

Research to improve anaemia for older people**Are you over 65?****Have you been taking oral iron for 3 months or more?****Are you interested in taking part in Clinical Research?****Improving symptoms of anaemia**

Anaemia (a lack of red blood cells) due to low iron levels is common in older people. Many people take oral iron (tablets or liquid medicine) but these do not always work as well as we would like. If oral iron doesn't work after a few weeks, it is not clear what the best course of action is:

- should people stop oral iron
- carry on with oral iron
- or switch to using intravenous iron (a 'drip')?

This clinical trial will investigate which of these three approaches would be the best option if people haven't responded to oral iron.

What is Involved?

If you decide to take part we will ask you to attend our research clinic twice – once at the start and once three months later. If you receive the iron drip there will be an extra visit. Each visit will take approximately one to two hours. During these visits the research nurse will do a simple health check, assess how fit you are, and take some blood. You will then either be asked to stop taking oral iron, continue taking oral iron, or receive an iron drip into the vein. This treatment is already used in the NHS for some people with anaemia.

Participation in the trial is entirely voluntary and you may withdraw at any time without your usual medical care has been affected. We can arrange Taxi transport or pay for your travel expenses.

Who has reviewed the Study?



The North of Scotland Research Ethics Committee 1 has examined this study and has raised no objections from the point of view of medical ethics.

Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?



All your details will remain strictly confidential and will be stored in accordance with the UK Data Protection law.

If you are interested in taking part in this study or would like any more information please contact the study team:



Return the enclosed REPLY SLIP



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We will discuss the study further and send you a full information sheet.

Your local Investigator for the study: Professor Miles Witham