Feasibility Study: Preoperative Behavioural Intervention to promote Responsible Drinking before elective orthopaedic Surgery

(PRE-OP BIRDS)

Participant Information Sheet

Health Care Professional Interviews

We would like to invite you to take part in an interview as part of the PRE-OP BIRDS study. Before you decide you need to understand why the research is being done and what taking part would mean for you. Please take time to read the following information carefully, and feel free to talk to others about the study if you wish. Take some time to consider it carefully before you decide.

Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear.

What is the purpose of the study?
Alcohol consumption is known to be associated with increased complications after surgery, which prevent early recovery and prolong rehabilitation times. It is therefore important that we are able to detect increased alcohol intake by patients much better than we currently do.

This feasibility study aims to test a revised screening and behavioural intervention which will be used with patients being referred for surgery. The behavioural intervention will help nurses to provide simple advice and guidance to patients on how reducing alcohol consumption prior to their surgery, which could in turn improve their recovery time and reduce the amount of time they have to spend in hospital after their operation.

As part of this study we have trained pre-operative assessment clinic staff, to deliver the AUDIT C and AUDIT screening tools and have also trained some of them to deliver the intervention. We are now inviting all those trained to take part in interviews to find out how acceptable this screening procedure and the new intervention is and how easily these procedures can be embedded as standard practice during pre-operative assessment clinics.

Why have I been invited to take part in PRE-OP BIRDS?
You have been invited to participate as you have received training on the use of the AUDIT C and AUDIT screening tools and/or the intervention and have been using them in the preoperative assessment clinic.

Do I have to take part?
You do not have to take part, and it is up to you to decide. You can withdraw from the study at any time, without giving a reason.

What will happen to me if I take part?
Members of staff from both groups (those trained in screening only and those trained in both screening and behavioural intervention) will be asked to take part in a one-to-one interview with the researcher. This will last approximately one hour and will take place at a time and location convenient for you. The interview will explore your views on the feasibility of the new screening and behavioural intervention, any factors that may affect the delivery of the intervention and the acceptability of the intervention.

With your permission, interviews will be audio recorded and transcribed verbatim. This data will then be analysed and will assist the research team in designing a larger pilot trial.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?
Taking part in an interview will not benefit you directly but the information we gather from this feasibility study will help inform a larger pilot trial and may help patients in the future.

Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?
All study information, including personal details, will be kept confidential and will not be made public. The study data and patient medical records may be looked at by people who are monitoring or auditing the study, Research Ethics Committee (REC) or other regulatory authorities, or the hospital Trusts involved in the study, to make sure that the study is being run correctly. By signing the consent form, you are giving your permission for this to happen.

Everyone involved in this study has a duty of confidentiality to the participants and this will be maintained throughout the session. If however, during the course of the interview any abusive and/or unprofessional behaviours and/or actions are disclosed by staff this will need to be reported to the study Chief Investigator. It will also be reported to their line manager and, if applicable, through the appropriate NHS safeguarding process.

Who is organising and funding the research?
This study is being funded by the NIHR Health Technology Assessment programme. It is being organised and carried out by a team of researchers based in Newcastle upon Tyne.

Who has reviewed the study?
This study has been reviewed and given favourable opinion by Newcastle & North Tyneside 2 Research Ethics Committee.

What will happen to the results of this study?
Data from this study will be used to improve the behavioural intervention and the next phase of the research. Data from your interview may be used, anonymously, in the study report and publications from the research.

Further information and contact details
These are the key contacts on this study. If you have any further questions or would like any further information about the study or the rights of participants, please feel free to contact them.

[insert local details here]