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**Participant Information Sheet- Health professionals**

**Project Title:** *Optimal care for the management of older people with frailty non-weight bearing after lower limb fracture: a consensus study*

**What is the study about?** This study aims to seek consensus about the best care for older people whose management involves being non-weight bearing after a lower limb fracture such as a broken ankle, shin or thighbone. Our aim is to produce guidance to offer these patients the best treatment possible and to provide a basis for research to improve treatment further.

**Why have I been invited to take part?**

You have been invited to take part in this study because you are a health professionals who have experience of managing elderly patients who are non-weight bearing after a lower limb fracture. We want to produce a patient centred consensus in conjunction with professional health care providers.

**Do I have to take part?**

This information sheet has been written to help you decide if you would like to take part. It is up to you whether you wish to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be free to withdraw at any time without providing a reason.

**What would I be requested to do?**

You will be asked to answer an online survey – which will be repeated twice more (i.e. three times in total) at monthly intervals. In each round, you will be asked to rate your agreement with a series of statements by marking 'agree' or 'disagree' and a box for free text comments will be provided for you to suggest amendments or clarifications to the statements if you cannot agree or disagree. The statements in the second and third surveys will be amended on the basis of the replies to the previous round by removing statements where there is consensus and amending those where this is not. Prior to the first round, you will be asked to provide brief descriptive information .

**How long it takes to complete the survey:**

It will take you around 20-30 minutes to complete statements in each round.

## **Informed consent**

You will be asked to indicate on line that you consent to take part in the study. You will have the opportunity to ask any questions in relation to the research before you complete the survey.

## **Who is funding the research?**

This research was funded by the NIHR Nottingham Biomedical Research Centre

## **Any reward if I agree to participate in this project: No**

If you participate in all the rounds, your name will be listed in the acknowledgement section of resulting publications and outputs.

## **Who will have access to my data and how will it be securely stored?**

Data will be stored with in line with the University of Nottingham data management guideline where your data will be stored in a special form and will be edited so that you are referred to by a code number and the original data will be remain accessible only via the research coordinator (SA). Data will be analysed as part of the research study, the findings of which will be published and used to develop a clinical guideline. All stored data including your personal data will be destroyed after seven years from the end of the project.

## **When will my data be destroyed?**

All stored data will be destroyed seven years after the end of the project

## **Will my participation be confidential?**

During the study, your participation will only be known to the research coordinator and research team who have access to your data. Use of your personal data and data protection rights the research team and the University of Nottingham is bound by the UK 2018 Data Protection Act and your personal data will be used only for research purposes. You will be able to withdraw your data before all rounds are completed.

## **Ethical approval?**

This research protocol has been granted ethical approval by the University of Nottingham Medical School Ethics Committee (FMHS REC ref no 423-1911).

## **Could I contact you if I have further questions?**

Yes, If you require any further information or clarification please contact Dr Saleh Aloraibi. [Aloraibi@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Aloraibi@nottingham.ac.uk), telephone +44 (0) 115 82 30230

Yours sincerely,

Study coordinator

Dr Saleh Aloraibi



Principal Investigator

Professor John RF Gladman

