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**Manuscript Type: Retrospective Cohort Study**

**Rationale and Design of the Cardiorespiratory Fitness and Hospitalization  
Events in Armed Forces (CHIEF) Study in Eastern Taiwan**

Lin GM *et al.* Rationale and Design of the CHIEF Study

**Informed consent statement:** Participants were not required to give informed consent to this retrospective study since the analysis of baseline characteristics used anonymous clinical data that were obtained after each patient agreed to share with the results by written informed consent.

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