## Enhanced outcome prediction through deep learning, a form of artificial intelligence or machine learning, to assist clinician decision-making in patients with stroke due to intracerebral haemorrhage (OPTICS study)

**Consumer focus group discussion**

**INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS**

**Introduction**

We are going to conduct formative evaluation for the OPTICS (Outcome PredicTion in IntraCerebral haemorrhage Study). You are invited to participate in the focus group discussion for the study. The Principal Investigator of this project is Professor Craig Anderson from The George Institute for Global Health. The Co-Investigator is Dr Xiaoying Chen from The George Institute for Global Health. This study is funded by MRFF (Medical Research Future Fund) Cardiovascular Health Mission Grant.

The study aim is to understand concepts, acceptance, and confidence, in using deep learning model to predict outcomes in clinical practice. This focus group discussion is initiated and conducted by project team from The George Institute for Global Health.

**Who can participate in the discussion?**

The inclusion criteria for participants taking part in this study include:

1. 18 years of age or older
2. Have had a intracerebral haemorrhage in the past, OR
3. Have lived experience as primary carer for an individual with intracerebral haemorrhage;
4. Can speak English fluently;

The exclusion criteria for those who are not eligible to participate in this study include:

1. Cognition, communication decline or other disability that prevents participation in a group conversation;

**What is required in the discussion?**

If you participate you will be get involved in the discussion that will be facilitated by a study team who are skilled in this type of research. Once consent is confirmed, a demographics questionnaire will be completed with you over the phone, which will take approximately 5 minutes. Once enrolled, a time and date will be agreed upon. The focus group will be a hybrid of in-person participants at The George Institute with online participants joining via Zoom. The discussion will take no more than 1.5 hours. The process is informal and flexible as our main aim is to encourage you to articulate your experiences and views. We appreciate your work commitments and will fit with your schedule. Please let us know what works best for you.

While unlikely, we anticipate the following possible discomforts to participants:

* + The discomforts related to being asked about particular aspects of one’s medical experience,
  + Anxiety induced by providing answers during a focus group or in answering a survey.

To minimise the risk of these discomforts/harms, we will adopt the following processes:

* + The audio recordings and transcripts from the focus groups will remain anonymous, and any identifiable information will be removed or coded as part of the transcription process.
  + A copy of the transcript will be offered to participants for feedback
  + Implementing focus group ground rules such as enforcing that only one speaks at a time, and assuring there are no wrong answers will help create a collaborative and accepting atmosphere to curb anxieties
  + The focus group guide has been designed in a way to ensure no questions target personal information from the participants to avoid social anxieties or privacy issues.
  + Participants can withdraw their data by contacting the research team via email or phone and withdrawing consent for their data to be used. The contributions to the discussion made by a withdrawn participant will then be removed from the transcript, along with their contact and demographics data being deleted.

If you do experience mental discomfort from the focus group discussion, please reach out to the Mental Health Line by calling 1800 011 511. The Mental Health Line is available to everyone in NSW and operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Privacy**

If you wish to participate in this focus group discussion, your participation and personal information will be protected and confidential. Information of this group discussion will be coded as a number instead of your name. Your identity will not be disclosed to others (except the study team), only if granted your permission or legal request. The audio record as well as transcript documents will be stored securely with encryption and only be accessed by study team. Your personal information will not be disclosed in the publications or disseminations of this study. The study data will be retained by the George Institute for at least 5 years after publication of results.

**Autonomy**

It is entirely voluntary for you to participate in this research. If you worried about some questions related to your privacy or you would not like to respond, you can request to skip the question in the discussion. In the process of group discussion, you can request to drop off at any time. We acknowledge your right to refuse and will fully respect your decision.

**What will happen once we have collected your information?**

We will record the discussion, which will be professionally and confidentially transcribed. If you would like, we will provide a copy of the transcript for feedback which can include:

* Agreeing that the transcript is a satisfactory representation of your views,
* Asking for minor changes to be made to the existing transcript,
* Asking us for a repeat interview to expand on or change things that you said, or
* Withdrawing your data and consent to participate in the evaluation.

A summary of results will be emailed to participants following the completion of the study.

All information will remain confidential. Study information will be stored in a securely locked file at the George Institute for Global Health and will be accessed only by study team members. Nothing written in reports will link you personally to the study.

**Reimbursement**

Participants will be reimbursed at a rate of $30 per hour for their time ($45 for the 90-minute focus group).

**Further Information**

The research interviewer can discuss this information with you further and answer any questions you may have. If you would like to know more at any stage, please feel free to contact the following interview evaluation investigator:

Investigator: Xiaoying Chen

The George Institute for Global Health

Tel: 02 8052 4549

Email: xchen@georgeinstitute.org.au

**Ethics Approval**

This study has been approved by the Ethical review pathways forUNSW Human Research Ethics Advisory Panel. Any person with concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study should contact the *UNSW Human Research Ethics Coordinator via email (humanethics@unsw.edu.au)*, or telephone(+61 2 9385 6222). The HC reference number is HC220834.

This information sheet is for you to keep.

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## PARTICIPANT CONSENT FORM

**Participant**:

Name: …………………………………………………………………………………………

Email address: ………………………………………………………………………………

* I have read the participant information sheet
* I feel free to accept or refuse to participate in the focus group discussion
* I have had a chance to ask questions and all of my questions have been answered to my satisfaction
* I understand the information on the focus group discussion concerning its nature, purpose, and duration, including any known or expected inconvenience.
* I agree that some of my words (not my name) will be used in the study reports
* I agree that the discussion will be taped/audio recorded
* I do not have any objections to the interview record being kept at the end of the study
* By signing this form, I give my free and informed consent to take part in this study as outlined in the information sheet and this consent form. I understand that I am free to withdraw from the study at any given time. I have been given a copy of this consent form. By signing this form I have not given up my legal rights.

I Agree / Disagree (*please circle*) the statements above.

**Signature of participant:** ……………………………………..**Date:** ……………………

**Name of facilitator:** …….…………………………

**Signature of facilitator:** ………………………………………**Date:** ……………………