Metropolitan Hamburg area with 425,000 inhabitants 60 years and older

Recruitment 2000

21 general practitioners (GP) in Hamburg recruited at baseline generated a list of patients aged 60 years and older assessed for eligibility (n = 9080)

Sent initial questionnaire to patients (Pra + BADL) for recruitment (n = 6986)

Total excluded (n = 2094)

Randomization 2000/2001

Eligible participants for randomisation at baseline (n = 3326) aged 60 years and older, fully completed Pra and independent in BADL from 14 GPs allocated to training (quality circle) and 7 GPs without training

Sent LUCAS questionnaire for recruitment (LUCAS n = 2616)

Dead (n = 602)
Not reached (n = 38)
Refusals (n = 70)

Wave 2: Sent LUCAS questionnaire for recruitment (LUCAS n = 2616)

Dead (n = 45)
Not reached (159)
Refusals (n = 400)

Wave 2: Returned questionnaire (n = 2012)

LUCAS questionnaire 2007/08

Additional GP practice recruited with list of patients assessed for eligibility (see procedure 2000)

Sent LUCAS questionnaire for recruitment (LUCAS n = 581)

Refusals (n = 190)

Returned questionnaire (n = 391)

LUCAS 2007/08

Pretests with subjects in subgroups FIT, pre-FRAIL, FRAIL, FORCED

Subgroup FIT (n=878)
Set of 12 marker questions for grading function

Dead (n = 64)
Refusals (n = 94)

Subgroup pre-FRAIL (n=558)
Set of 12 marker questions for grading function

Dead (n = 26)
Not reached (n = 47)
Refusals (n = 154)

Subgroup FRAIL (n=578)
Set of 12 marker questions for grading function

Subgroup FORCED (n=414)
1 marker question "yes" displacement after WW II

Dead (n = 13)
Refusals (n = 1)

Wave 3: Sent questionnaire (n = 1854)
LUCAS questionnaire 2009/10

Sent questionnaire (n = 377)
LUCAS 2009/10

Dead (n = 5)
Not reached (n = 14)
Refusals (n = 31)

Returned questionnaire (n = 327)
LUCAS 2009/10

Wave 3: Returned questionnaire (n = 1627)
LUCAS questionnaire 2009/10

1 For details see Figure 3 in Stuck et al. BMC Medical Research Methodology 2007, 7:2
2 For details see Figure 1 in Dapp et al. J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci 2011

Original longitudinal cohort

Additional longitudinal cohort

Figure 1: Longitudinal urban cohort ageing study flow chart: The first ten years