

Minutes of the meeting of the Sub Committee of the Confidentiality Advisory Group

27 March 2016

Reviewers:

Name
Tony Calland

AMENDMENTS

ECC 8-04 (g)/2013; Bridging the Age Gap in Breast Cancer: Improving Outcomes for Older Women

Purpose of application

This research application from the University of Sheffield detailed a study which aimed to determine the age, co-morbidity, frailty and disease characteristics of women over 70 with early breast cancer in order to provide guidance on 2 primary questions:

1. What are the personal and cancer characteristics of women who can be safely advised that surgery is unlikely to confer any advantage to them?
2. What are the personal and cancer characteristics of women who should be advised to have adjuvant chemotherapy after surgery?

Support was requested in order to access linked HES and cancer registry data which included date of death.

Amendment request

The applicant requested an extension of the study to June 2018.

The research team have developed decision making tools, including a predictive survival calculator derived from analysis of patient level cancer registry data and it is proposed that data from two additional cohorts will be analysed in order to test these. Additional patient level data will be requested from Public Health England. This data will consist of the same data items as described in the original application. However the cohort will now include records for patients diagnosed from the same regions in the time period 2011-2012, and records for patients diagnosed in the Eastern cancer registration region in the time period 2002-2010. The applicant will also request updated survival status for the cohort described in the original application

Confidentiality Advisory Group advice

The amendment requested was forwarded to the vice-Chair who was satisfied that data from the additional cohorts was required in order to test the decision making tools that the research team have developed. Given the potential importance of this study, the vice-Chair was satisfied that the additional cohort and extension request were justified.

Confidentiality Advisory Group conclusion

In line with the considerations above, the vice-Chair agreed that the minimum criteria under the Regulations appeared to have been met for this amendment, and therefore advised recommending support to the Health Research Authority.