

Does intensive feeding improve nutritional status and outcome in acutely ill older in-patients?

Submission date 23/01/2004	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 23/01/2004	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 12/01/2010	Condition category Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

RDC00891

Study information

Scientific Title

Study objectives

Malnutrition has been estimated to cost the NHS £220 million a year because malnourished patients have longer hospital stays and increased morbidity. Malnutrition is particularly common in the elderly. Most intervention studies in this group have used liquid supplements but the results have been disappointing; even under surveillance, ill older patients often do not take enough supplement to improve their nutritional status. In routine clinical practice the situation is even worse because poor nutrition is often not recognised and compliance with supplements is even lower. Another approach is needed. This study examines whether health care assistants trained to provide support with all aspects of feeding can make a significant impact on nutritional intake and whether this improves outcome. The study is designed to determine: Does feeding support increase nutritional intake, lead to measurable changes in nutritional status (body mass index, arm circumference, serum albumin) and lead to improved outcome (infection rate, Barthel score, length of stay, readmission rate)?

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Not provided at time of registration

Study design

Randomised controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Other

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Acute illness

Interventions

1. Feeding support from health care assistants trained to provide support with all aspects of feeding
2. Standard care

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Specified

Primary outcome(s)

The study is designed to see whether feeding support improves the nutritional status of patients to an extent it will have a positive day to day effect on function, the time patients require to become medically fit for discharge and length of stay.

Key secondary outcome(s)

Not provided at time of registration

Completion date

01/06/2000

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

All patients over 65 admitted acutely to Medicine for the Elderly wards. Sample is estimate to be 750 people in each group.

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Senior

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

1. Patients unable to take food orally (e.g. unconscious, severe dysphagia)
2. Not expected to survive the current admission
3. Patients with a body mass index (BMI) greater or equal to 25

Date of first enrolment

01/12/1997

Date of final enrolment

01/06/2000

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

Hammersmith Hospital NHS Trust

London

United Kingdom

W12 0HS

Sponsor information

Organisation

NHS R&D Regional Programme Register - Department of Health (UK)

Funder(s)

Funder type

Government

Funder Name

NHS Executive London (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?
Results article	results	01/02/2004		Yes	No