

Postoperative continuous telemonitoring at the surgical ward

Submission date 11/07/2023	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 03/11/2023	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 17/12/2025	Condition category Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Telemonitoring, a sub-category of eHealth, may play a role in the early detection of postoperative deterioration, lower workload for nurses and facilitate the migration of care towards home. Wearable sensors are available for the continuous monitoring of vital signs, including skin temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate, blood oxygenation, and activity parameters. It is still unknown, however, how to incorporate continuous telemonitoring in the perioperative trajectory of surgical patients. As a pilot for further trials, the aim of this study is to assess the feasibility and applicability of telemonitoring by continuous monitoring of vital signs and physical activity of patients at the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU) and a surgical ward.

Who can participate?

Patients aged 18 years or older admitted to the surgical ward and planned for surgery with an expected postoperative stay of 48 hours

What does the study involve?

During a period of 3 months patients receive standard care and wear two wearable sensors for continuous monitoring. No medical decisions will be made using the data collected by the telemonitoring devices.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

The burden of this study is low. Patients receive extra monitoring by wearing two sensors during their postoperative hospital stay. Patients are not expected to experience physical, psychological or mental strain due to the monitoring. All measurements are safe and non-invasive.

Where is the study run from?

University Medical Center Groningen (Netherlands)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

June 2021 to December 2025

Who is funding the study?
Stichting Lijf & Leven (Netherlands)

Who is the main contact?
1. Rianne van Melzen, r.van.melzen@umcg.nl
2. Marjolein Haveman, m.e.haveman@umcg.nl
3. Prof. Dr. Jean-Paul de Vries

Contact information

Type(s)
Scientific

Contact name
Mrs Rianne van Melzen

ORCID ID
<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0919-6532>

Contact details
Hanzeplein 1
Groningen
Netherlands
9713 GZ
+31 (0)625651391
r.van.melzen@umcg.nl

Type(s)
Scientific

Contact name
Dr Marjolein Haveman

ORCID ID
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6030-3172>

Contact details
Hanzeplein 1
Groningen
Netherlands
9713 GZ
+31 (0)6 25 64 68 32
m.e.haveman@umcg.nl

Additional identifiers

Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)
Nil known

ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)

Nil known

Protocol serial number

202000231

Study information

Scientific Title

Postoperative continuous telemonitoring; an observational study

Acronym

TRUST

Study objectives

Telemonitoring may play a role in the early detection of postoperative deterioration, lower workload for nurses and facilitate the migration of care towards home. Wearable biosensors are available for continuous monitoring of vital signs, including temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate, blood oxygenation, and activity parameters. It is still unknown, however, how to incorporate continuous telemonitoring in the perioperative trajectory of surgical patients. The aim of this prospective, observational trial is to assess the feasibility and applicability of telemonitoring by continuous monitoring of vital signs and physical activity of patients at the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU) and a surgical ward.

Ethics approval required

Ethics approval required

Ethics approval(s)

approved 11/11/2021, Ethical Committee University Medical Center Groningen (Hanzeplein 1, Groningen, 9713 GZ, Netherlands; +31 (0)6 55 25 76 00; nwmoloket@umcg.nl), ref: 202000231, METc nr. 2021/440

Study design

Single-center observational cohort study

Primary study design

Observational

Study type(s)

Other

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Patients admitted to the surgical ward after surgery

Interventions

Patients receive standard care, and in addition will be wearing two wearable sensors for continuous monitoring of heart rate, respiratory rate, temperature and oxygen saturation. No medical decisions will be made using data collected by the wearable sensors in this trial. Patients wear the sensors during their postoperative hospital stay for up to 7 days.

1. The VitalPatch enabling (non-invasive) ECG-based measurements of heart rate (variability), respiration rate, oxygen saturation, body temperature, fall detection and physical activity (step count, and type of activity) at a frequency of once per second.
2. The Masimo Radius PPG sensor enabling (non-invasive) saturation-based measurement of heart rate, respiration rate, body temperature, and oxygen saturation at a frequency of once per minute.

Intervention Type

Device

Phase

Not Applicable

Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)

VitalPatch, Masimo Radius PPG sensor

Primary outcome(s)

Feasibility for each sensor during the study period (stay at the surgical ward for a maximum of 7 days) assessed by the following measures:

1. Participation rate: number of patients willing to participate/complete the study protocol
2. Acceptability in terms of satisfaction about the logistics and wearing the sensor, measured by experiences of patients collected using a questionnaire before discharge and at the end of the study
3. Practicality by aspects of (tele)monitoring that involve the actual experience:
 - 3.1. Compliance with the amount of days/hours that the sensor is worn
 - 3.2. Time spent by nurses concerning telemonitoring versus vital parameter measurements in current practice, measured through daily evaluation form and by recording the time needed for intermittent measurements of vital signs manually
 - 3.3. Experiences and recommendations of nurses, assessed with evaluation forms and interviews
 - 3.4. Data quality: missing data, artefacts and reasons for data losses

Key secondary outcome(s)

Applicability (for each sensor) during the study period (stay at the surgical ward for a maximum of 7 days):

1. Continuous data stream of vital functions: heart rate, saturation, respiration rate, body temperature, daily step count, type of activity and fall detection
2. Measurements of vital signs in usual care from the electronic medical record
3. Comparison of the characteristics and quality from both wearable sensors will take place for the following outcomes: participation rate, acceptability, practicality, data quality and continuous data stream of vital functions
4. The following clinical and surgical data will be obtained via electronic medical records: age, gender, primary diagnosis, comorbidities, surgery date, procedure type, length of hospital stay, reported early warning scores, incidence and moments of postoperative complication (including falling), treatment, and incidence, moment and duration of unplanned readmission within 30 days after surgery.

Completion date

31/12/2025

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Patients admitted to the surgical ward
2. Planned for surgery
3. 18 years or older
4. Expected postoperative stay of 48 hours

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Mixed

Lower age limit

18 years

Upper age limit

99 years

Sex

All

Total final enrolment

124

Key exclusion criteria

1. Mentally incapable of participation
2. Unable to wear wearable devices

Date of first enrolment

01/04/2022

Date of final enrolment

01/07/2023

Locations**Countries of recruitment**

Netherlands

Study participating centre

University Medical Center Groningen

Hanzeplein 1

Groningen

Netherlands

9713 GZ

Sponsor information

Organisation

University Medical Center Groningen

ROR

<https://ror.org/03cv38k47>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Charity

Funder Name

Stichting Lijf en Leven

Alternative Name(s)

Lijf en Leven Foundation, Stichting Lijf & Leven

Funding Body Type

Private sector organisation

Funding Body Subtype

Trusts, charities, foundations (both public and private)

Location

Netherlands

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study will be available upon request from R. van Melzen (r.van.melzen@umcg.nl).

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

