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Optimising Fire and Rescue Service “Safe & Well” visits to support detection and sign-posting for mental health problems in older adults

Submission date
12/04/2022

Recruitment status
No longer recruiting

Registration date
26/04/2022

Overall study status
Completed

Last Edited
28/06/2024

Condition category
Mental and Behavioural Disorders

[ ] Prospectively registered
[X] Protocol
[ ] Statistical analysis plan
[X] Results
[ ] Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims:
Mental ill-health is a leading cause of disability worldwide. One-in-four older adults (defined here as 60 years of age and over) experience symptoms of mental ill-health. Fewer than one-in-six older adults consult a healthcare professional about their symptoms of a mental health problem.
The proposed research aims to examine whether and how Fire and Rescue Service's (FRS) Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) can be optimized to include detection and signposting for mental health problems (anxiety and depression) in older people.
The study aims to explore the current delivery model and content of fire prevention home visits in Staffordshire and to examine the broad-level acceptability of plans to extend fire prevention home visits to include mental health checks and sign-posting. The study will develop, through consensus, resources to support delivery of the extended fire prevention home visits, including a new schedule of events and training materials, and refine a theoretical framework to explain the different components of the extended fire prevention home visits, how they would fit together, and key contextual factors.
The study team will be working closely with Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) and all observation and interviews will take place in Staffordshire.

Who can participate and what does the study involve?:
The study will recruit FRS staff to join three focus groups to understand the role they play in delivering the HFSV and to capture the views on the acceptability of expanding visits to include mental health. Here, the study team will identify any training needs and other preparation required.
Through the SFRS we will recruit older adults and will observe the HFSVs to understand how the visits work. Interviews will be conducted after the observation to capture older adults' views on the acceptability of expanding visits to include mental health.
We will recruit health and social care providers (eg. social workers, GPs, psychologists, mental health support workers) to explore the acceptability of extending the FRS role into mental

health, barriers and facilitators relating to integrated and collaborative working, local service infrastructure, and feasibility of implementation in the future.

What are the possible benefits and risk of participating?:
We do not expect participation to carry any risk. Information that is provided could inform healthcare service design, which could benefit others to access the care they need.

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?:
From February 2022 to May 2023.

Who is funding the study?:
Keele University (UK), National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) (UK), and the Midlands Partnership Foundation Trust (UK)

Who is the main contact?:
Dr Tom Kingstone, t.kingstone@keele.ac.uk

Contact information

Type(s)
Principal investigator

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Additional identifiers

National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)
201967

Study information

Scientific Title
The FIRESIDE Study: Optimising Fire and Rescue Service “Safe & Well” visits to support detection and sign-posting for mental health problems in older adults

Acronym

FIRESIDE

Study objectives
To examine whether and how fire prevention home visits can be optimized to include detection and signposting for mental health problems (anxiety and depression) in older people. The following objectives have been set:
1. To explore the current delivery model and content of fire prevention home visits in Staffordshire
2. To examine the broad-level acceptability of plans to extend fire prevention home visits to include mental health checks and sign-posting
3. To develop, through consensus, resources to support the delivery of the extended fire prevention home visits, including a new schedule of events and training materials
4. To refine a theoretical framework to explain the different components of the extended fire prevention home visits, how they would fit together, and key contextual factors

Ethics approval required
Ethics approval required

Ethics approval(s)
Approved 21/10/2021, Keele University Research Ethics Committee (Keele University, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, ST5 5BG, United Kingdom; +44 (0)1782 733 371; research.governance@keele.ac.uk), ref: MH210200

Primary study design
Observational

Study design
Single-centre multi-method observational qualitative study

Study type(s)
Quality of life

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Anxiety and depression in older adults

Interventions
Current interventions as of 04/01/2023:

The study will observe how non-traditional providers of care may be able to support older adults in the identification and early detection of older adults through the Fire and Rescue Service's (FRS) Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV). The study will use a multi-method approach, including four focus groups with FRS personnel who deliver HFSV, up to six interviews with FRS senior managers, 20 observations of HFSV with older adults, up to 20 interviews with older adults, and up to 20 interviews with health and social care persons (including but not limited to GPs, social workers, mental health support workers).

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Previous interventions:

The study will observe how non-traditional providers of care may be able to support older adults in the identification and early detection of older adults through the Fire and Rescue Service's (FRS) Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV). The study will use a multi-method approach, including three focus groups with FRS personnel who deliver HFSV, up to six interviews of FRS trainers and prevention leads, 20 observations of HFSV with older adults, up to 20 interviews with older adults, and up to 20 interviews with health and social care persons (including but not limited to GPs, social workers, mental health support workers).

Intervention Type
Other

Primary outcome(s)
Exploring the current delivery model and content of fire prevention home visits in Staffordshire using non-participant observations of Home Fire Safety Visits recorded as field notes and thematically analysed at a single timepoint

Key secondary outcome(s)
Acceptability of plans to extend fire prevention home visits to include mental health checks and sign-posting measured using Semi-structured interviews with FRS staff, FRS managers, older adults, and health and social care stakeholders at a single timepoint

Completion date
14/05/2023

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
Older adults participating in observations and interviews:
1. Aged ≥60 years
2. Living in the community
3. Capacity to provide consent (i.e. individual can provide a suitable explanation of the purpose of the home visit when asked)
4. English-speaking
5. To participate in an interview the individual will also need to have received a fire prevention home visit in the previous 6 months

Fire and Rescue Service's (FRS) staff:
1. Currently employed by Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
2. Currently involved in the management and/or delivery of fire prevention home visits

FRS trainers and prevent leads:
1. Currently employed by Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service
2. Currently involved in the delivery of training to Fire and Rescue Service staff for fire prevention interventions

Health and social care stakeholders:
1. Currently active in health and social care in the Staffordshire area (e.g. NHS, social care, local authority, third sector)
2. Identifies as a stakeholder with an interest in the research.

Participant type(s)
Mixed

Healthy volunteers allowed
No

Age group
Mixed

Sex
All

Key exclusion criteria
Does not meet inclusion criteria

Date of first enrolment
11/02/2022

Date of final enrolment
14/05/2023

Locations

Countries of recruitment
United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre
University of Keele
Keele
Newcastle Under Lyme
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ST5 5BG

Sponsor information

Organisation
Keele University

ROR
https://ror.org/00340yn33

Funder(s)

Funder type
Government

Funder Name
National Institute for Health Research

Alternative Name(s)
National Institute for Health Research, NIHR Research, NIHRresearch, NIHR - National Institute for Health Research, NIHR (The National Institute for Health and Care Research), NIHR

Funding Body Type
Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype
National government

Location
United Kingdom

Funder Name
Midlands Partnership Foundation Trust

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 Tamsin Fisher (t.e.fisher1@keele.ac.uk) or Tom Kingstone (t.kingstone@keele.ac.uk).

IPD sharing plan summary
Available on request

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article		19/12/2023	28/06/2024	Yes	No
Protocol file	version 1.1	09/09/2021	12/04/2022	No	No