Dear ……………………………………………

Re: Newcastle 85+ Study

You may recall that your practice participated in the above study.

The Newcastle 85+ study was established in 2006 to study the complex clinical, biological and psychological factors affecting the very old. The cohort (born in 1921 and aged 85 at baseline) has been followed to age 90 years. One important finding has been uncovering how disability evolves between age 85 and 90. Understanding whether or how health trajectories change at advanced ages is paramount in the face of this growing population, and if we are to develop more effective and timely primary health and social care services; but few other studies include people aged 95. We hypothesise that demands on health and social care may increase in the tenth decade and levels of disability, cognitive impairment, multimorbidity, frailty and loneliness increase, therefore further data collection at aged 95 years will be valuable.

We are now delighted that we have secured funding to undertake a phase 5 follow up study, as participants reach their 95th birthday. Some of the surviving participants may be registered at your practice and we are writing to let you know that we may be contacting you again regarding them.

Yours sincerely

Dr Rachel Duncan
Clinical Senior Lecturer
On behalf of the Newcastle 85+ Study Team