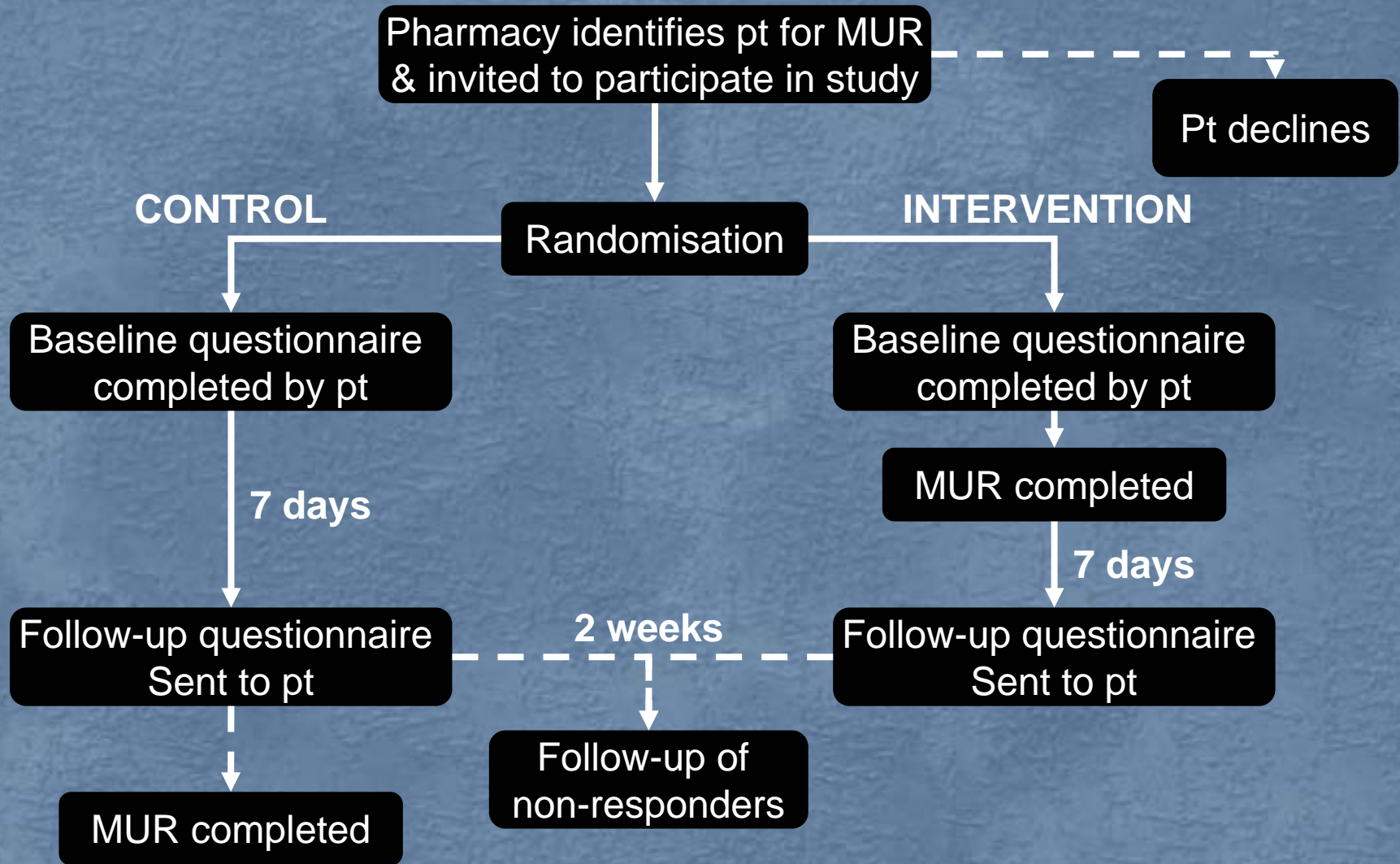
- Test the administration of the questionnaires

Other research questions:

- What effect does an MUR have on patient reported adherence and satisfaction with information about medicines?
- What is the level of patient satisfaction with involvement in discussions during MURs?
- What is the level of patient satisfaction with the pharmacist consultation?



Method



Recruitment

- Seven pharmacies participated
- 410 patients identified for MUR during recruitment
 - Only 124 (30%) invited to participate in study

	Not invited, N=286 (%)	Invited, N=124 (%)
Female	54.9	58.9
Mean Age (years)	71.1	70.1
Mean No. of Px medicines	6.6	6.3

- 72 (59%) agreed to participate in the study
 - No demographic differences between those who participated and declined

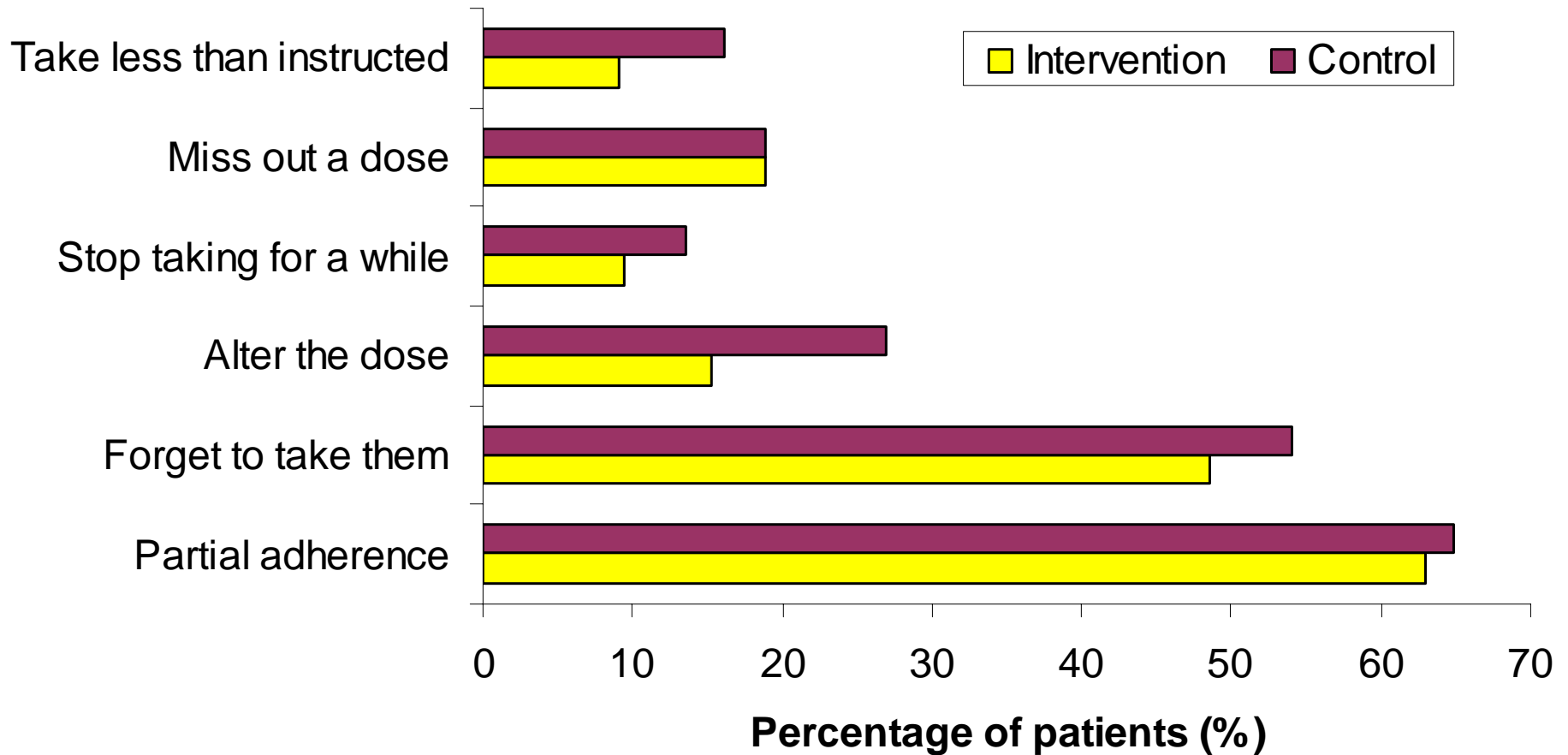


Baseline characteristics

Characteristic	Intervention (N=35)	Control (N=37)
Female (%)	19 (54.3)	22 (59.5)
Median (Q ₁ -Q ₃) Age (yrs)	72.0 (62.0-78.0)	73.0 (65.0-78.5)
Mean (SD) daily drugs	5.7 (2.7)	5.6 (2.2)
Median (Q ₁ -Q ₃) PRN drugs	1.0 (0.0-3.0)	0.0 (0.0-2.0)
Medication (%)		
Gastrointestinal system	15 (42.9)	15 (40.5)
Cardiovascular system	26 (74.3)	29 (78.4)
Respiratory system	10 (28.6)	7 (18.9)
Central Nervous system	13 (37.1)	21 (56.8)
Endocrine system	14 (40.0)	14 (37.8)



Baseline Adherence³



Problems and satisfaction at baseline

Tick box list of difficulties using medication

- 45% of patients reported at least one difficulty
- Opening lids & using blister packs most common

Satisfaction with Information about Medicines (SIMS)⁴

	Possible score range	Mean Score (SD)	
		Intervention	Control
Action & Usage	0-9	7.1 (2.6)	7.5 (2.3)
Potential Problems	0-8	5.9 (2.2)	6.0 (2.3)
Total	0-17	12.9 (4.3)	13.5 (4.3)

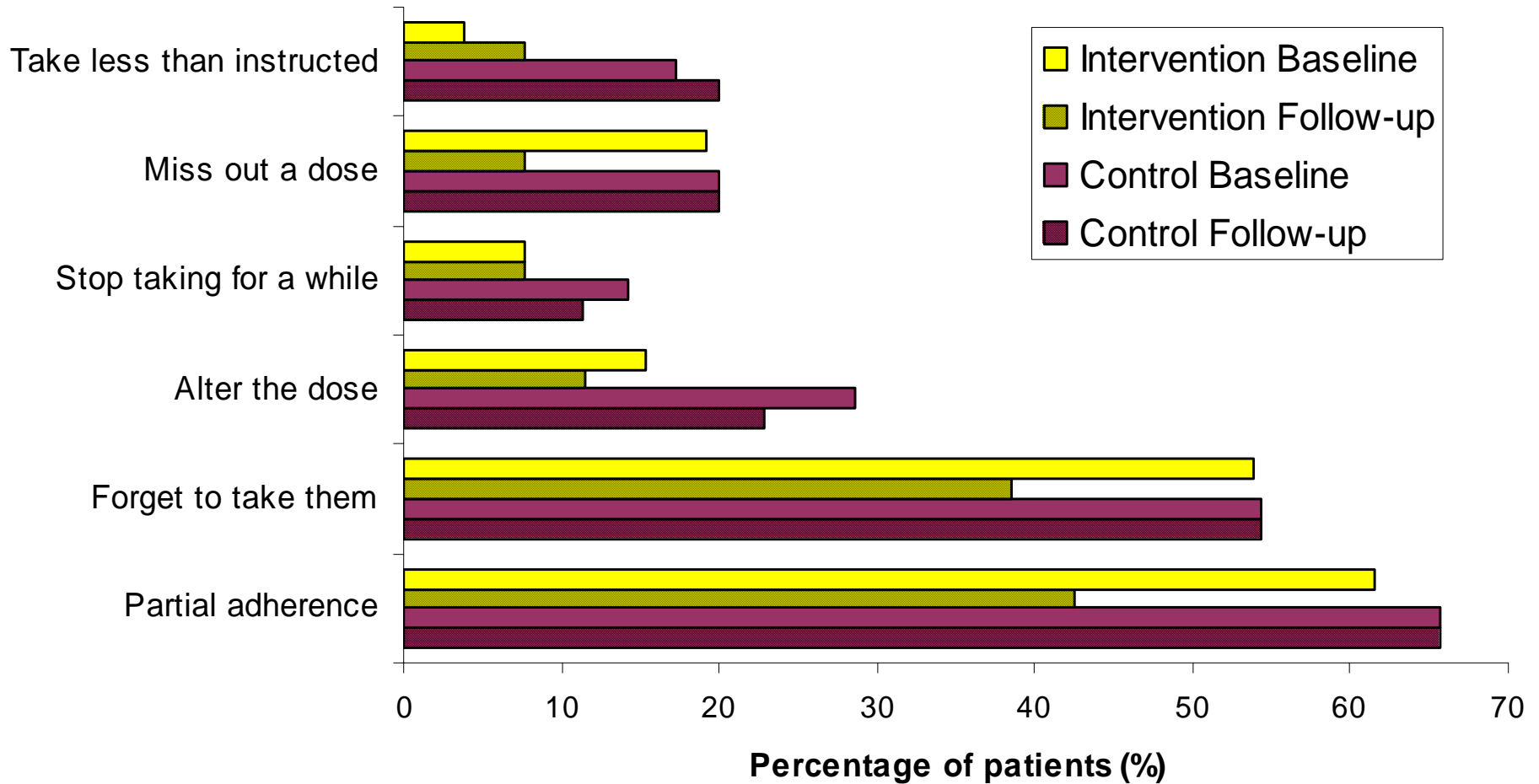


The MUR

- Specific issues were documented in 24 (68.6%) of MURs
- A total of 47 issues (1.3 per MUR) were documented
 - Problems with dose/directions most common issue
- Majority of issues (74.4%) pharmacist provided potential solution directly
- Examples:
 - Using eye drops all at the same time, advised to separate doses
 - Poor inhaler technique, correct inhaler technique demonstrated
 - Difficulty removing fentanyl patches, advice on patch placement and rotation to make removal easier



Changes in adherence



Changes in satisfaction

	Mean SIMS action and usage subscale score			P-value (MWU)
	Baseline	Follow-up	Change	
Intervention	6.9	7.8	0.88	0.109
Control	7.3	7.4	0.17	
	Mean SIMS potential problems subscale score			
Intervention	5.8	6.5	0.63	0.226
Control	5.8	5.7	-0.17	
	Mean SIMS total score			
Intervention	12.8	14.3	1.5	0.051
Control	13.1	13.1	0.0	



Other outcomes

- No change in tick box list of difficulties using medication
- Involvement in discussions⁵
 - 54% felt pharmacist asked their opinion about medicines
 - 67% reported being given enough information to make their own decisions about treatment
- Satisfaction with pharmacists consultation⁶
 - Comparable to satisfaction with GP consultations⁷⁻⁸
- Overall satisfaction with MUR
 - 5-point Likert scale
 - 59% extremely satisfied, 33% satisfied



Discussion & Conclusion

- Recruitment was difficult
 - Consider need for specialist recruiters in future studies
- Small improvements in adherence reported
 - Greater recognition of intentional non-adherence may be beneficial
- Improvements in Satisfaction with information
 - Could use SIMS to target appropriate information
- Satisfaction with MURs is high
 - Consultations may benefit from a more concordant approach



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