MONASH University

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Project ID: 42136
Project title: Evaluation of interventions for trauma care in older adults, a modified-Delphi study

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You are invited to take part in this study. Please read this Explanatory Statement in full before deciding whether or not to participate in this research. If you would like further information regarding any aspect of this project, you are encouraged to contact the researchers via the phone numbers or email addresses listed above.

What does the research involve?

This study seeks to evaluate the merit of interventions used in the trauma care of older adults in Australia. Our aim is to gain a consensus on the most valuable interventions for older adult trauma care and whether these ought to be included in national clinical guidelines, based on the opinion of experts in trauma care across Australia. If you agree to participate, you will be asked to take part in an anonymous online survey, which will take place over two rounds. In first round of the survey, you will be asked their opinion on the merit of a range of interventions, classified into four categories: 1. Pre-hospital care, 2. In-hospital care, 3. Transition care, and 4. Education, and whether each intervention should be included in guidelines on trauma care of older adults. In the second round of the survey, you will be asked to rank interventions within the aforementioned categories. Completion of each round of the survey should take 20-30 minutes.

You will be asked to participate in an online survey, and your responses will be anonymous. You may choose to participate in either or both rounds of the survey. However, participating in both rounds of the survey would be most valuable.

Why were you invited for this research?

You are invited to participate in this research because you are a health care professional and/or trauma researcher. You were identified through the network of your professional organization as an eligible study participant.

Source of funding

No source of funding to disclose.

Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research

If you agree to participate in this study by replying via email, you will be sent an email by the research team to confirm your participation and to give you the opportunity to ask any question, and a link to provide consent, and to partake in the survey. You have you right to withdraw from the study at any stage.

Possible benefits and risks to participants

While taking part in the study is unlikely to be of direct benefit to you, the results may take us a step further towards the development of national guidelines on the management of trauma care in older adults. By comparing the value and applicability of the various interventions commonly used in treating older trauma patients, we can support clinicians selecting the most appropriate intervention in various clinical scenarios and settings.

Potential risks from participating to the survey are likely to be low, and consist of minimal discomfort or inconvenience. You have the right not to answer all questions, and to withdraw consent at any point. However, you will not be able to withdraw the survey data, as the survey form with be permanently de-identified once data is entered. Your responses will remain anonymous, and confidential.

Confidentiality

Recordings will be stored using unique study identifiers (USI).. Documents holding re-identification key will be stored securely and separately from the rest of the data. The results of the study will be reported in a de-identified aggregated manner to maintain confidentiality.

Storage of data

As a study participant, you will be assigned a USI. Only this number will be used to identify you in all study records. Your identity (e.g., your name or date of birth) will not be recorded for the study. Regulations in Australia require all research-related data to be kept for a minimum of 5 years. Study records will be kept for that period and may then be disposed of in line with contemporary data disposal systems at Monash University. The recordings will be stored as non-identifiable data in Monash secure servers and systems in secure, password-protected databases. All non-electronic data will be stored in a locked filing cabinet in a secure office.

Results

The results will form a component of a doctoral thesis, be published in academic journals, and presented at academic conferences.

Complaints

Should you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the project, you are welcome to contact the Executive Officer, Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC):

Executive Officer
Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC)
Room 111, Chancellery Building D,
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Thank you,

Dr Noha Ferrah