

Hospital Wide Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment Study – use of previously collected data

What is the purpose of the study?

The purpose of this study is to understand more about how best to care for older people who are in hospital. Part of the study involves working out how best to identify older people who are at risk of adverse outcomes during their hospital stay. We plan to do this using data that is routinely collected for all people that come into hospital; this includes information such as diagnoses or other problems that arose during the hospital stay.

What will happen with the data?

To be sure that the routine hospital data is accurately identifying people at risk, we will compare its predictive ability to existing risk prediction scores. Rather than collect the risk prediction scores from scratch, we will make use of existing studies that have already done this, and link the data to the hospital datasets. This is done using the national provider of information, data and IT systems for health and social care (<http://www.hscic.gov.uk/>). The university will pass your data to the HSCIC through secure, confidential channels and the HSCIC will link this data to your hospital records. This information is then anonymised and passed to the research team, again using secure mechanisms. So the research team will not see any personal information. This technique has been used in many previous studies and is secure and reliable, and subject to nationally supervised scrutiny.

What data is being used?

We have permission to use data from a previous study carried out in Newcastle from 1996 onwards. You or one of your family or friends may have been involved in this study, the name of which was the Newcastle 85+ study.

Will my taking data be kept confidential?

All information will be treated confidentially. Any information about you or your family/friends which leaves the hospital will have names and addresses removed so that individuals cannot be recognised.

What do I have to do?

If you are worried about the re-use of anonymised data, then please contact Professor Stuart Parker on stuart.parker@ncl.ac.uk (local study lead) or Dr Simon Conroy (lead for study overall) on spc3@le.ac.uk who will be happy to discuss the study in more detail with you. You can object to your data being used in the new

study if you wish. This will not affect your care in any way, shape or form. You can also ask to review any data about you before it is transferred to the HSCIC. If you are not concerned, you need not take any further action.

Who is organising and funding the research?

The University of Newcastle is organising the research. It is funded by the National Institute for Health Research, the part of the NHS responsible for funding clinical research.

Who has reviewed the study?

This study has been given a favourable opinion by the National Research Ethics Service, East of England - Essex Committee, reference 15/EE/0244.

Contact for further information

If you have any further questions about this study please do not hesitate to contact: Professor Stuart Parker on stuart.parker@ncl.ac.uk (local study lead) or Dr Simon Conroy (lead for study overall) on spc3@le.ac.uk

The full study website can be viewed at: www.bgs.org.uk/index.php/how-cga