Figure 3: Protocol for contacting relatives of index case.

Clinical and DLCNCS-tested diagnosis confirmed in index case

Abbreviations: DLCNCS- Dutch Lipid Clinic Network Criteria Score; GP-General Practitioner; PN-Practice Nurse; NP-Nurse Practitioner

Protocol derived from Brett, Watts, Arnold-Reed, Bell, Garton-Smith, Vickery, Ryan & Pang (2015): Challenges in the care of familial hypercholesterolemia: a community care perspective, Expert Review of Cardiovascular Therapy (http://dx.doi.org/10.1586/14779072.2015.1082907)

No response received by practice within 2 weeks

Management as outlined in Figure 4

Open door policy encouraged. Provide details of counselling and testing services available via practice

Appointment made by GP/PN/NP Counselling given

Decision not to be tested accepted. Risk notification of known first and second degree relatives encouraged.

Family member contacted by phone or in person and consented for cholesterol testing and family history updated

Family member does not consent to screening

Response received by practice within 2 weeks

Send second letter and/or GP/PN/NP telephone family member

No response received by practice within 2 weeks

Index case does not consent to risk notification of relatives

Index case consents to risk notification of relatives

Risk notification given by GP/PN/NP

Letter and information sheet given to family member and/or given to index case to distribute to relatives

Explain importance of risk notification of relatives to index case