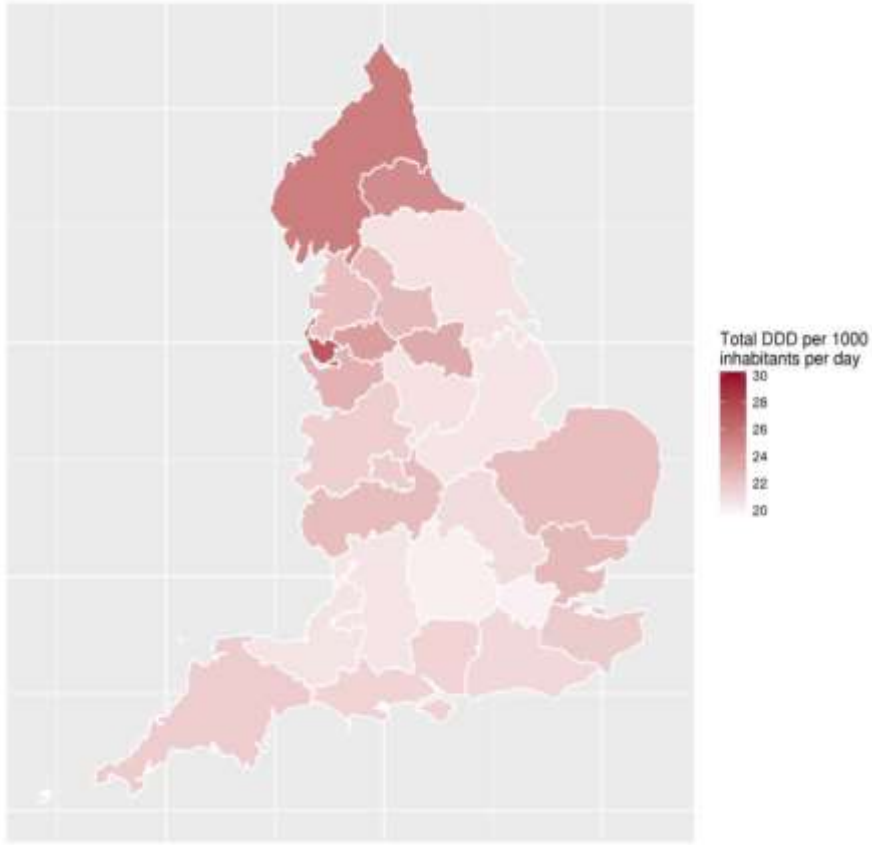


The introduction of point of care C-Reactive protein (POC CRP) testing into general practice to support antimicrobial prescribing behaviour change

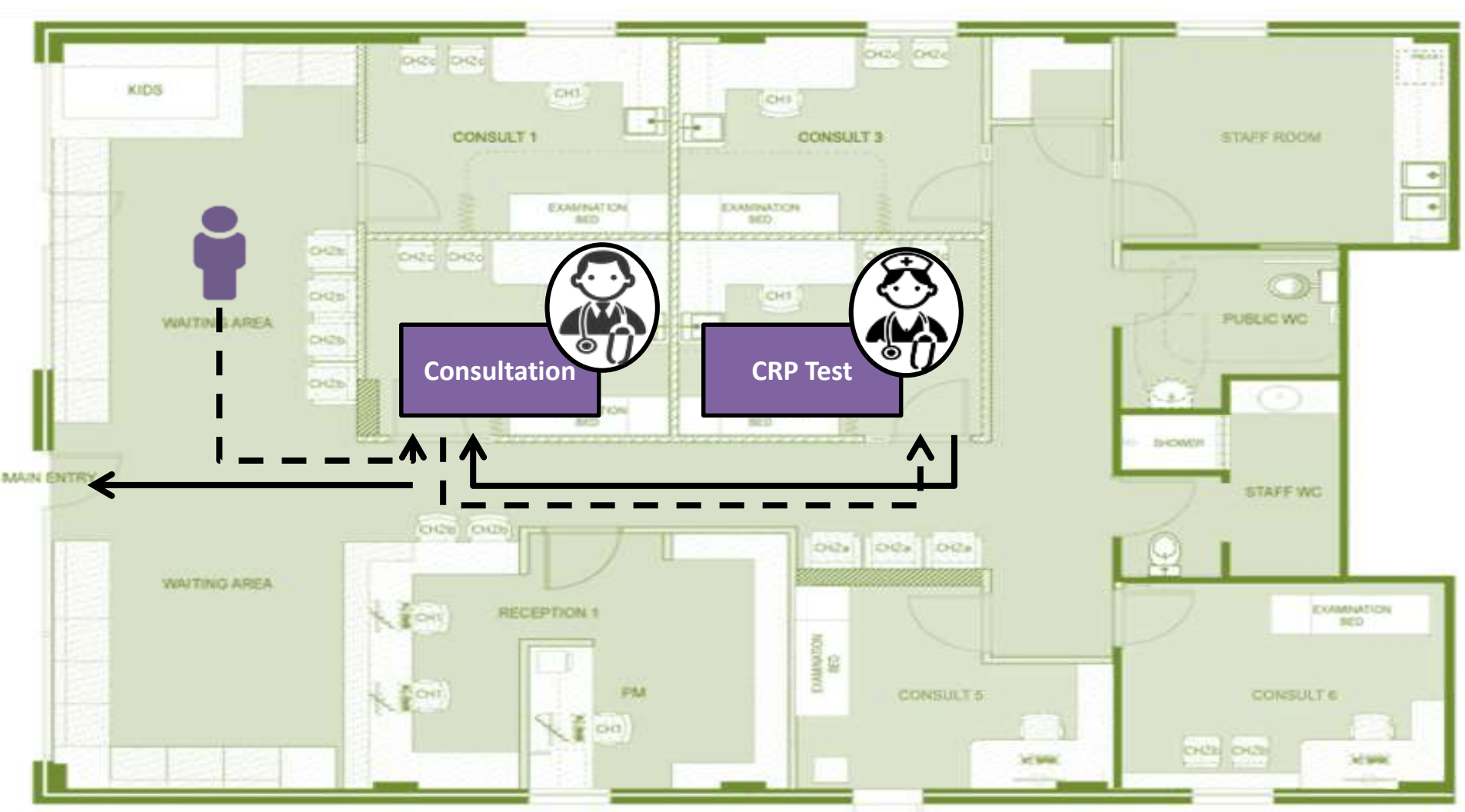
Presentation by Juliet Fletcher and Sarrah Seldon
Medicines Optimisation pharmacists





*From English surveillance programme for antimicrobial utilisation and resistance (ESPAUR) Report 2017, Public Health England







Team from Dr Choi
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Getting the right treatment for my symptoms - CRP Testing in GP Practices



Coughs and colds are the most common symptom of a respiratory infection. Infections can be caused by viruses or bacteria. Most coughs and colds are caused by a virus.

Antibiotics are only recommended if the infection is caused by bacteria. They do not work against viral infections.

To check if your infection is caused by bacteria we can carry out a CRP test.

What is CRP (C-Reactive Protein) testing?

A CRP test is a blood test that measures the amount of a substance called C-reactive protein in your blood. High CRP levels are found in patients with a respiratory infection caused by bacteria. CRP testing has been shown to be useful helping doctors and nurses tell if respiratory infections are caused by viruses or bacteria.

How the test will be carried out?

A trained clinician will take a small pinprick of blood from your finger. This is a quick and almost a painless sample.

How long does the test take?

Once the blood sample has been taken, getting the result will take around 3 ½ minutes.

What can be found out from the test?

If there is a high level of CRP in your blood it means that you are more likely to have an infection caused by bacteria, inflammation. This will give your GP/nurse a better idea if you need antibiotics.

After the test you will be told what the result of the test is, and if you need a prescription for antibiotics.

What YOU can do to help your symptoms:-

- Rest
- Drink plenty of fluids
- Have at least one hot meal a day to keep your energy levels up
- Use over-the-counter medications to help give relief - ask your local pharmacist for advice

Your feedback is extremely important to us, and we would be very grateful if you could complete the survey supplied to you after having your test.

Thank you.





