

Feasibility of a brief weight loss intervention for women following childbirth, delivered within the national child immunisation programme

Submission date 05/08/2015	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
Registration date 28/08/2015	Overall study status Completed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Last Edited 08/06/2021	Condition category Nutritional, Metabolic, Endocrine	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
		<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

It has been found that one year after giving birth up to 25% of women keep more than 4kg of the weight that they have gained during their pregnancy. This excess weight can increase the risk of developing diseases later in life. It has been suggested that additional interventions (i.e. programmes or treatments) can be included as part of existing public health appointments to tackle this issue for women after having a baby very cheaply. This study aims to include an intervention for women who have gained weight during their pregnancy into the national child immunisation programme, in order to test whether or not women feel this would be an appropriate measure to take and would help them to lose weight after having had their baby.

Who can participate?

Women who have given birth within the last four and eight weeks with a BMI of over 25kg/m², and have not yet attended their first child immunisation visit.

What does the study involve?

Participants who have volunteered for the study are visited at home to measure their weight and gather personal information. They are then randomly allocated into one of two groups. All women are asked to weigh themselves weekly and record this on a record card attached the child's 'red book' and aim for 0.5-1kg weight loss per week. Women in the first group are provided with a leaflet on healthy living, but otherwise no additional advice or assistance. For women in the second group, nurses make recommendations for healthier lifestyle choices and they are also advised to use an online weight loss programme. At each child immunisation (2, 3, 4 months old), nurses weigh the women to check their progress. A final weight measurement is then taken three months after women start the study. Women and nurses in the trial are then interviewed for feedback about what they think of the intervention.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

The potential benefits of participating in the study include weight loss and improved self-

management of weight. There are no potential risks of the intervention to individual participants. However, we will be monitoring immunisation and breastfeeding rates to investigate if the intervention has an impact on these behaviours.

Where is the study run from?
University of Birmingham (UK)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?
January 2016 to February 2019 (as of 22/10/2018)

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

Who is the main contact?
Ms Janice Ferguson
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Contact information

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Public

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

N/A

Study information

Scientific Title

Feasibility and acceptability of a routine weight management intervention for postnatal women embedded within the national child immunisation programme

Acronym

PIMMS

Study objectives

A brief routine weight management intervention for women in the postnatal period that promotes self-management through self-monitoring and signposting to an online weight management programme and is embedded within the child immunisation programme may be feasible and acceptable both to patients and health care professionals.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

West Midlands- Black Country Research Ethics Committee, 17/02/2016, ref: 15/WM/0445

Study design

Single-centre cluster feasibility randomised controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Postnatal weight gain and obesity

Interventions

Intervention Group: The intervention is embedded within pre-existing immunisation contacts, when babies are two, three and four months old. The intervention involves nurses encouraging women in the postnatal period to make healthier lifestyle choices through self-monitoring of weight and signposting to a female specific online weight management programme.

Comparison Group: Women will receive a healthy lifestyle leaflet and no other intervention.

Women will be asked to weigh themselves weekly and record this on a record card attached to the child's red book, with a goal of losing 0.5kg per week. The practice nurse will weigh the women at each child immunisation to assess their progress against their weight loss goal. Follow-up of weight will be three months after randomisation. Semi-structured interviews with both

participants and nurses will be carried out at the end of the trial to obtain their views of the intervention.

Intervention Type

Behavioural

Primary outcome(s)

Feasibility and acceptability of the intervention

Key secondary outcome(s)

1. Mean difference in weight change between groups
2. Breastfeeding rates
3. Immunisation rates
4. Recruitment rate
5. Adherence to intervention
6. Self-reported physical activity
7. Contamination rate
8. Diet quality
9. Body image
10. Depression scores

Completion date

28/02/2019

Eligibility**Key inclusion criteria**

1. Women who have given birth between four and eight weeks ago
2. Have not yet attend the first immunisation visit
3. Aged 18 or over
4. BMI 25kg/m² or more
5. Considered suitable to participate by their GP

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Lower age limit

18 years

Sex

Female

Total final enrolment

28

Key exclusion criteria

1. Dependency on insulin
2. Using illicit drugs or alcohol
3. Experiencing serious mental health difficulties (e.g. postnatal psychosis) or known history of eating disorders
4. Mothers in contact with social services because of concerns relating to safeguarding and/or domestic violence
5. Mothers whose babies have been removed from their care at birth
6. Mothers whose babies have died

Date of first enrolment

01/01/2016

Date of final enrolment

01/07/2016

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

School of Health and Population Sciences

University of Birmingham

Edgbaston

Birmingham

United Kingdom

B152TT

Sponsor information

Organisation

University of Birmingham

ROR

<https://ror.org/03angcq70>

Funder(s)

Funder type

University/education

Funder Name

University Of Birmingham

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 are available upon request from Professor Amanda Daley, A.Daley@lboro.ac.uk, on reasonable request. Access to anonymised data may be granted following review of the request. Exclusive use will be retained until the publication of major outputs.

IPD sharing plan summary

Available on request

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article		01/12/2020	08/06/2021	Yes	No
Protocol article		16/02/2020	08/06/2021	Yes	No
HRA research summary			28/06/2023	No	No
Study website	Study website	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes