Study to evaluate a smartphone application for raising diabetes risk awareness in urban India

Submission date	Recruitment status	Prospectively registered
16/05/2012	No longer recruiting	☐ Protocol
Registration date	Overall study status	Statistical analysis plan
31/05/2012	Completed	Results
Last Edited	Condition category	Individual participant data
30/11/2015	Nutritional, Metabolic, Endocrine	Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Diabetes is a lifelong condition that causes a person's blood sugar level to become too high. A large number of people in India do not realize they are at risk of developing diabetes or that they have the condition. A prototype smartphone application called D-Check has been designed to communicate personal diabetes risk and contains persuasive messages to motivate high-risk individuals to take action. The aim of this study is to assess whether D-Check has a beneficial educational and/or motivational effect for example on intentions to get a diabetes blood screening test.

Who can participate?

Healthy volunteers, aged 30-60, living in Mumbai or Chennai, who are at high risk of diabetes.

What does the study involve?

Participants complete questionnaires to assess diabetes general knowledge, beliefs, perceptions and motivation to take diabetes preventative action (i.e. go for a diabetes screening test, eat a healthy diet most of the time, take regular exercise). Two weeks later, all participants use a smartphone application at a test centre. Participants are randomly allocated into two groups. Half the participants use the D-Check application and the other half use a commercially available financial app. After using the apps, all participants again answer questions about their diabetes beliefs, perceptions and motivation to take preventative action. Two weeks later, participants receive a follow-up visit to assess diabetes general knowledge.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating? Not provided at time of registration.

Where is the study run from? Unilever Discover (UK).

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for? May to July 2012.

Who is funding the study? Unilever Discover (UK).

Who is the main contact?

- 1. Emma Bertenshaw
- 2. Dr.A.Ramachandran

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

Dr Emma Bertenshaw

Contact details

Unilever Discover Colworth Science Park Sharnbrook Bedford United Kingdom MK44 1LQ

Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

SKN-APP-0328

Study information

Scientific Title

Exploratory pilot study to evaluate a diabetes risk awareness smartphone application with high risk individuals in urban India

Study objectives

D-Check - a prototype diabetes risk smartphone application (app) - will change diabetes perceptions and motivation to engage in preventative behaviour amongst high risk individuals, compared to a control condition.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Unilever Independent Ethics Committee, Bangalore, India, 02/04/2012, ref: ETH2012_N02

Study design

Randomised parallel multi-centred single-blind controlled study

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Prevention

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Pre-Diabetes

Interventions

Interventional group: provision of a D-Check diabetes smartphone application in a controlled environment.

Control group: provision of a commercially available financial application in a controlled environment.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Applicable

Primary outcome(s)

- 1. Change in intention to engage in preventative action (i.e. blood screening, taking regular exercise and eating a healthy diet) from baseline to post intervention (two weeks later)
- 2. Change in diabetes risk perceptions and beliefs including susceptibility, perceived severity and perceived outcomes of taking diabetes preventative action, from baseline to post intervention
- 3. Change in Diabetes awareness & knowledge from baseline to follow-up (four weeks later)

Key secondary outcome(s))

- 1. Self-efficacy
- 2. Emotional response to the risk
- 3. Self-reported health information seeking and preventative behaviour
- 4. Qualitative appraisal of the app

Completion date

01/07/2012

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

- 1. Healthy volunteers
- 2. Female and male, between 30-60 years old
- 3. Living in Mumbai or Chennai
- 4. Regularly read in English
- 5. Have good vision
- 6. Use smartphone applications on a regular basis
- 7. At high risk of diabetes (defined by a risk score over 21)

Participant type(s)

Healthy volunteer

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

- 1. Diabetics
- 2. Had blood screened for diabetes or any other tests of diabetes status within the last year
- 3. Disability that impacts physical activity status or use of a mobile phone

Date of first enrolment

16/05/2012

Date of final enrolment

01/07/2012

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

India

Study participating centre Unilever Discover

Bedford United Kingdom MK44 1LQ

Sponsor information

Organisation

Unilever Discover (UK)

ROR

https://ror.org/05n8ah907

Funder(s)

Funder type

Industry

Funder Name

Unilever Discover (UK)

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

Study outputs

Output type Details Date created Date added Peer reviewed? Patient-facing?

Participant information sheet 11/11/2025 No Yes