AAIR Charity
ASTHMA, ALLERGY & INFLAMMATION RESEARCH

Research Equipment:
FilmArray: multiplex rapid PCR system.

Awarded to: Tristan Clark and N. Brendish Amount: £10,000

Lay summary

The award from the AAIR charity was used to purchase a FlimArray machine. This is a rapid molecular platform that tests for a range of respiratory viruses and helped us to conduct several clinical trials. These trials compared testing hospitalised patients with the FilmArray compared to standard laboratory-based diagnostics tests. We showed that testing patients with the FilmArray led to improvements in clinical outcomes including of a reduction in unnecessary antibiotics and a reduced length of stay. It also showed improvements in the detection and treatment of influenza. These results were published in the Lancet Respiratory Medicine in May 2017. The work has also been presented at multiple international conferences in Amsterdam, Vienna, Riga, San Diego, Chicago and London. Pilot data from this study was used to support a successful application for a prestigious NIHR Post-Doctoral Fellowship for the applicant who has now started this.

The pilot work which lead to this publication and used this equipment contented to the award of an NIHR Post-Doctoral Fellowship for the application.

Publications

- Brendish NJ, Malachira AK, Armstrong L, Houghton R, Aitken S, Nyimbili E, Ewings S, Lillie PJ, Clark TW. Routine molecular point-of-care testing for respiratory viruses in adults presenting to hospital with acute respiratory illness (ResPOC): a pragmatic, open-label, randomised controlled trial. Lancet Respir Med. 2017 May;5(5):401-411.

Presentations

- ID week, San Diego 2017.
- European Conference Microbiology and Infectious Disease, Vienna 2017
- European Scientific Working Group on Influenza Conference, Riga 2017.
- Academy of Physicians Annual Meeting, London 2017.
- International Society for Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses, Chicago 2016.

- European Conference Microbiology and Infectious Disease, Amsterdam 2016.