

Project scope: bacteriophage therapy

8th March 2022

Research question

Is bacteriophage therapy clinically effective, cost effective, and safe for use in humans in patients whose clinical needs are not met by antibiotics?

Inclusion criteria

The selection of studies for inclusion in the literature review element of the project will be based on the following criteria:

Population	Patients whose clinical needs are not met by antibiotics (i.e. as an alternative to antibiotics where bacteria develop resistance)
Intervention	Bacteriophage therapy
Comparator	Antibiotics
Outcomes	Infection resolution, survival, adverse events, health related quality of life
Limits	Human studies, English language

Planned activities

SHTG have agreed on the following activities to support the development of a recommendation on bacteriophage therapy:

1. To review the evidence on the effectiveness, cost effectiveness, and safety of bacteriophage therapy as an alternative to antibiotics where bacteria may have developed resistance. The review of the evidence will consider:

- Secondary evidence
- Primary evidence
- Patient and social aspects

2. To conduct an economic evaluation of bacteriophage therapy within NHSScotland.

Note: an economic evaluation will only be conducted if sufficient published evidence on effectiveness and safety is available.

End products

At the end of the project, SHTG will publish:

- SHTG Recommendation Report

Timescales (approximate)

A report will be delivered to the topic referrers by 31st September 2022 in order to inform a submission to National Services Scotland.