

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### Research Queries – Health Economics Sites (consenting sites only):

1. **How long should consent from a patient be sought for if not consented pre-surgery?**  
You should seek to gain consent from the eligible patient until they are discharged from hospital.
2. **What happens if I don't obtain consent before the eligible patient undergoes surgery or they do not have capacity prior to their surgery?**  
Their baseline data can be collected in retrospect with their consent, as long as the answers to the baseline questions are based upon how they felt pre-surgery.
3. **What happens if the patient is discharged home before we gain consent, can we contact them at home?**  
We do not have Research Ethics Committee approval to contact patients at home without their consent. However, if possible you could approach a patient for their consent if they should attend an outpatient appointment after their discharge. As long as the answers to the baseline questions are based upon how they felt pre-surgery.
4. **What additional data do we need to collect for EPOCH?**  
In addition to the NELA data, these sites will collect Quality of Life data using the Health Economics case report form (CRF) provided by the EPOCH trial team.
5. **When a participant is signing their consent form what date should they put, the date of their surgery or the date they sign the consent?**  
The date they sign the consent form.
6. **On the screening log do we enter those patients enrolled in EPOCH too, or do they just go on the enrolment log?**  
All patients screened for EPOCH should be entered on the screening log. Only those enrolled should be entered on the enrolment log.
7. **How should we gather the six month follow up information from patients about outpatient visits attended and missed?**  
This information should be gathered from the patient if contactable by telephone and/or from hospital systems.
8. **In the exclusion criteria it asks we exclude people whom have had recent surgery, what is defined as recent?**  
Surgery that the patient has had in the last 30 days.