

English Translation – PSP-FICU Patient Information Sheet

PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET

Study Title: PSP-FICU Study

Patient care pathways and factors influencing the choice between Emergency Department consultation and Out-of-Hours Primary Care: a comparative study

Prospective multicenter observational study

Sponsor: Martigues Hospital Center (CHM), 3 Boulevard des Rayettes, 13500 Martigues, France

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Investigating physician: Dr Serge YVORRA

Investigator telephone number: +33 4 42 43 24 69

Dear Sir or Madam,

Your physician is inviting you to participate in an observational research study entitled: “Patient care pathways and factors influencing the choice between Emergency Department consultation and Out-of-Hours Primary Care: a comparative study” (PSP-FICU).

This information sheet is intended to explain the objectives of this observational study and the information that will be collected. Please read it carefully.

INTRODUCTION

In the context of increasing Emergency Department (ED) overcrowding, optimizing patient care pathways has become a major public health issue. Every year, the number of emergency consultations continues to rise, sometimes disproportionately compared with cases that truly require urgent management.

At the same time, out-of-hours primary care services provide an alternative for the management of non-urgent conditions outside regular consultation hours. However, many patients continue to choose emergency departments for health issues that could potentially be managed in out-of-hours primary care settings.

The study proposed to you has been initiated by Martigues Hospital Center, and Dr Serge YVORRA is the principal investigator.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the prevalence (proportion) of patients consulting the Emergency Department for conditions related to general practice or out-of-hours primary care, and to determine the factors influencing their choice of consultation setting.

This is a multicenter observational study and it does not involve any specific constraint for you. No prescription, additional examination, or biological test will be required.

Following your arrival at the Emergency Department of Martigues Hospital or at the Escaillon out-of-hours primary care center in Martigues, if you are consulting for a condition related to general practice, the investigating physician may invite you to participate in this study by providing you with this information sheet and an anonymous questionnaire containing 19 questions.

These questionnaires will be distributed once you are seated in the waiting room of the Emergency Department or the Escaillon out-of-hours primary care center.

After a period of reflection, and if you agree to participate, a written non-opposition form will be provided and signed by the investigator.

Martigues Hospital Center, acting as sponsor of this study, received a favorable opinion from the Comité de Protection des Personnes (CPP) and informed the French National Agency for Medicines and Health Products Safety (ANSM), which assigned the study registration number: 2024-A01651-46.

1. Voluntary participation – Right to withdraw

Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary.

You may decide not to participate or to withdraw at any time by informing the physician directly. This decision will not affect your medical care or your relationship with healthcare professionals. In this case, no additional information concerning you will be collected. However, data already collected may still be used.

2. Study objectives

The aim of this study is to compare the prevalence and factors influencing consultation choices between two healthcare facilities of different sizes.

The primary and secondary objectives are:

- To evaluate the prevalence (proportion) of patients consulting the Emergency Department or the Escaillon out-of-hours primary care center for conditions related to general practice;
- To identify and compare the sociodemographic profiles of patients consulting the Emergency Department and out-of-hours primary care;

- To determine the factors influencing consultation in Emergency Departments and out-of-hours primary care rather than through the regular general practitioner.

3. Study procedures

This is an observational study, meaning that there will be no intervention modifying your usual medical care. Participation in this study only involves completing a questionnaire.

A self-administered questionnaire containing 19 questions will be provided by the investigating physician. These questionnaires are distributed to patients present in the waiting rooms of the Martigues Hospital Emergency Department and the Escaillon out-of-hours primary care center.

The collected paper data will be anonymized and analyzed using the EasyMedStat software.

4. Benefits

This study is purely observational and will not modify your medical management; therefore, it presents no risk for patients.

However, the study may provide several benefits for both patients and healthcare facilities:

- Improved patient orientation by identifying factors that lead patients to choose Emergency Departments instead of out-of-hours primary care;
- Reduction in waiting times in Emergency Departments by decreasing overcrowding related to non-urgent cases;
- Optimization of medical resources through better distribution of healthcare staff and equipment;
- Better healthcare cost management by encouraging the use of less costly healthcare structures when appropriate;
- Patient education regarding the appropriate use of healthcare services;
- Improvement in quality of care through better coordination between healthcare providers;
- Identification of barriers to healthcare access, including socioeconomic, geographical, or organizational factors;
- Increased patient satisfaction through better understanding of patient expectations and needs.

Overall, this study may help rationalize patient care pathways, optimize medical resources, and improve the healthcare system.

5. Confidentiality

If you agree to participate in this study, information contained in your medical record may be collected by hospital staff bound by professional confidentiality obligations.

Only the data necessary for this study will be collected. During computerized processing, your first and last names will be removed for statistical analyses. You will only be identified by a patient number including your initials and year of birth.

Collected data:

- Demographic data and medical history;
- Data from the self-questionnaire.

Consent

By not opposing your participation in this observational study, you consent to the processing of your data under the conditions described in this information sheet.

Data retention period

Study documents will be archived at Martigues Hospital Center for a regulatory period of 15 years before destruction.

Right of access, rectification, and opposition

In accordance with French data protection laws, you have the right to access, correct, and oppose the processing of your personal data at any time through your physician.

6. Contact for additional information

Please contact your physician Dr _____ / Telephone number: +33 4 42 43 24 69 if you have any questions concerning the study.

Martigues Hospital Center thanks you for taking the time to read this information sheet.