Participant information sheet HCPs

Increasing medication adherence among adults with atrial fibrillation: A digital health intervention feasibility study

You are invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide whether to take part it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully. Talk to others about the study if you wish. Contact me if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether you wish to take part.

What is the purpose of the study?
The aim of the study is to evaluate the effectiveness of a newly developed mobile app designed to help increase medication adherence and knowledge amongst those living with atrial fibrillation. This study has been designed to pilot the app and ensure that it functions as it should and is intuitive to use. All information gathered will be used to inform a larger multi-site trial to provide robust evidence for the use of the mobile app to support atrial fibrillation medication management.

Why have I been asked to take part?
We are interested in understanding the experiences of the healthcare professionals involved in recruiting patients to the intervention. You have been asked to take part because you work within one of the study recruitment sites and have had direct contact with the participants of the study. The study would benefit from your unique perspective on the delivery of the mobile app intervention.

Do I have to take part?
No, it is up to you to decide whether to take part. Your decision will not impact on whether your GP practice/cardiology clinic remains a recruitment site for the study. If you decide to take part, please keep this information sheet and return the signed the consent form to a.pearsons@napier.ac.uk. If you decide to take part, you are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason.

What will happen if I take part?
If you agree to participate, you will be contacted by an Edinburgh Napier University researcher. We will arrange a telephone interview to be conducted after the participants have finished the intervention (12 weeks) and will organise a time convenient to you. This interview will be recorded using an encrypted audio recording device and all information will be anonymised. If you decide to withdraw from the study, we will not try and persuade you to continue. Due to the study being a feasibility study it may be necessary to contact you for additional information that has not been included in the original study protocol.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

There will be no direct benefit to you from taking part in this study. The information gathered will be used to inform a larger multisite clinical trial.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

We do not foresee any disadvantages to taking part with the study however, if you agree to take part there will be a time commitment to the interview. We anticipate the interview will last 45 minutes but we will allocate an hour of time to ensure the interview is not rushed. We will organise this at a time convenient to you.

Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?
All personal identification information collected during the course of the research will be kept confidential and there are strict laws that safeguard your privacy at every stage. Your name and any other identifiable information will be removed from the data so that you cannot be recognised. Care will be taken to make sure that any data are non-identifiable if used in the presentation of findings.

What happens when the study is finished?
At the end of the research, the data you have provided will be anonymised and stored securely. These anonymised data may be made available to other researchers for further analysis once the results of the research have been published. This would only be after an official request, consideration of suitability for sharing, and subject to a data sharing agreement between Edinburgh Napier University and the researcher requesting the data. The data will be stored for at least 10 years.

What will happen to the results of the study?
The results of the study will be used in inform a larger multi-site trial which will run after the completion of this pilot study. Pilot trials are very important for ensuring the success of a larger trial therefore it is possible that this pilot study will also be written up as a report and the findings may be published in healthcare journals and presented at conferences. Data from withdrawn participants will be included unless explicitly asked to be removed by the participant. We will be unable to delete data from withdrawn participants if analysis has meant researchers are no longer able to ascertain who the data belongs to.

Who is organising the research and why?
The principal investigator organising the study is Professor Lis Neubeck, a Professor of Nursing at Edinburgh Napier University. Lis has a special interest in improving the lives of people with atrial fibrillation.

Who has reviewed the study?
All research in the NHS is looked at by an independent group of people called a Research Ethics Committee. A favourable ethical opinion for this study has been obtained from the South East Scotland REC 01.

If you have further questions about the study please contact:
Alice Pearsons on 0131 455 3392 or email a.pearsons@napier.ac.uk.

If you would like to discuss this study with an independent person please contact:
Anne Rowat, Lecturer in the School of Health and Social Care on 0131 455 5670 or email a.rowat@napier.ac.uk