
[On local hospital headed paper]

Centre No.

TracMan Study

**COVERING STATEMENT FOR PATIENT'S RELATIVE
TO BE GIVEN THE PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET**

Version 8 - 20 September 2004

MainREC number: 04/MRE00/43

Title of project: A study to investigate whether the use of "early" or "late" tracheostomy is of benefit to patients in intensive care.

Principal Local Investigator: [name and telephone number here]

We would like your relative to take part in a research study while he/she is a patient in this intensive care unit. Unfortunately, your relative is not well enough to be able to decide for him/herself whether or not to participate. Legally, you cannot provide consent on his/her behalf. However, we ask you to read the Patient Information Sheet carefully and give your opinion as to whether or not you think your relative would have objected to taking part in this medical research.

When your relative has regained consciousness and has the ability to understand the purpose of this study, we will explain the study to them and seek his/her permission to use the data we have collected retrospectively.

If you have further questions either now or at any time subsequently, please feel free to contact [name of consultant and telephone number], the consultant leading the study on this unit.

Thank you for your time in considering this request.

Attached: Patient Information Sheet