



NATTINA

The NATional Trial of Tonsillectomy IN Adults: a clinical and cost effectiveness study

Participant Information Sheet – GP Interviews

What is the study about?

In the NATTINA study we want to investigate the effectiveness and costs of tonsillectomy compared with conservative management (deferred surgery) in adults with acute recurrent tonsillitis by comparing the number of sore throat days over a 24 month follow up period. As part of the study we are carrying out several qualitative interviews with ENT patients, ENT staff and GPs to capture their views and experiences of sore throat and the treatment provided as part of this study.

Why are we doing the study?

Sore throats cause many adult hospital admissions in the UK each year. Removal of the tonsils (tonsillectomy) may be done for severe sore throats but we need more information about the benefits of this operation. We need to understand more about what sore throats people might continue to have after the operation and which patients stand to gain most from surgery as opposed to using antibiotics and/or pain killers.

What difference will it make?

We hope the views and experiences of GPs who refer tonsillitis patients to secondary care for consideration of a tonsillectomy will help us make better NHS guidance about who stands to gain the most from surgery and help improve the treatment of people with recurrent acute tonsillitis in the future.

What does taking part involve?

Once you have had an opportunity to read the Participant Information Sheet, you will be contacted by a researcher at the Newcastle Clinical Trials Unit who will give you more information on what is involved and, if you are interested in taking part, invite you for an interview at a time and location convenient for you. This can be over the telephone or in person depending on your preference. The researcher will take verbal/written informed consent before the interview takes place.

The interview will explore the practicality and suitability of the treatments, and any barriers or enablers to treatment delivery. You may also be asked about your experiences treating patients who have had sore throats. The interview is expected to take approximately 15-30 minutes and will be audio recorded with your permission.

Do I have to take part?

No, your participation in the interviews is voluntary and you do not have to take part. You do not have to give a reason if you choose not to participate.

Will the information I give be kept confidential?

No personal details will be made public or shared outside of the research team at the Newcastle Clinical Trials Unit. All information provided at the interview will be kept confidential and will only be used for NATTINA research purposes. Direct quotations may be used in the end of study report but these will be anonymised.

Who is organising and paying for the study?

The study is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). The research team are based in the Newcastle Clinical Trials Unit at Newcastle University.

If you have any concerns or complaints about the research, we will do our best to resolve them. Please contact:

Lorraine McSweeney
Email: Lorraine.McSweeney@newcastle.ac.uk
Telephone: 0191 208 7642

Can I see the results?

A summary of the results will be made available on the NATTINA website: www.nattina.com at the end of the study. We can also provide a summary of results by post/email.

What will happen next?

A researcher at the Newcastle Clinical Trials Unit will contact you to give you more information about what is involved and you can then decide if you would like to take part.

How to get in touch

If, at any time, you need to get in touch you can telephone Lorraine McSweeney on 0191 208 7642. Or you can contact us by email at Lorraine.McSweeney@newcastle.ac.uk

Thank you for taking the time to consider participation in this study.