

**It is your responsibility when completing the survey to ensure you are using a secure device.**

## **PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET**

**Project title: Psychological impact of COVID- 19- pandemic and experience: An international survey.**

**Ethical Approval Reference: 20/HRA/1934**

You are being invited to take part in the third phase of a research study exploring the psychological impact of the coronavirus and changing restrictions, their effect on our emotions, behaviour and wellbeing. If you took part in previous phases of the study, you are still able to take part in this third phase. Conversely if you did not take part in previous phases, you are still able to take part in this third phase. Before you decide if you want to take part, we would like to inform you about why the research is being undertaken. Please take time to decide whether you would like to take part. Please ask for clarification of any points and discuss it with others if you wish.

### **General Information:**

The aim of this survey is to better understand how the coronavirus and the restrictions necessary to prevent its spread are impacting on our day to day lifestyle. We hope to find out what is helpful for people during this time and also what may be causing some people to be affected more than others in terms of their wellbeing.

### **Why have I been chosen?**

You have been invited because you are over the age of 16, live in the UK and have access to be able to complete this online questionnaire.

### **Do I have to take part?**

No, it is up to you to decide whether to take part or not. You are free to withdraw from the study at any time, without giving a reason and without consequence. This survey is completely voluntary and you can stop completing it at any time. You also do not have to answer any questions you don't want to, you can just skip them.

### **What will happen if I decide to take part?**

If you decide to take part in the study, you will be asked to complete a consent form and the online survey questionnaire that will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. You can access these by clicking next at the bottom of this page. The questionnaire uses this software platform which is called Qualtrics.Core XM. The questionnaire will ask about demographic information such as age, gender, level of education etc.; wellbeing, ways of coping, loneliness and perceived support, any experiences of mental health difficulties you may have had in the past or currently. You do not need to have any of the problems listed above to complete the questionnaires, as we want a wide range of people to take part. Participation is voluntary, and you may change your mind as you complete the questionnaire (or before). You can also skip any questions you don't want to answer. You have the right to withdraw from taking part in the survey before submitting it. Once you have submitted or abandoned the survey, it will not be possible to withdraw your responses- the survey responses will not include personal details, making it impossible to identify which survey a certain individual has completed.

### **Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?**

All information which is collected about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential. You will only be asked to provide your email address if you would like to be approached to take part in future versions of the study or future ethically approved research conducted by SHFT. Your email address will be removed from your responses so that you cannot be recognised and will be stored electronically in a separate password protected excel spreadsheet in the Research Department for up to 5 years. Any documents will be kept in a locked filing cabinet in the Research department. All data use is strictly within the terms of the Data Protection Act (DPA, 2018).

Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust is the sponsor for this study based in England. We will be using information from you in order to undertake this study and will act as the data controller for this study. This means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

Your rights to access change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways for the research to be reliable and accurate. If you withdraw from the study, we will keep the information about you that we have already obtained. To safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personally identifiable information possible. At the end of the study the anonymous questionnaire data will be kept for up to 15 years, at Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust and then will be destroyed.

Data protection regulation provides you with control over your personal data and how it is used. When you agree to your information being used in research, however, some of those rights may be limited in order for the research to be reliable and accurate.

You can find out more about how we use your information [www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/research](http://www.southernhealth.nhs.uk/research) or by emailing [research@southernhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:research@southernhealth.nhs.uk)

### **What will happen to the results of the research study?**

The data collected during the study will be analysed and written up. The results will be disseminated through publications to peer review journals, and conference presentations. Be assured that you will not be identified in any report or publication. We will make a summary of the results available for participants at the conclusion of the study by publishing them online.

### **What if there is a problem?**

Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust as Sponsor has appropriate insurance in place in the unlikely event that you suffer any harm as a direct consequence of your participation in this study.

If you wish to complain about any aspect of the way in which you have been approached or treated, or how your information is handled during the course of this study, you should contact Dr Peter Phiri (contact details below).

If you remain unhappy or have a complaint about any aspect of this study, please contact 02382 311200

### **For any questions regarding this study, please contact:**

Investigator: Dr Peter Phiri

Email: [peter.phiri@southernhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:peter.phiri@southernhealth.nhs.uk)

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## CONSENT

So that we can be sure you understand the study and would like to take part, please read the following statements and tick the box if you understand and agree with them. Please feel free to contact a member of the research team if you have any questions

*Please tick the box(es) if you agree with the statement(s)*

1. I have read and understood the information sheet (Version 2.3 dated 02/07/2021) and agree to take part in this study and my data processed accordingly.
  
2. I certify that I am 16 years of age or over
  
3. I would like to be contacted about future versions of this study **(OPTIONAL)**
  
4. I would like to be contacted about future ethically approved research taking place at Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust **(OPTIONAL)**

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet and considering taking part in the study.