

Managing smoke impacts on firefighter eye surface health

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Experiences of Australian firefighters

- n = 54
- Online and in-person semi-structured interviews

Eye symptoms – on
and off the fireground

Eye care – on and off
the fireground

Critical events

Protective eyewear

Guidelines and
training



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Contact lenses

Friend or Foe?

- ✓ Significant reduction in eye symptoms
- ✓ Better comfort with protective eyewear
- Risk of infection and other adverse events
- Hygiene, wear and care guidelines

PROTECT: Preventing smoke-Related Ocular injury through Targeted Eye Care sTrategies

Randomised control trial, investigator blind, parallel groups

Research questions:

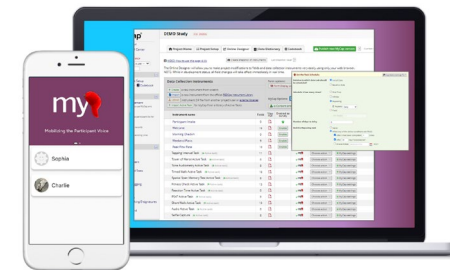
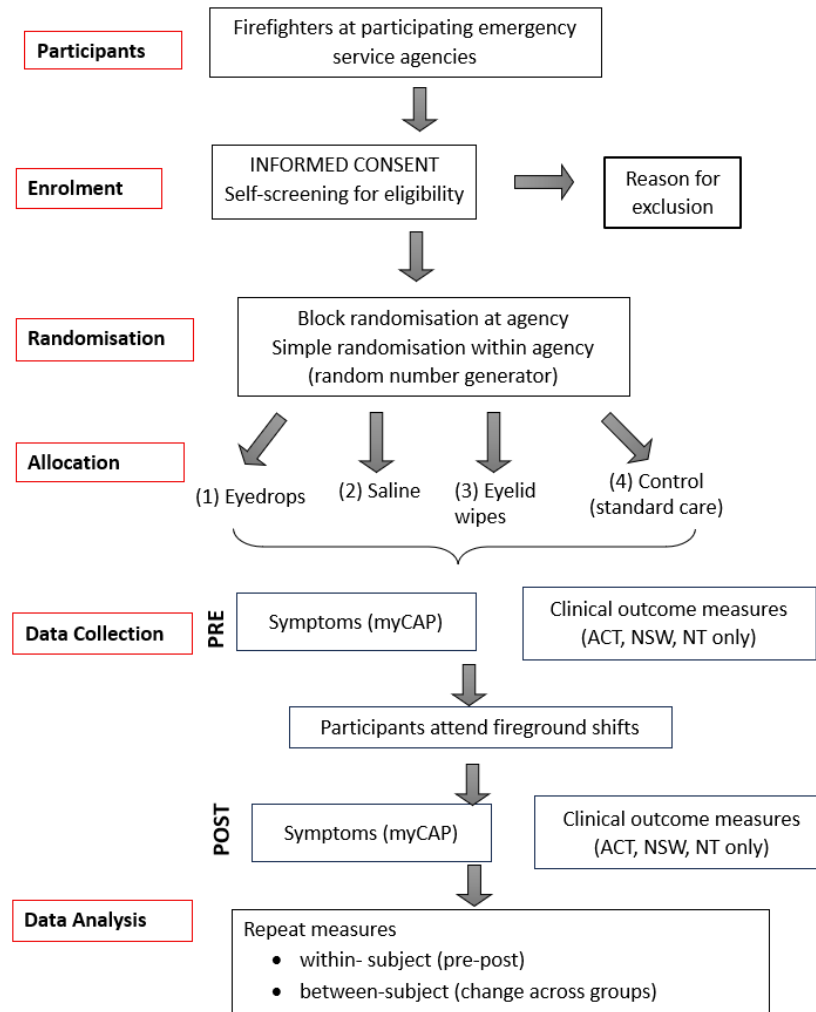
- Can eye care reduce the occurrence and/or the severity of eye symptoms associated with bushfire smoke exposure in firefighters?
- Which therapeutic and non-therapeutic strategies can be operationally implemented to reduce eye symptoms and mitigate smoke induced eye surface damage in bush firefighting ?



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