



## **I-CATCHER:** International Care Bundle Evaluation in Cerebral Hemorrhage Research – August 2024

### **FACTS:**

- Stroke is the second leading cause of death and the third leading cause of disability worldwide.
- ICH is the most serious and least treatable form of stroke, accounting for 50% of stroke-related morbidity and mortality.
- Clinical trials have failed to establish a specific beneficial treatment for ICH for many years, resulting in ongoing suffering and loss of life.

### **BACKGROUND:**

- Intracerebral haemorrhage (ICH), caused by bleeding in the brain, is the most serious and least treatable form of stroke.
- Despite many requiring life-saving surgery, intensive care and other treatments, there is uncertainty about how best to organise the management of patients with ICH.
- I-CATCHER will build on the findings of our landmark study, INTERACT3, which provided evidence that a package of treatments with time and target goals, or a Care Bundle approach, can benefit patients with ICH.

### **AIM:**

- To investigate whether a structured treatment package (Care Bundle) improves 6-month outcomes in patients with spontaneous ICH, compared to standard care.
- To provide recommendations for incorporating the Care Bundle approach into clinical pathways.

### **METHODS:**

- I-CATCHER is a large international study that will involve 3,500 patients with ICH from 110 hospitals around the world, including Australia, Sweden, Canada, Italy, and other high-income countries.
- Hospitals will be divided into groups. The timing of the Care Bundle intervention will depend on each participating hospital's specific assignment.
- Each participating hospital will go through three stages: normal care, care bundle delivery, and follow-up for sustainability evaluation. Each stage lasts 6 months, and the entire study will take 3 years to roll out.

### **PROJECT CYCLE:**

2024–2028

### **PARTNERS:**

*The George Institute for Global Health*

*Region Skåne Hospital, Lund University, Sweden*

*The Ottawa Hospital, University of Ottawa, Canada*

### **PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:**

*Dr Menglu Ouyang*

### **IMPACT**

- This study will lead to changes in clinical guidelines by including the Care Bundle as part of a comprehensive approach to multidisciplinary care in stroke settings.
- The widespread adoption of the Care Bundle will optimise the chances of patients all over the world surviving free of major disability after experiencing an ICH.

### **CONTACT:**

To find out more about this project, its investigators or The George Institute please contact  
Tina Wall +61 410 411 983 OR  
[twall@georgeinstitute.org.au](mailto:twall@georgeinstitute.org.au)

### **THE GEORGE INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH:**

We're improving the lives of millions of people worldwide through innovative health research. Working across a broad health landscape, the Institute conducts clinical, population and health system research aimed at changing health practice and policy worldwide.