

OPERAS study: A Guide for Hospital Leads

How to make your centre a success

As a hospital lead, you are responsible for coordinating the OPERAS study at your hospital. This document will guide you through some of the steps you can take to make the project a success at your centre. For further information, please contact your national committee.

1. Publicise the project

At your local medical school and hospital site, aim to advertise the OPERAS study as widely as possible. This may include the following approaches:

- Promotional posters
- Public announcements in lectures and hospital/university meetings
- Social media, including creating a Facebook group or Twitter page
- Emails to local surgical departments, societies, and associations
- Emails to individuals who may be interested in the project

Gaining early interest/momentum in the local project delivery will ensure maximum participation from students and trainees/residents. It is also essential to gain the support of a local surgical consultant/attending at each hospital. Strategies to achieve this may include:

- Presenting the OPERAS protocol at local hospital/university meetings
- Arranging a meeting with the head of department to discuss the protocol

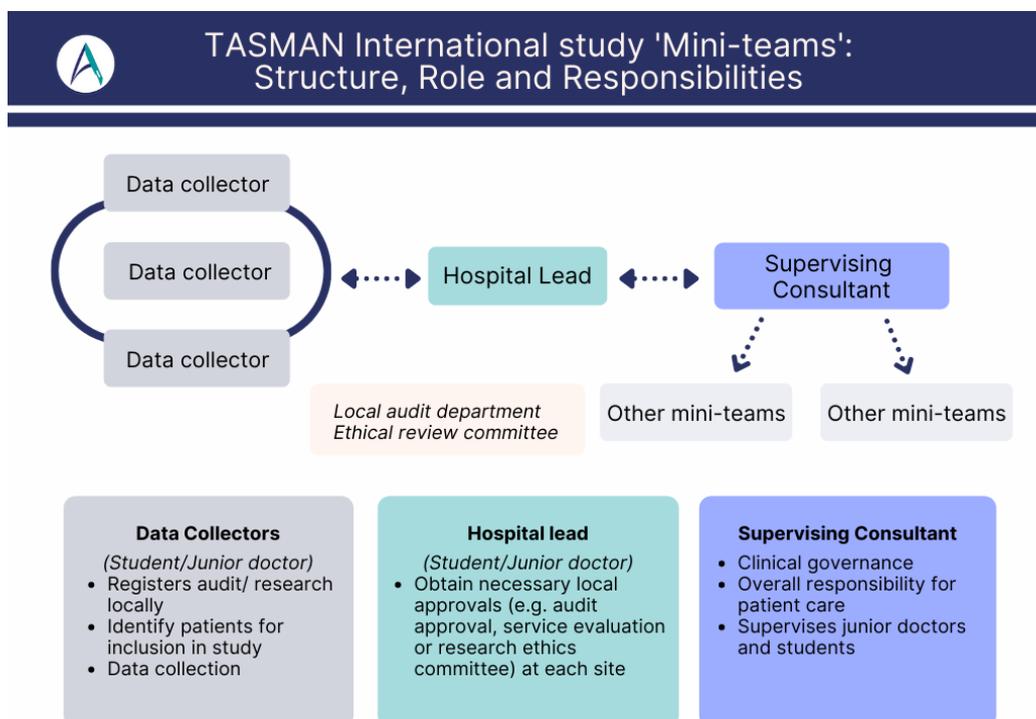
2. Recruit collaborators to ‘mini-teams’

As a hospital lead, you are responsible for creating and managing “mini-teams” of students and trainees/residents at each hospital. A mini-team is made up of a maximum of 5 members: a supervising consultant, a hospital lead (student or junior doctor at any stage of training), and up-to three additional collaborators (data collectors). The role of the hospital lead is to support collaborators in the clinical environment and the role of the supporting consultant is to supervise and support hospital study registration.

Each mini-team will be attached to one of the four 2-week data collection periods. The same mini-team may collect data across multiple different data collection periods, if they so wish. However, each mini-team must collect data across different data collection periods, i.e. no patients may be included more than once in the REDCap database.

3. Get audit or ethical approval early

All countries involved in the OPERAS study will have different requirements for study or research approval. Speak to your national committee for further advice on the requirements in your country, or to seek advice about local guidelines. They may be able to provide details required for registration and help you to facilitate local approvals. This process can take a long time so it is important to start this as early as possible!



4. Prepare for the Study Launch

Once you have created mini-teams at your local hospitals and gained study approval, you are almost ready to start collecting data for the OPERAS study. There are some final important steps to ensure all collaborators are ready to begin data collection. This includes:

- Arrange a local meeting with all collaborators to discuss the study and answer questions
- Ensure that all mini-teams are complete and know where/when they are due to collect data
- Ensure all collaborators have a copy of the full protocol (found at <https://anzsurgsocs.org/tasman/operas-study-hub/>)
- Ensure that all collaborators are registered with the REDCap system (see below)

5. Registering on REDCap

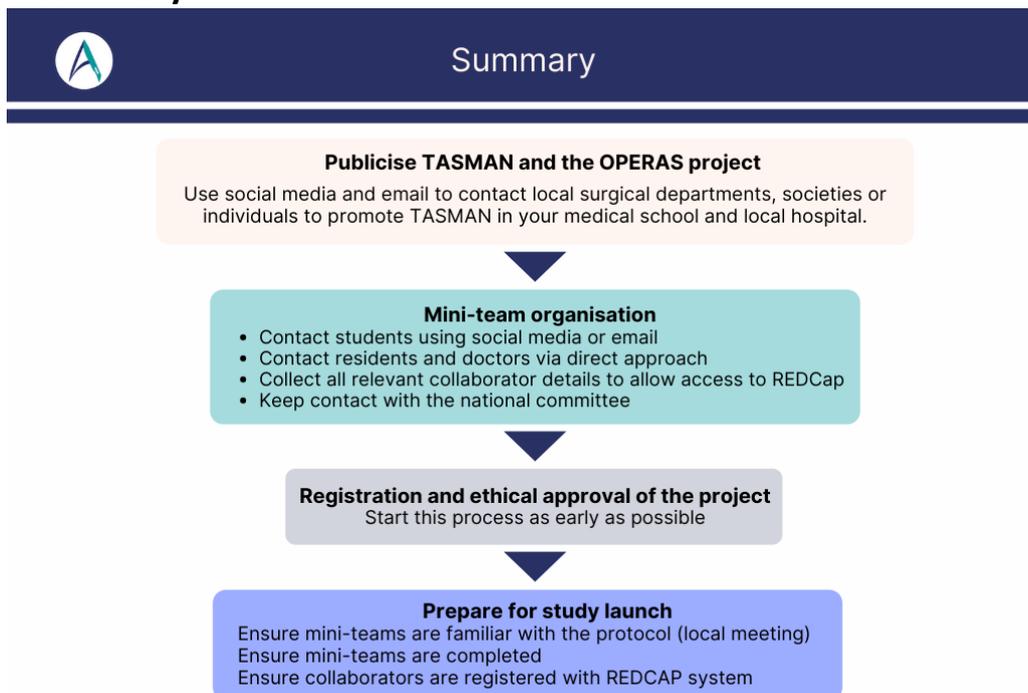
Data will be collected through the secure REDCap data capture system. This is found via the following link: [TO BE RELEASED] and supporting documents on how to use REDCap is available here: [TO BE RELEASED]

- REDCap guide to include collaborators details: [TO BE RELEASED]

For each participating centre, you will be required to enter several key pieces of information:

- *Collaborators details participating at each site:* Details of all mini-team members for each data period should be entered here. This includes name, email address, ORCID. Using this information, EuroSurg will provide each collaborator with a login to the REDCap system to enable data collection. As such, this information must be provided before the study begins.
- *Data collection periods*
- *Ethical approval and/or study registration*

6. In summary



We are here to help! Please contact us with via operas.tasman@gmail.com or Twitter: @TASMANCollab