

Tell us your experiences...

This unit is participating in a research study seeking your experiences of our intensive care unit with a view to improving our services

Trained staff may discuss this with you



Further information can be obtained from any member of the health care team.

INSERT TRUST LOGO HERE



If you have any questions about the FREE Study, then please ask a member of staff

Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet

Research Ethics Committee
Reference Number: 13/SC/0037

Information Leaflet
V1.1 (11/04/2013)

Family Reported Experiences Evaluation (FREE) Study:
an evaluation of families' satisfaction with adult critical care services in the NHS

This unit is taking part in a research study which aims to help improve critical care (also known as intensive care) in the NHS by ensuring that the experiences of family members and of those receiving care are fed back to those organising and delivering care

What is the purpose of the study?

We want to find out how family members* feel about their experiences in the intensive care unit and if this feedback can be routinely collected across the NHS to ensure that patients and their family/loved ones have a positive experience of care.

The reason for asking family members is that patients staying in the intensive care unit are usually severely ill and often do not remember much about their stay, or sadly, some are too ill to survive. Feedback from family members is, therefore, important as you play a vital role in the support of your loved ones.

* A 'family member' is considered to be anyone with a close familial, social or emotional relationship to the patient, including relatives, partners, friends, etc.

NHS
**National Institute for
Health Research**

What will happen if I am asked to take part?

If you are asked to take part in the study, then you will be approached by a member of the intensive care team. They will provide you with a written information sheet which will fully explain the study and what is involved. You will be given the time you need to decide if you want to participate. You will have the opportunity to discuss the study with staff and to ask any questions you may have. You will be asked to sign a consent form if you decide you wish to take part.



What information will be collected?

You will be asked to provide your contact details so that a questionnaire can be posted to you.

Do I have to take part?

Joining the study is entirely voluntary and deciding not to join will not affect the standard of care your relative/friend receives



What next?

You may be approached about this study by a member of the intensive care team. An information sheet will be provided and a member of the team will go through this in detail with you.