The Delirium Observation Screening Scale (DOSS) study

Submission date	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	Prospectively registered		
13/02/2015		[X] Protocol		
Registration date	Overall study status	Statistical analysis plan		
12/03/2015	Completed	[X] Results		
Last Edited 09/04/2021	Condition category Other	[] Individual participant data		

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Delirium is a state of mental confusion that can happen if you become medically unwell. The aim of this study is to investigate whether a simple screening tool for delirium, which has been shown to be reliable in the detection of delirium in the hospital setting, might be useful for detecting delirium as part of routine care in (UK) care homes, and whether it can be used to assess delirium severity.

Who can participate?

All individuals aged over 65 resident in participating care homes

What does the study involve?

Participating care home residents from four care homes in Leeds/Bradford will be assessed daily for delirium with the Delirium Observation Screening Scale (DOSS). The diagnostic accuracy of the DOSS for the detection of delirium will be tested against the Confusion Assessment Method completed by trained research assistants. Data collection will occur over nine months.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

A reliable method of routine delirium detection in care homes may reduce the impact of an episode of delirium on individuals, their families, and care home staff, offering substantial benefits for the health economy and the wider NHS. Reliable detection of delirium in long-term care settings could form the basis for future delirium research and make delirium a feasible outcome measure for frail older people in this setting.

Where is the study run from? Bradford Royal Infirmary (UK)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for? February 2015 to April 2016

Who is funding the study? Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (UK)

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

Mr Satti Saggu

Contact details

Bradford Royal Infirmary Duckworth Lane Bradford West Yorkshire United Kingdom BD9 6RJ

Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

18279

Study information

Scientific Title

Investigation of the Delirium Observation Screening Scale (DOSS) for the routine detection of delirium in the Care Home Setting: the DOSS study

Study objectives

The aim of this study is to investigate whether a simple screening tool for delirium, that has been shown to be reliable in the detection of delirium in the hospital setting, might have utility in the detection of delirium as part of routine care in (UK) care homes, and whether it can be used to assess delirium severity.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

NRES Committee Yorkshire & The Humber - Leeds West, 31/10/2014, ref: 14/YH/1174

Study design

Non-randomised; Observational; Design type: Qualitative

Primary study design

Observational

Study type(s)

Screening

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Topic: Ageing; Subtopic: Ageing; Disease: All Ageing

Interventions

Participating care home residents from four care homes in Leeds/Bradford will be assessed daily for delirium with the DOSS. Diagnostic accuracy of the DOSS for the detection of delirium will be tested against the Confusion Assessment Method completed by trained research assistants. Data collection will occur over 9 months.

Intervention Type

Other

Primary outcome(s)

To determine how the DOSS performs as a screening instrument for delirium when administered by care home staff as part of routine care in UK care homes in comparison to the research standard the CAM (Confusion Assessment Method)

Key secondary outcome(s))

- 1. To investigate the feasibility of routine daily administration of a delirium screening tool by care home staff in the long-term care setting
- 2. To determine whether the DOSS may be used as a measure of delirium severity
- 3. To examine, through item response theory, the psychometric properties and scalability of the 25-item DOSS and to determine whether a shorter, care home specific DOSS may be identified

Completion date

29/04/2016

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

All individuals aged over 65 resident in participating care homes Target Gender: Male & Female; Lower Age Limit 65 years

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Senior

Sex

ΔII

Total final enrolment

216

Key exclusion criteria

- 1. Residents approaching end of life (within three months) or in receipt of palliative care (as advised by care home staff)
- 2. Residents unwilling to provide informed consent
- 3. Residents lacking capacity to consent to recruitment, for whom a consultee declaration for participation cannot be obtained
- 4. Residents with an advance decision or statement against participation in research

Date of first enrolment

23/02/2015

Date of final enrolment

15/05/2015

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre Bradford Royal Infirmary

Duckworth Lane Bradford United Kingdom BD9 6RJ

Sponsor information

Organisation

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

ROR

https://ror.org/05gekvn04

Funder(s)

Funder type

Government

Funder Name

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study is not expected to be made available because the trialists do not have participant consent for the sharing of the data outside the research team, and receiving the regulatory approvals and retrospective consent would be difficult with this particular cohort of patients

IPD sharing plan summary

Not expected to be made available

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article		01/01/2018	09/04/2021	Yes	No
Protocol article	protocol	20/06/2016		Yes	No
HRA research summary			28/06/2023		No
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes