



Social Dimensions of Health Institute WEBINAR



**Thursday 28th November 2013
3.00pm (GMT)**

led by

Suzanne Grant

Lecturer
Division of Population Health Sciences
University of Dundee

Spatial dimensions of repeat prescribing safety in UK general practice: an ethnographic study

If you would like to join this webinar
please contact:

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(Please book early as spaces are limited)



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Social Dimensions of Health Institute



Dr Suzanne Grant is a Lecturer within the Division of Population Health Sciences at the University of Dundee. Suzanne's research focuses on the application of ethnographic methods to examine healthcare organisation and culture. She has a PhD in social anthropology and has recently completed a Medical Research Council (MRC) Population Health Scientist Fellowship within SDHI which focussed on the role of organisational culture and routines in the safety and effectiveness of UK general practice.

Within UK general practice, the quality and safety of repeat prescribing has long been recognised as an important concern. Repeat prescribing accounts for up to three quarters of all drugs prescribed, with approximately half of all registered patients receiving treatment by repeat prescription. While estimates of the scale of prescribing errors vary, a recent study (Avery et al. 2012) found that 1 in 20 prescription items contained either a prescribing or monitoring error. Recent studies have identified a wide range of underlying causes of error in repeat prescribing that are linked to general practice socio-technical systems and processes, including inter-professional teamworking, communication, IT systems, and practice working environments.

This study examined the safety and effectiveness of key high-volume, safety-critical organisational routines (e.g. acute and repeat prescribing, results handling) across seven general practices in Scotland and England. A multi-site ethnographic case study design was employed that involved the observation of key organisational routines, in-depth interviews with clinical and administrative staff, and the analysis of relevant documents and artefacts (e.g. formal protocols).

This webinar will focus on the spatial dimensions of repeat prescribing safety across a range of practice cultures, and the role of organisational context and informal measures in the development of strategies for safer working practices.

SDHI 10TH ANNIVERSARY

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