

# Promoting seasonal influenza vaccination among community-dwelling older adults

<b>Submission date</b> 20/10/2024	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 21/10/2024	<b>Overall study status</b> Ongoing	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 12/02/2026	<b>Condition category</b> 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  $\geq 65$  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  $\geq 65$  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

### Contact name

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## Additional identifiers

### Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)

Nil known

### 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  $\geq 65$  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