

Participant Information Sheet

You are being invited to take part in a clinical research study. To help you decide whether or not to take part. It is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read the following information carefully. Talk to others about the study if you wish. Contact us if there is anything that is not clear, or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you would like to take part.

Thank you for reading this.

Purpose of the Study

Sepsis is a life-threatening reaction to an infection. It happens when the immune system overreacts to an infection and starts to damage the body's tissues and organs.

The aim of this research study is to compare the two different ways to treat sepsis, in the early phase of treatment immediately after you arrive in hospital. The standard approach is to give a salt solution fluid through a drip in your arm to start with, then adding in a medication later that increases the blood flow to your vital organs (a vasopressor medication called norepinephrine) if required. The alternative approach is to start the vasopressor medication immediately, and then add in extra salt solution fluid later via a drip if required. Vasopressors work by increasing the blood pressure which allows a better blood flow to your internal organs. We plan to see which approach is better and to see if they have a role in improving a patient's recovery time, reducing complications, the length of time they stay in hospital and longer term poor health.

Based on research that has already been done, we believe treating patients with vasopressors when they arrive in the Emergency Department, may have potential advantages over the standard fluids used today. However, the evidence is not clear and that is why we are doing this research.

Why have I been chosen to take part?

You have been asked to take part as you have been diagnosed with signs and symptoms of an infection (sepsis).

Do I have to take part?

No, it is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form. If you decide to take part you are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason. Deciding not to take part or withdrawing from the study will not affect the care you receive or any legal rights.

What will happen to me if I take part?

A member of the research team will speak to you to discuss your participation in this study and make sure you understand everything. We will give you time to decide if you want to take part. At most this could be up to 30-40 minutes but may only be 10-15 minutes if you feel happy to make a decision. This is to make sure there is no delay to your treatment starting. You will then be asked to give written consent. If there is a physical reason that prevents you providing written consent, a witness may act on your behalf. The witness will attest that the information given to yourself in this information sheet has been accurately explained to you and that informed consent has been freely given. The witness

can be your relative or friend or an impartial health care professional. If you take part in the study, you will be assigned to one of two treatment groups at random (like tossing a coin).

Treatment 1 – Usual Treatment

You will be given the normal treatment used by this hospital for treating infections – a salt solution (balanced crystalloid) solution via a drip. You may have medication to increase your blood pressure (vasopressors) added at a later point, depending on your condition.

Treatment 2 - Intervention

You will have the medication to increase the blood flow to your vital organs (vasopressors) started immediately, via a drip in your arm. You may be given extra salt solution fluid through the drip in your arm later, if required.

The medicine used in the intervention arm (norepinephrine) may harm an unborn child and women who are pregnant will not be able to take part in the study. A pregnancy test will be performed before any study treatment is administered in **all** women who could become pregnant. This includes women who routinely use contraception such as the combined oral contraceptive pill, have an intrauterine device (sometimes known as a 'coil') or who abstain from sexual intercourse.

For Treatment 1 and Treatment 2

Each treatment will be given for as long as they are required, but participation in the trial and collection of data about you will stop at 48 hours. All other treatment will be decided by the doctor treating you, after discussing with you.

Once you leave the hospital we will look at your medical records 30 and 90 days later to see how well you have recovered and if you have been back to hospital for any further tests or treatment. We won't need to contact you again to do this.

Taking part in the study should not cause much inconvenience to you other than having to answer some additional questions about your health and completing a questionnaire. We will contact you to complete a short questionnaire 30 days and 180 days later. The questionnaire takes less than 5 minutes to complete.

You will not need to come to hospital for any additional visits.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

There is no guarantee that you will receive any benefit from this study but the results from this study might help to improve the healthcare of other patients treated for sepsis.

What are the possible disadvantages of taking part?

It is not thought that there are many disadvantages to taking part in this study, however as with any treatment there are some risks. Occasionally, when patients have vasopressors they develop mild reactions such as a headache or shortness of breath. These reactions normally disappear when the drip is slowed down or stopped. With any IV infusion there is also a risk of fluid leaking into the drip, this can cause temporary inflammation and irritation at the surrounding tissue/skin. Evidence

suggests this occurs in about 3% of patients and your infusion site will be checked regularly by healthcare professionals to prevent any leaking. Another rare side effect of vasopressors is patients may experience an irregular heart rate however you will be closely monitored by your clinical care team to monitor any side effects.

Additional blood tests

~~You may be asked to give three additional blood samples. The doctor taking consent will be able to tell you if this is an option for you. Consent to the additional blood samples is optional and there will also be optional consent to give permission for blood samples to be retained for future use. Each sample is around 15ml (three teaspoons) and will be taken in the first 48 hours of the study. Where possible, these blood samples will be taken with routine samples to minimise inconvenience/discomfort to you. The blood samples will be analysed for markers of inflammation and immune system function along with genetic analysis. The blood samples will be shipped to the laboratory in Edinburgh in a coded fashion whereby only the research site will have access to the document that links participant codes with personal identifiable information.~~

Will my participation in the study be kept confidential?

Yes. NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde is the sponsor for this study based in the United Kingdom. We will be using information about you and your medical records in order to undertake this study and will act as the Data Controller for this study. This means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde will keep non-identifiable information about you for 20 years after the study has ended.

Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. If you withdraw from the study, we will keep the information about you that we have already obtained. To safeguard your rights, we will use minimally personally identifiable information possible.

You can find out more about how we use your information by contacting the Data Protection Team – 0141 355 2059 or email data.protection@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

[NHS/other site] will keep your name, [NHS number] and contact details [add other identifiers] confidential and will not pass any of this information other than a copy of your consent form, which confirms that you agreed to take part in the study. This will only be looked at by an authorised member of the Study Monitoring team.

[NHS/other site] will use this information as needed, to contact you about the research study, and make sure relevant information about the study is recorded for your care, and to oversee the quality of the study. Certain individuals from NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde and/or regulatory authorities may look at your medical and research records to check the accuracy of the research study. NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde will only receive information without any identifying information. The people who will analyse the data gathered from this study will not be able to identify you and will not be able to find out your name, [NHS number] or contact details.

[NHS/other site] will keep identifiable information about you from this study for 10 years after the study has finished.

All data gathered during the study will be coded by a unique identified meaning that all of your personal details will be removed. We will record your participation in your medical record so that other doctors involved in your care will be aware. All information obtained for the study will also be entered into a secure computer server which is located at our expert data centre.

If you chose to consent to long term follow up about your future wellbeing by data linkage NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde will ~~share provide~~ your personal information (NHS/CHI number, postcode, date of birth, sex at birth) to NHS departments (such as NHS digital in England and the electronic Data Research and Innovation Service (eDRIS in Scotland)) ~~to NHS departments~~ to allow them to provide information on your health status. We would also like to let you know about other research studies that may be of interest to you and will ask your permission to contact you about them. These studies would be subject to funding and regulatory approvals and your consent for this is optional. If you chose to consent to be contacted about future research studies your personal information will be used by NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde to facilitate this. Any personal information provided for long term record linkage or contact about future research will be stored securely, kept strictly confidential and processed in accordance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (2018).

We also ask that we can inform your GP of your participation in the study.

What if there are any problems?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study please contact a member of the research team (contact details below) who will do their best to answer any questions.

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, you should ask to speak to your study doctor who will do their best to answer your questions. If you remain unhappy and wish to complain formally you can do this by contacting the chief investigator – Dr Alasdair Corfield Alasdair.corfield@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

The normal National Health Service Complaints mechanism are available if you have any concerns or wish to complain. Tel: 0141 201 4500 email: complaints@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

In the unlikely event that something goes wrong and you are harmed during the research and this is due to someone's negligence then you may have grounds for legal action for compensation against [insert health board] but you may have to pay your legal costs.

What will happen if I don't want to carry on with the study?

Your participation is entirely voluntary. You can withdraw from the study at any time without giving a reason, without your medical care or legal rights being affected.

If you withdraw from the study, the information which has been collected about you whilst you have been in the study will be used as part of the results of the trial. If you chose to stop participating in the trial we will ask you if you are happy for the data we have collected so far can be used

What happens when the study is finished?

All the data collected will be kept securely for 10 years after the study has finished in case it needs to be reviewed again. At the end of the study we will make the study data available for other researchers



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June-2022
IRAS ID: 307862

to look at. Before we make it available we will make sure it doesn't contain any data which could be used to identify you.

What will happen to the results of the study?

This study will be written up and submitted for publication in a medical journal. It is likely that the results will also be presented at academic meetings or conferences. Once the study has been published a summary of the findings will be made available. You will not be identified in any published results. Patients can contact their local study team to find out the final results if they wish.

Who is organising and funding the research?

The study is sponsored by NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde and will be coordinated by the Project Management Unit. This study has been funded by the National Institute for Health Research.

Who has reviewed the study?

The study has been reviewed by an independent group of people called a Research Committee to protect your safety, rights, wellbeing and dignity. A favourable ethical opinion has been obtained by the Scotland A Research Ethics Service. The Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has also reviewed and approved this study.

Contact Details

If you have any further questions about the study please contact the research nurse team on

[Insert site contact details]

If you would like to discuss this study with someone independent of the study please contact **Dr Jamie Scott by email (jamie.cooper2@nhs.scot) or by phone (01224 551817). [Insert independent contact details]**

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Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet

CONSENT FORM

Participant ID:

Principal Investigator:

Please Initial box

1. I confirm that I have read and understood the Patient Information Sheet **v1.4 03 November v1.3-17th Jun-2022** for the above study. I have had the opportunity to consider the information, ask questions and have had these questions answered satisfactorily.
2. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time, without giving any reason and without my medical and/or legal rights being affected
3. I give permission for the research team to access my medical records for the purposes of this research study
4. I understand that relevant sections of my medical notes and data collected during the study may be looked at by individuals from the Sponsor (NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde), from regulatory authorities or from NHS organisations where it is relevant to my taking part in this research. I give permission for these individuals to have access to my data and/or medical records
5. I agree to my General Practitioner being informed of my participation in this study
6. I understand that data collected about me during the study will be converted to anonymised data
7. I agree to my anonymised data being used in future ethically approved research studies
8. I agree to take part in the above study

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OPTIONAL:

YES

NO

- | | | |
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| 09. I understand that the samples and data I provide can be used to support other ethically approved research in the future, and may be shared anonymously with other researchers. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. I agree to long term follow-up information by record linkage being collected on my future wellbeing and treatment from NHS and Government Health Records <u>(such as NHS digital in England and the electronic Data Research and Innovation Service (eDRIS in Scotland)).</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. I agree to be contacted about future ethically approved research studies. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. I give my permission to give extra samples of blood for research purposes. I understand how the samples will be collected, that giving the samples is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw my participation at any time without giving a reason and without my medical care or legal rights being affected. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. I agree to allow long term storage of blood for use in future ethically approved research studies | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. I agree to be contacted in the future regarding the genetic analysis of stored blood samples. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

NAME OF PARTICIPANT

SIGNATURE

DATE

NAME OF INVESTIGATOR/DESIGNEE

SIGNATURE

DATE

Witness statement - for those mentally capable but physically unable to sign consent)

I hereby confirm that _____ was fully informed of the study as detailed in
Name of patient (PRINT NAME)

this information sheet and that informed consent was freely given.

Witness (PRINT NAME)

Date

Signature



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IRAS ID: 307862

Designation/ relation

Date

Signature

When completed: 1 copy for participant; 1 original for researcher site file; 1 copy to be kept in medical notes. A copy of the Consent form should be uploaded to the eCRF.