

Overview of study

Multiple Conditions in Later Life

What is this study about?

Many older people live with several health conditions or illnesses. Much research has focussed on specific single illnesses, but living with multiple conditions, especially at older ages, has received less attention. Many questions about it remain unanswered.

For the first time ever, a national survey is taking place to find out what the important issues are from the point of view of older people of 80+ living with 3 or more conditions, and their carers.

This will help researchers identify the top 10 priorities for research on living with multiple conditions in later life. The priorities will be published so that, in future, researchers can focus on those questions, and research funders can better direct their funds to the priority areas. The aim is to improve quality of life, care and treatment for older people living with multiple conditions.

This initiative is led by a group of professional organisations interested in improving life for older people. Age UK is one of the main partners, along with Newcastle University. The initiative is overseen by the James Lind Alliance for independence and transparency.

This is a unique opportunity for you to have your say on the future of research on multiple conditions in later life. We are looking for people to complete the survey who:

- Are aged 80 or above and have three or more conditions that affect their daily life.
- Live with a person aged 80 or above who lives with three or more conditions (e.g. partner, family member).
- Care for a loved one aged 80 or above who lives with three or more conditions.

How can you get involved?

To take part in the survey please act now:

- Complete the survey online at <http://research.ncl.ac.uk/jlaprioritysetting/>
- Order a printed survey and freepost return envelope from the email address JLA@Newcastle.ac.uk or phoning 0191 208 1287. Please leave your name and contact details so that the researchers at Newcastle University can get in touch with you.
- Take the survey by phone – call 0191 208 1287, stating that you would like to take the Multiple conditions survey over the phone, and leaving your contact details.

We encourage you to share the survey widely with older people in your area. To do this, please share the online link or order multiple copies of the printed survey. You may also like to assist older people in your area to take part the survey. Guidance notes are available to help with this. If you would like the notes or more information, please contact the researchers at Newcastle University by emailing JLA@Newcastle.ac.uk, or calling 0191 208 1287.

Thank you.