Effectiveness of a community based weight management programme in North West England

Submission date	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	Prospectively registered		
24/08/2018		∐ Protocol		
Registration date	Overall study status	Statistical analysis plan		
05/09/2018	Completed	Results		
Last Edited	Condition category	Individual participant data		
21/05/2020	Nutritional, Metabolic, Endocrine	Record updated in last year		

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

There is considerable research showing that being overweight or obese can lead to further health problems. In terms of helping people manage their weight, research also shows that local weight loss programmes, like Slimming World, can help people achieve their short and long-term weight loss goals. This study aims to identify whether the community weight loss programme in Wigan Borough is effective in helping people to lose weight.

Who can participate?

People aged over 16 who are overweight and obese who either live in Wigan or are registered with a Wigan Borough GP

What does the study involve?

Participants will be asked to attend a Slimming World class and an accompanying exercise lesson every week for 12 weeks. The programme is free of charge for participants for the 12 weeks and participants are expected to attend every session if they can, to help them achieve their weight loss goals. After 12 weeks, participants will be invited to continue with Slimming World classes (free of charge if they achieve their goal weight or £4 per session if not), along with attending the exercise support sessions at a reduced cost. Participants will have their weight measured before the study, at the end of the 12 week period, and 1 year following this.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating in this study?

The possible benefits to participants taking part in this study include weight loss, and the individual benefits of physical activity even if no weight loss occurs, including a reduction in blood pressure and improved blood choelsterol. The possible risks of participating in this study include potential psychological harm through being classified as obese and potential disappointment about not losing weight. Additionally, physical activity can lead to musculoskeletal injury and cardiac events, but this risk is minimal, as all participants with 'at risk' conditions will have had a GP approved exercise referral.

Where is the study run from?
Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles, Wigan (UK)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for? June 2008 to August 2018

Who is funding the study? University of Chester (UK)

Who is the main contact? Orla Flannery o.flannery@chester.ac.uk

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

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Additional identifiers

Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)

N/A

ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)

N/A

Protocol serial number

N/A

Study information

Scientific Title

Three and twelve-month body mass outcomes after attendance at a community-based weight management intervention in North West England

Acronym

N/A

Study objectives

Null hypothesis: There is no change in weight loss in the short term (3 months) or long term (12 months) amongst completers of a 3 month community based weight management programme.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Clinical Sciences Research Ethics Committee, University of Chester, 18/05/2016, Reference: 1166/16/NC/CSN

Study design

Interventional non-randomised retrospective analysis

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Overweight and obesity

Interventions

This study was a retrospective analysis of a multi-component tier 2 community weight management (CWM) service for adults commissioned locally as part of care pathway (LWFG) between January 2009 and November 2013. The CWM service was commissioned to provide a free 2 hour multi-component evidence-based programme over twelve weeks in line with NICE guidance (2014) offering support and advice around healthy eating, physical activity and behaviour change, as well as a 45 minute exercise session. The service was provided by Wigan Council's leisure trust, Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles (formerly Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust) working in partnership with Slimming World.

Eligible participants were triaged to the service by the separately commissioned telephone access hub. The Wigan CWM service was operated as a rolling programme with 56 weekly community-based sessions throughout the borough, giving new participants the opportunity to immediately book a place on a programme that suited them best in terms of both time and location. Participants were requested to attend every session of the Slimming World class and exercise component (provided by Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles). Those participants that attended at least 9 out of the 12 combined sessions were identified as a completer (arrangements could be made, in the event of illness or a planned holiday, to 'authorise' agreed absences, and to attend later sessions).

After 12 weeks, participants were invited to continue with Slimming World classes (free of charge if goal weight was achieved, or £4 per session if not) and to attend the exercise support sessions with Inspiring healthy lifestyles at a reduced cost. Inspiring healthy lifestyles and Slimming World organised an annual fashion show event with previous successful participants to celebrate and inspire further success.

Participants were measured at baseline and followed up at 3 and 12 months to report on key outcomes. There was no control group as part of this study.

Intervention Type

Behavioural

Primary outcome(s)

Body weight in kg, assessed using weighing scales at the baseline, after 12 weeks, and 1 year post-intervention completion

Key secondary outcome(s))

Participants achieving 5% weight loss at 1 year post-intervention, assessed as per primary outcome measure

Completion date

01/08/2018

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

- 1. Aged 17 years or older
- 2. Overweight or obese
- 3. Self-referred to an access hub
- 4. One of the following:
- 4.1. BMI 25-39.9 kg/m² with or without co-morbidities
- 4.2. BMI 40-44.9 kg/m² without co-morbidities
- 5. Any of the following:
- 5.1. Living in Wigan borough
- 5.2. Registered with a local GP in the Wigan borough
- 5.3. Working within the Wigan borough

Participant type(s)

Other

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

- 1. Serious uncontrolled disease i.e. angina, diabetes, asthma, COPD, heart failure
- 2. Recent complicated myocardial infarction and/or awaiting further investigation
- 3. Uncontrolled arrhythmia that compromises cardiac function
- 4. Blood pressure at rest above 180 mg systolic and 100 mg diastolic
- 5. Neuromuscular or rheumatoid disorders that are exacerbated by exercise
- 6. Unstable psychiatric disorder
- 7. Acute infection
- 8. Not medically fit to take part in 12 weeks of physical activity in doctor's opinion
- 9. Chronic back pain for over 6 months without a previous physiotherapy assessment
- 10. Eating disorder

Date of first enrolment

01/01/2009

Date of final enrolment

30/11/2013

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre
Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles (previously Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust)
Robin Park Sports Centre,
Loire Drive,
WIGAN

United Kingdom WN5 0UL

Sponsor information

Organisation

University of Chester

ROR

https://ror.org/01drpwb22

Funder(s)

Funder type

Not defined

Funder Name

University of Chester

Alternative Name(s)

Funding Body Type

Private sector organisation

Funding Body Subtype

Universities (academic only)

Location

United Kingdom

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and analysed during the current study will be available upon request from Orla Flannery, o.flannery@chester.ac.uk, data is available as an SPSS file on request subject to the approval of a data sharing agreement). All data is anonymised and ethical approval was obtained.

IPD sharing plan summary

Available on request

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes
Study website	Study website	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes