

# Advice on welfare rights for disadvantaged older people recruited via primary health care

<b>Submission date</b> 14/02/2012	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 14/02/2012	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 09/04/2019	<b>Condition category</b> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

**Study website**  
<http://www.fuse.ac.uk/group.php?gid=157&pid=2532>

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

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## Additional identifiers

**EudraCT/CTIS number**

**IRAS number**

**ClinicalTrials.gov number**

## Secondary identifying numbers

11415

# Study information

## Scientific Title

Advice on welfare rights for disadvantaged older people recruited via primary health care

## Study objectives

Older people in poor health are more likely to need extra money, aids and adaptations to allow them to stay in their homes, yet many do not claim the benefits to which they are entitled. This study will evaluate the effects on health and well-being of a welfare rights advice service provided by social services departments in North East England for low income older people, who we will identify from general practices.

More details can be found at [http://www.phr.nihr.ac.uk/funded\\_projects/09\\_3009\\_02.asp](http://www.phr.nihr.ac.uk/funded_projects/09_3009_02.asp)

## Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

## Ethics approval(s)

NHS National Research Ethics Service NRES Committee South West - Exeter, ref: 11/SW/0260

## Study design

Randomised interventional trial

## Primary study design

Interventional

## Secondary study design

Randomised controlled trial

## Study setting(s)

Hospital

## Study type(s)

Quality of life

## Participant information sheet

Not available in web format, please use the contact details below to request a patient information sheet

## Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Primary Care Research Network for England

## Interventions

750 older people who volunteer to take part will be assigned, by chance, to one of two groups. The 375 older people in one group will be given an appointment with a welfare rights advisor within 2 weeks in their own home, during which they will receive a full benefit assessment and help with claiming benefits and other entitlements. Advisors will keep in touch with them until

they no longer need help. The 375 older people in the other group will receive exactly the same help and advice 24 months later and receive usual care in the meantime. Older people in both groups will be interviewed at the outset and after 24 months to find out whether the service has had beneficial or other effects and whether it is acceptable. We will also assess whether the service offers good value for money and is acceptable to professionals. Older people in both groups will be free to seek advice independently or to leave the study at any time.

Wait list control, 'Usual care', including voluntary access to available welfare rights services until 24 months follow up, when the trial intervention will be offered.

Welfare advice, Welfare advice consultations and active assistance with benefit claims delivered in participants' own homes by a trained welfare rights advisor (WRA)

### **Intervention Type**

Other

### **Phase**

Not Applicable

### **Primary outcome measure**

Quality of life (CASP 19) measured at baseline, 12 months, 24 months

### **Secondary outcome measures**

1. Health status (Euroqol EQ5D)
2. Functional ability (ADLs/IADLs)
3. Independence (living independently, with carer support, in own home or a relations, care home or hospital)
4. Social support/participation (Social Support Questionnaire)
5. Depression (PHQ-9)
6. Mortality
7. Key health related behaviours (diet, physical activity, alcohol, smoking)
8. Perceived financial well-being (Affordability Index)
9. Fuel poverty (achievement of household temperature sufficient to maintain health for expenditure of <10% of household income).

### **Overall study start date**

01/12/2011

### **Completion date**

31/05/2015

## **Eligibility**

### **Key inclusion criteria**

1. Volunteer men and women registered with a General Practice in one of 10 social services areas (1 individual per household )
2. Aged 60 years and over
3. Providing informed consent

### **Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Age group**

Adult

**Sex**

Both

**Target number of participants**

UK Sample Size: 750

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Patients resident in nursing homes or hospitals at the time of identification
2. Diagnosed terminal illness
3. By virtue of current physical/mental health cannot participate in the research
4. Lack of fluency in written and spoken English

**Date of first enrolment**

01/12/2011

**Date of final enrolment**

31/05/2015

## **Locations**

**Countries of recruitment**

England

United Kingdom

**Study participating centre**

Newcastle University

Newcastle upon Tyne

United Kingdom

NE2 4AX

## **Sponsor information**

**Organisation**

NHS North of Tyne (UK)

**Sponsor details**

Bevan House

1 Esh Plaza

Sir Bobby Robson Way

Great Park  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
England  
United Kingdom  
NE13 9BA  
+44 (0)191 217 2500  
contactus@northoftyne.nhs.uk

**Sponsor type**

Hospital/treatment centre

**Website**

<http://www.northoftyne.nhs.uk/>

## Funder(s)

**Funder type**

Government

**Funder Name**

NIHR Public Health Research Programme (UK) ref: PHR 09/3009/02

## Results and Publications

**Publication and dissemination plan**

Not provided at time of registration

**Intention to publish date**

31/12/2018

**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?
<a href="#">Protocol article</a>	study protocol	28/05/2012		Yes	No
<a href="#">Funder report results</a>	results	01/01/2019		No	No
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	10/01/2019		Yes	No