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ABI Clinical Resource Use across Canada

Principal Investigator:
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Letter of Information

Dear Sir/Madam,

This letter is to inform you of the following study: acquired brain injury (ABI) clinical resource use in Canada. We invite you to take part in this study that will explore the knowledge and use of specialized ABI resources currently available to clinicians. This letter contains the information necessary to decide whether or not participation in this study is right for you. It is important for you to understand why this study is being conducted and what it will involve. Please take the time to read over this material and feel free to contact the Principal Investigator to ask questions or for clarification.

What is the purpose of this study?

This study seeks to solicit information from clinicians who provide rehabilitation to individuals with moderate to severe ABI across Canada regarding their use and knowledge of ABI resources to support their clinical practice. The intended role of this study is to gain a better understanding of (1) which specialized ABI rehabilitation resources clinicians are aware of, (2) what their perceived usability is, and (3) what content and formats are preferred in clinical care resources. This information will be disseminated, and used, by organizations and researchers looking to produce educational/clinical resources to ensure that the end product is accepted by healthcare professionals and that the content is integrated into clinical practice.

Why have you been contacted?

You have been contacted because you are a clinician in Canada.

What is involved if you choose to participate?

Participation in this study will require you to complete an online survey. The survey is focused on your knowledge and use of ABI specific resources. The survey will take approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete. By completing the survey, you are consenting to the survey data being used in the study. All surveys are completed anonymously. At no point during the study will you be identified. All data collected will be stored securely at Parkwood Institute.

Voluntary Participation

Participation in this research study is voluntary. You may refuse to participate without the requirement of explanation on your part. If you complete the survey, you can refuse to answer any question(s). Refusal to participate will in no way affect your employment.

What happens to the information gathered in the study?

Data collected in this study will be analyzed and eventually published in a scientific paper. All responses are anonymous, and all survey responses will be grouped together with other participant's data. All data will be destroyed after 15 years.

How many people will participate in this study?

In total, we will enroll approximately 300 people to participate in this study.

Will you be reimbursed for your participation?

No reimbursement will be offered.

What are the risks and discomforts to you if you participate?

There are no known risks or harms of completing the survey; however, participants may find completing the survey to be an inconvenience if they are busy and have limited time. The survey is estimated to take 10-15 minutes.

What are the benefits to you if you participate?

There are no known personal benefits associated with participating in this study. However, your feedback will be disseminated, and used, by organizations and researchers for the development of new clinical resources for expert ABI care. In doing so, it is hoped that more healthcare professionals will be able to easily access and apply evidence-based practices to individuals post ABI. Ultimately, this may help to improve quality of care and outcomes for those with a moderate to severe ABI.

Who will have access to your information?

All surveys are submitted anonymously, and a copy of the survey responses will be stored in a secure cabinet in a research office at Parkwood Institute. No study data will be shared with anyone outside of this research team.

What if you want more information?

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this study, please contact the Principal Investigator, Dr. Robert Teasell (519) 685-4292 Ext. 44559 or Amber Harnett (519) 685-

4292 Ext. 42685. If you have any questions/concerns about your rights as a research participant or the conduct of this study, please contact: St. Joseph's Health Care London Patient Relations Consultant at 519-646-6100 ext. 64727.

Representatives of the University of Western Ontario Health Sciences Research Ethics Board may require access to your study-related documents to oversee the ethical conduct of this study. Representatives of Lawson Quality Assurance Education Program may require access to your study-related documents to ensure that proper laws and guidelines are being followed.

The researchers declare no conflict of interest in the conduct or results of this study.

This letter is for you to keep. If you agree to participate in this study, please complete the survey.

We thank you in advance for considering participation in this study.

Sincerely,

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