



Paramedic Focus Group

Towards the end of the RAPID trial, we will conduct a focus group with paramedics to explore their experience of administering FICB and how they perceive it affects the prehospital care of patients with suspected hip fracture.

Objectives

To explore paramedics' views on:

1. the scope of paramedic practice and changing roles
2. process and experience of delivering FICB including problems and benefits of the intervention
3. the safety and suitability of paramedics administering FICB to treat patients with suspected hip fracture
4. training received and how prepared they felt to administer FICB in the emergency setting
5. the effect of FICB on patients' experience of care
6. the use of scratch cards to undertake randomisation

Topic guide

1: During the RAPID study, can you describe how you responded to a patient you thought may have broken their hip?

- How did you assess the patient?
- How did you talk about the injury and giving FICB with the patient and carers/family members?
- What sort of problems did you encounter treating these patients?
 - Situation/place where the patient was?
 - Difference between providing FICB and normal care?

2: Can you describe how you administered the FICB?

- How quickly were you able to manage the patient's pain?
 - Difference between patients receiving FICB and normal care?
- How confident did you feel about carrying out the process?
 - Were there any patients you didn't think should receive FICB
- How often have you administered the FICB?
- Were there any risks for patients?
- Were there any risks to paramedics?
- Did your feelings change over time? How?
- How do you think patients' overall experience of care differed between those who had FICB and those who had other pain relief?



3: How did the patient respond to the injection?

- How willing were they to agree?
- How did they respond to receiving the injection?
- How well did it manage their pain?

4: How did you feel about the training you received about administering FICB?

- Was the training long enough/too long?
- How prepared did you feel after completing the training?
 - How long was it after the training before you administered FICB?
- Was there anything else you would like to see included/done differently in the training?

5: What do you think is the best way for paramedics to manage patients with a suspected hip fracture?

6: Can you tell me why you signed up to take part in a study about treating suspected hip fracture patients with FICB?

- How do you think a paramedic's role should develop in the future?
- Do other paramedics share your views? How do their opinions influence you?

7: During the RAPID study, patients were randomised to receive FICB or usual pain relief. Can you describe how you did this?

- How did you respond when you first heard about the system of scratch cards?
 - Surprised
 - Confident
 - Uncertain
 - Concerned
- How easy was it for you to use the scratch cards?
- Did you experience any problems using the scratch cards?
- Were there any advantages to using the scratch cards?
- How did scratch cards compare to other ways of randomising patients (if paramedic has been involved in other research trials)

8: Is there anything else you would like to add?