Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Research Queries – All Sites:

1. **How long does the trial run for?**
   85 weeks from the 3rd March 2014

2. **Who will be providing the NELA training to hospital staff in order to enter the data onto the online data system?**

   The NELA audit database has been developed completely separately from EPOCH. NELA went' 'live' on the 7th January 2014, so your clinical teams are already using it. All training and support for the NELA database is supplied by NELA. The NELA website has lots of additional documents that your teams can access. NELA training information can be found at:
   https://data.nela.org.uk/Support/NELA-Patient-Audit-Online-Web-Tool-User-Notes.aspx

   Queries relating to NELA should be directed to info@nela.org.uk

3. **My site's R&D approval has not been issued, can we still participate?**
   Yes, we did state that all R&D approvals should be in place prior to March 3rd. We want to be flexible but it may affect your participation if you are not able to confirm the timeline over which this will be granted.

4. **What is our centre number -or will be only receive that when the cluster is activated?**
   You will have a NELA site ID already. You will not receive an EPOCH centre number.

5. **For how long will the baseline NELA data be collected before the Quality Improvement package is introduced?**
   This is will depend on when your cluster is activated. The further into the 85 stepped wedge design you are before activation, the more baseline date you will have.

6. **Does an ERCP count as previous surgery?**
   No

7. **Are emergency Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Repairs excluded from the EPOCH trial?**
   AAAs are excluded from NELA and therefore are excluded from EPOCH trial

8. **What additional data do we need to collect for EPOCH?**
   There is no additional data collection above and beyond what is already being collected for NELA.

9. **Is there a specific EPOCH case report form (CRF)/data collection tool?**
   No

10. **Do we only collect data when we receive the Quality Improvement intervention?**
    No, data collection is on-going but there is no additional data collection above and beyond what is already being collected for NELA.

11. **Is there an EPOCH screening and enrolment log?**
    There is no EPOCH screening and enrolment log for the non-consenting sites required to be returned to the EPOCH trial team. The

12. **Is there any Adverse Event reporting?**
    No, there is no adverse event reporting for the EPOCH Trial