



Medizinische Fakultät
der Martin-Luther-Universität
Halle-Wittenberg

Markers of Healthy Ageing

Principal Investigator: Prof. Dr. med. Tino Prell

Study Information

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Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, Medical Faculty, Halle (Saale)
University Hospital Halle (Saale)

Principal Investigator: Prof. T. Prell,
M.D.
Director of the Department of Geriatric
Medicine, University Hospital Halle
(Saale)
Director of the Department of
Geriatrics, Diakonie Hospital Halle
(Saale)
Chief Physician of the Department of
Geriatrics, Carl von Basedow Hospital
Director of the Center for Geriatric
Medicine in Southern Saxony-Anhalt
(ZASSA)
Ernst-Grube-Str. 40, 01620 Halle
geriatrie@uk-halle.de

Study Information

on the use of patient data for medical research purposes Study „Markers of Healthy Ageing“

Dear Patient,

You are currently receiving medical treatment from us, and medical data is being collected as part of this process. This data is extremely valuable for medical research and helps us improve care for older adults. We would therefore like to ask you to make your data available to us for our own and third-party medical research purposes as part of the development of a registry database.

1. What does participating in this study mean for you?

This data collection is being conducted by the Department of Geriatric Medicine at Halle University Hospital, represented by the Faculty of Medicine at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. Your patient data from your medical records at Halle University Hospital will be made available for medical research. This is intended solely to improve the detection, treatment, and prevention of diseases. The goal of this research is not to make a diagnosis for you or to influence your specific treatment. Instead, we will use findings from routine examinations conducted during your stay, as well as, with your consent, some questionnaires that we will fill out together with you. Your patient data is intended to be used for various medical research purposes in the interest of the broader public good. To this end, your patient data collected within 10 years from the date of your consent will be used, unless you have revoked your consent beforehand. Participation or non-participation has no impact on your current treatment.

2. What kind of data is collected?


We collect personal information about you that is recorded during your examination and treatment. Examples of patient data include: sociodemographic information such as age, gender, marital status, and nationality; health data such as weight, height, number of medications, or frequency of hospital stays; Data from doctors' notes, your medical history, or findings from medical examinations such as blood pressure measurements, X-rays, or lab results—that is, your diagnoses, medications, and specific details regarding the course of your illness. This information is collected by the ward staff as part of your treatment, independent of our research; we are simply asking for your consent to use this patient data for medical research.

In addition, we will ask you to complete additional questionnaires on various topics relevant to geriatric medicine (e.g., medication use, managing health conditions, well-being) either on your own or with the assistance of trained study staff. In the enclosed informed consent form, you can choose whether you would like to participate in additional surveys or simply provide your routine data.

The legal basis for processing your personal data in connection with your participation in this scientific research project is your voluntary written consent in accordance with Article 6(1)(a) and Article 9(2)(a) of the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as well as the Declaration of Helsinki (Declaration of the World Medical Association on the Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects) and the Guidelines for Good Clinical Practice and Good Epidemiological Practice.

3. How is the data processed and stored?

The patient data you provide will be collected by trained study staff at the University Hospital of Halle and securely encrypted before being transmitted to the study staff at the Faculty of Medicine at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. Only authorized study staff at the Faculty of Medicine at Martin

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Luther University Halle-Wittenberg will have access to the data. Your patient data will be pseudonymized, meaning it will be assigned a code so that third parties can no longer link the data to you. This encryption code is managed by the Department of Geriatric Medicine at Halle University Hospital; external parties have no access to this code. Thus, only authorized study personnel are able to decrypt your data after pseudonymization. This is necessary in the event of incidental findings (see point 5), follow-up surveys (see point 6), and to enable the deletion of your data in the event of withdrawal (see point 8).

After pseudonymization, your patient data no longer contains any personal information, such as your name or date of birth. Your data remains in this format on the servers of the Department of Geriatric Medicine at Halle University Hospital.

The additional data collected by study staff from the Medical Faculty of Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg during contact attempts is also stored in pseudonymized form.

Your patient data may be made available to other universities, research institutes, and research-oriented companies outside the Department of Geriatric Medicine at the University Hospital Halle (Saale) upon request for medical research purposes. This data may only be used by the recipient for the predetermined and requested research purpose and may not be disclosed for other purposes. Your patient data is used exclusively for scientific purposes; it is not sold. Before data is transferred to research projects, the dataset is re-encrypted, which, to the best of our current knowledge, largely precludes unauthorized parties from identifying you. Scientific publications of results are exclusively anonymized, meaning they are presented in a form that does not allow any conclusions to be drawn about your identity.

Your consent also covers the possibility of transferring your patient data for the aforementioned purposes to recipients in countries of the European Union or the European Economic Area, or to other countries where the European Commission has determined that an adequate level of data protection exists. Transfer to other countries where no adequate level of data protection has been determined is excluded.

4. Are there any risks?

Whenever patient data is collected, stored, or transmitted, there is a residual risk that you could be identified if additional information—such as data from the internet or social media—is incorporated. The questionnaires we collect do not pose any health risks to you.

5. What is the benefit of participation?

Generally speaking, you cannot expect any immediate benefit or advantage for your health from the scientific use of your patient data. Should the research yield any commercial benefits—for example, through the development of new medications or diagnostic procedures—you will not share in those benefits.


In the context of this study, the likelihood of incidental findings is very low, as we use routine data from you and any findings will be communicated to you directly by the medical team as part of your treatment; our additional questionnaires do not pose any medically relevant risks to you.

6. Follow-up data collection

In order to obtain additional information from you, it may be helpful to contact you again at a later date to ask you a few more questions and to monitor how your health is progressing. This contact will be made by study staff from the Medical Faculty of Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg in accordance with the procedure described in section 3. You may decline these contacts in the informed consent form without any negative consequences.

7. How long is the consent valid?

Your consent covers data collected both in the past and in the future and is valid for a period of 10 years. You may object to the continued transfer of your data to the registry database at any time. You may also withdraw your consent to the use of data that has already been collected. There is no time limit on the use of data collected during the validity period of your consent.

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8. Right of Withdrawal

Your consent is voluntary!

You may withdraw your consent to the continued collection and scientific use of your patient data at any time, in whole or in part, without providing a reason and without any adverse consequences for you. A withdrawal of consent applies only to the future use of your patient data. Data from analyses that have already been conducted cannot be removed retroactively.

In principle, you have three options for revocation:

- prospective, i.e., no further data will be transferred to the registry database in the future,
- anonymized, i.e., the identification of your existing data will be deleted (anonymization), but existing data may still be used in this anonymized form
- prospective and retrospective, i.e., all existing data in the registry database must be deleted or destroyed. Please note that data that has already been shared with third parties in an anonymized form for research purposes cannot be destroyed retroactively

The consent form contains three sub-sections, from which you may withdraw your consent at any time, either collectively or individually. We would like to point out in particular that you may at any time opt out of further contact from the Medical Faculty of Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and request the deletion of your contact information held there. You may request the deletion of your contact information without having to withdraw your consent to the provision of your pseudonymized patient data.

Withdrawal Procedure

If you decide to withdraw, please contact the Clinic for Geriatric Medicine in writing or by phone; the contact information is provided at the end of this document. There, you will be provided with a form that documents the withdrawal and its nature.

9. Further Information

You have the following rights regarding your personal data (Articles 13 et seq. of the GDPR):

Right to information

At the time of collection, you have the right to information regarding:

- The name and contact details of the controller (and, where applicable, a representative)
- The contact details of the data protection officer
- The purposes for which the data is processed
- The legal basis for the processing
- Where applicable, the recipients or categories of recipients of the personal data
- Where applicable, the intention to transfer the data to a third country or to an international organization and: the existence or absence of an adequacy decision by the European Commission or reference to appropriate or suitable safeguards (in the case of Articles 46, 47, or 49 of the GDPR)
- Duration of storage or, if not possible, criteria for determining the duration
- Rights of data subjects to access, erasure, restriction of processing, or objection, as well as to data portability
- Right of withdrawal of the data subject
- Right of the data subject to lodge a complaint with supervisory authorities

Right of access

You have the right to access the personal data concerning you that is collected, processed, or, where applicable, transferred to third parties within the scope of a research project (provision of a copy) (Article 15 of the GDPR).


Right to rectification

You have the right to have inaccurate personal data concerning you rectified (Articles 16 and 19 of the GDPR).

Right to erasure

You have the right to have personal data concerning you erased, e.g., if this data is no longer necessary for the purpose for which it was collected (Articles 17 and 19 of the GDPR).

Right to restriction of processing

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Under certain conditions—particularly during the interim period until it is clarified whether the data is inaccurate or an objection is justified—you have the right to restrict data processing. In this case, apart from storage, the data may only be used with your consent or for the enforcement of legal claims-

Right to data portability

You have the right to receive the personal data concerning you. You may request that this data be transmitted either to you or, where technically feasible, to another entity designated by you (Article 20 GDPR).

Right to object

You have the right to object at any time to specific decisions or measures regarding the processing of your personal data (Article 21 GDPR). Such processing will generally no longer take place thereafter.

Possible restrictions on your rights

Since the data is used in the context of a clinical trial, the above-mentioned rights may be restricted under certain circumstances following a case-by-case review (in particular pursuant to Article 17(3)(d) and Article 89 of the GDPR). This applies in particular if the exercise of any of these rights conflicts with contractual, legal, and/or regulatory documentation and reporting obligations.

If you wish to exercise any of these rights, please contact the data controller or the data protection officer for this research project (see below). You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the supervisory authority if you believe that the processing of your personal data violates the GDPR:

State Data Protection Officer of Saxony-Anhalt

Email: poststelle@lfd.sachsen-anhalt.de

Phone: 0391 81803-0

Fax: 0391 81803-33

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1947, 39009 Magdeburg

Visiting Address: Leiterstraße 9, 39104 Magdeburg

The Faculty of Medicine at MLU Halle-Wittenberg, Magdeburger Straße 8, 06112 Halle (Saale), is responsible for the processing of your patient data. Your data is stored and processed at the University Hospital Halle (Saale). Due to the use of the University Hospital's IT resources, your personal data is transferred to service providers commissioned by us (in this case, the University Hospital Halle) in accordance with the provisions of Article 28 of the GDPR.

Obligation to provide Personal Data

There is no legal or other obligation to provide your personal data. Participation is based solely on your voluntary, informed consent, which is given after reviewing the study materials and information provided. You will not face any disadvantages if you choose not to provide your personal data. However, without providing your personal data, you will unfortunately not be able to participate in our study.

10. Contact Information

The contact person for the research project is:

Name: Prof. Dr. Tino Prell

Address: Department of Geriatric Medicine, Ernst-Grube-Straße 40, 06120 Halle (Saale)

Phone: +49 345 557 7105

Email: geriatrie@uk-halle.de

Please also use this contact information to request the deletion of your data or to withdraw from the study.

The Data Protection Officer at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg is:

Name: Christian Neumeister

Address: Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg, 06099 Halle (Saale)

Telefon: +49 345 55 21014

E-Mail: datenschutz@uni-halle.de