

Promoting seasonal influenza vaccination among community-dwelling older adults

Submission date 20/10/2024	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 21/10/2024	Overall study status Ongoing	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 12/02/2026	Condition category Infections and Infestations	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Older adults aged ≥ 65 years bear a disproportionate burden of influenza. Although free seasonal influenza vaccination (SIV) is provided, the vaccination rate among community-dwelling older adults in Hong Kong remains suboptimal. This study aims to combine narratives and implementation intentions to improve SIV promotion.

Who can participate?

Senior adults aged ≥ 65 years who currently living in the community, and have not received SIV in the current season or made any appointment for SIV

What does the study involve?

A three-arm study is proposed to examine the effects of using a WhatsApp-based intervention combining narratives and implementation intentions in increasing the uptake of SIV in community-dwelling older adults, compared to two control conditions involving only narrative messages or topic-matched didactic messages.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

1. Benefits: Participants will learn more about influenza prevention and may engage in SIV and prevent themselves from influenza infection as a result. They will receive supermarket coupons as compensation for their participation.

2. Risks: There are no known risks associated with participating in this study. Completing the intervention and the evaluation surveys may cause fatigue among some participants.

Where is the study run from?

This study is managed by the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

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

January 2024 to May 2027

Who is funding the study?

The General Research Fund of the Hong Kong Research Grants Council.

Who is the main contact?

Dr. Meiqi Xin, meiqi.xin@polyu.edu.hk

Contact information

Type(s)

Public, Scientific, Principal investigator

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

15601623

Study information

Scientific Title

Combining biographical narratives and implementation intentions to promote seasonal influenza vaccination among community-dwelling older adults: a randomized controlled trial

Acronym

SILVER

Study objectives

Hypothesis 1: The BNII Group (an integrated intervention combining biographical narratives and implementation intentions) will have a higher influenza vaccination rate than the BN (a control condition involving only biographical narratives) Group, who will have a higher influenza vaccination rate than the DD Group (a control condition involving only didactic messages).

Hypothesis 2: The BNII and BN Groups will have higher attitudes, injunctive norms, perceived behavioral control, self-efficacy, and behavioral intention than the DD Group.

Hypothesis 3: The efficacy of BNII and BN, relative to DD, will be mediated through reduced resistance to persuasion.

Ethics approval required

Ethics approval required

Ethics approval(s)

approved 17/10/2024, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Institutional Review Board (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong, 0000, Hong Kong; +852 2766 4831; benjamin.yee@polyu.edu.hk), ref: HSEARS20230308010-02

Study design

Three-arm randomized controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Prevention

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Prevention of seasonal influenza in community-dwelling older adults

Interventions

Community-dwelling older adults will be randomly allocated to three groups: (1) the BNII Group will receive an integrated intervention comprising biographical narrative messages and a complementary implementation intentions intervention (an intervention condition); (2) the BN Group will receive only biographical narrative messages (a control condition); (3) the DD Group will receive only didactic messages (a control condition). For all three groups, relevant intervention content will be delivered through instant messaging (WhatsApp). The intervention will last for 4-6 weeks.

Intervention Type

Behavioural

Primary outcome(s)

The uptake of seasonal influenza vaccination will be measured using a survey three months after the intervention

Key secondary outcome(s)

Perceptions of seasonal influenza vaccination, including attitudes, injunctive norms, perceived behavioral control, self-efficacy, and behavioral intention, measured using a structured questionnaire at baseline, immediately after the intervention, and three months after the intervention

Completion date

30/05/2027

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Aged ≥ 65 years
2. Currently living in the community
3. Not received seasonal influenza vaccination (SIV) in the current season or made any appointment for SIV
4. Regularly use a smartphone (at least once a week)
5. Residing in Hong Kong in the future 6 months
6. Being able to read Chinese

Participant type(s)

Population, Resident

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Senior

Lower age limit

65 years

Upper age limit

100 years

Sex

All

Total final enrolment

600

Key exclusion criteria

1. Not eligible for SIV according to official guidelines (e.g., a history of severe hypersensitivity to a previous dose of SIV or relevant components)
2. Having taken up SIV annually in the past 3 years
3. Not having the mental or cognitive capacity to take part in the study

Date of first enrolment

24/10/2024

Date of final enrolment

30/12/2025

Locations**Countries of recruitment**

Hong Kong

Study participating centre

Department of Rehabilitation Sciences of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
5/F, Core S, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hung Hom, Kowloon
Hong Kong
Hong Kong
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Sponsor information

Organisation

University Grants Committee

ROR

<https://ror.org/00djwmt25>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Research council

Funder Name

General Research Fund of the Hong Kong Research Grants Council

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 Dr. Meiqi XIN (meiqi.xin@polyu.edu.hk)

IPD sharing plan summary

Available on request