Artificial Intelligence for decision support in acute stroke - Enhanced treatment recommendation, adverse outcomes and outcome prediction through artificial Intelligence in patients with acute stroke and external validation using real-world data in New South Wales

Focus Group Discussion

INFORMATION SHEET FOR Participants

Introduction

We are going to a conduct formative evaluation for the Artificial Intelligence for decision support in acute stroke study. You are invited to participate in the focus group discussion for the study. The Principal Investigators of this project is Dr Xia Wang from The George Institute for Global Health. The research team details are provided below:

Name	Position	Affiliation
Dr Xia Wang	Senior Research Fellow	The George Institute
Dr Menglu Ouyang	Research Fellow	The George Institute
Dr Leibo Liu	Research Fellow	The George Institute

The study aim is to understand your current thoughts, acceptance and concerns of physicians using the Artificial Intelligence to support their decision-making in the treatment of acute stroke. This focus group discussion is initiated and conducted by project team from The George Institute for Global Health, Australia.

Who can participate in the discussion?

The stakeholders (e.g. clinician groups [i.e. physicians/nurses], patients, family carers for the stroke care) will be invited to participate in this focus group discussion.

Eligibility criteria of patient sample

Inclusion criteria:

- Adults (aged 18 or over);
- Have had a stroke in the past OR Have lived experience as primary carer for an individual with stroke;
- English spoken as primary language;
- Provision of electronic informed consent;

Exclusion criteria: Cognition, communication decline or other disability that prevents participation.

Do I have to take part in this research study?

Participation in any research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to.

If you decide you want to take part in the focus group discussion, you will be asked to:

- Read the information sheet carefully (ask questions if necessary);
- Sign the e-consent form if you decide to participate in the study;

- Provide your availability to the research team to help schedule the discussion.

What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks and benefits involved?

You will be invited in two sessions for the focus group discussion: before and after the prediction tool development.

Each of the focus group sessions will take place online and will take approximately 30-40 minutes. With your permission the research team would like to video record the discussion. If you decide to participate in the focus group, your comments along with other participants will be recorded during the group discussions. Because of the way in which the focus group discussions are recorded, the research team will not be able to withdraw or destroy individual participant responses. 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. You will need to provide your demographic information including your age, sex, ethnic/cultural background for data collection.

After completion each session of the discussions, you will receive a $100 gift card as compensation.

We hope to use information we get from this research study to benefit others who suffer from stroke by optimising the care and treatment after stroke.

Discomfort (s)

There might be a risk of discomfort(s) if the discussion exceeds 30 minutes. However, the facilitator will make sure the discussion completes within the duration. There might be discomforts such as anxiety answering questions in front of others. If you feel discomforts, you can inform the facilitator or leave the discussion early.

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 video 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.

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 to information about me?

Submission of the e-consent is an indication of your consent. By clicking the 'I agree to participate the focus group discussion' button you are providing your permission for the

research team to collect and use information about you for the research study.

All information will remain confidential. Study information will be stored in a securely locked electronic file folder 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.

The research team will store the data collected from you for this research project for a minimum of 5 years after the publication of research results. Re-identifiable format where any identifiers such as your name, address, date of birth will be replaced with a unique code.

The information you provide is personal information for the purposes of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW). You have the right of access to personal information held about you by the University, the right to request correction and amendment of it, and the right to make a complaint about a breach of the Information Protection Principles as contained in the PPIP Act. Further information on how the University protects personal information is available in the **UNSW Privacy Management Plan**.

How and when will I find out what the results of the research study are?

If the research team intend to publish and/ report the results of the research. All Information will be published in a way that will not identify you.

If you would like to receive a copy of the results you can contact a member of the research team directly for a copy of the results.

Further Information

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you require further information regarding this study or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the study, you can contact the following member/s of the research team:

Research Contact

Name	Menglu Ouyang
Position	Research Fellow
Telephone	[redacted]
Email	[redacted]

Ethics Approval

This study has been approved by the Ethical review pathways for *UNSW Research Ethics Approval.* If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of the study or the way it is being conducted, please contact the UNSW Human Ethics Coordinator:

Complaints Contact

Position	Human Research Ethics Coordinator
Telephone	+ 61 2 9385 6222
Email	humanethics@unsw.edu.au
Project Id	iRECS6189

This information sheet is for you to keep.