ANNEX 4 - Participant Information sheet

Participant Information Sheet – Phase 1 (Focus group)

Can community pharmacies support the national Bowel Cancer Screening Programme?

Date: 3rd February 2023

You are being invited to take part in a MPharm final year project. Before you decide whether to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information sheet carefully before deciding whether or not to participate. If you consent to take part, then you will be asked to sign an informed consent form. If you decide not to take part, there will be no disadvantage to you, and we thank you for your time in considering our project. If after reading this information sheet, you are still unsure or uncertain about anything, then I am happy to answer any questions you may have. You should not sign the consent form until your queries have been resolved and you are happy to volunteer.

What is the purpose of the study?

The main aim of this study is to explore whether community pharmacies can support in raising awareness and increasing participation with the national bowel cancer screening programme. We will be monitoring three things during this study; the acceptance of the posters placed at pharmacies, staff opinions, and engagement with the videos.

Why have I been chosen?

You have been chosen as you are a member of the public aged over 18 years old who belongs to an ethnic minority group. The target ethnic groups are people from an Asian, Middle Eastern, and African background as they show lowest engagement and participation in London with bowel cancer screening.

Do I have to take part?

No. This research study is done purely on a voluntary basis. You are free to withdraw from this study at any point without disadvantage and without having to provide a reason.

What will happen to me if I take part?

If you kindly agree to taking part, read this participant information sheet. You will be asked to sign an informed consent form after which your details will be passed onto the research student (Amal Khlafa) to organise a convenient date and time for the session to go ahead. Prior to the focus group taking place, once the consent document has been signed, you will be sent a short survey consisting of 9 questions to anonymously complete on your demographic.
You will be invited to 1 of 3 focus groups depending on the language you would like to view the video; Bengali, Hindi, or English. The focus group discussion will be in English.

The focus group will have 3 sections:
Section 1 – General questions on the understanding of cancer screening and the use of poster and videos to raise awareness of screening campaigns. This section will take approximately 15 minutes.
Section 2 – Showing 2 videos on bowel cancer screening. The videos will be available in 1 of 3 languages to choose from. These are Bengali, Hindi, or English. Unfortunately, due to a current lack in available resources, people from an African or Middle eastern background will only be shown the video in English (unless they are bilingual in Bengali or Hindi also) whilst people from an Asian background will have the option of all 3 languages to choose from. I will ask a few questions after showing each video. This section will take approximately 30 minutes.
Section 3 – Questions relating to preference between the 2 videos shown and their potential benefit in bowel cancer screening. This section will take approximately 15 minutes.

The entire focus group will take approximately 60 minutes.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

The purpose of the focus group is to explore your opinion and knowledge of bowel cancer screening as well as getting your opinion on 2 videos on the screening programme. It will be an ideal place to ask any questions you may have on bowel cancer screening especially if you are not familiar with the screening programme and its existence.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

We do not foresee any disadvantage or risk in taking part.

What happens when the research study ends?

The data collected from all participants will be collated and analysed to help form an opinion of the role community pharmacies could play in supporting the screening programme.

Will my taking part be kept confidential?

All information collected during the course of the study will be kept strictly confidential. Your contact details will be asked of you on the consent form for the purpose of contacting to arrange for the focus group to take place, but other than this, no further personal information will be obtained. You will be allocated a unique code to maintain your confidentiality and the consent form will be stored on a secured drive under a password known only by the student researcher (myself) and supervisor (Dr Nabhani).

Who is organising and funding the study?

This study is part of my final year project for Masters of Pharmacy (MPharm) degree, within the School of Pharmacy, Faculty of Health, Science, Social Care and Education, at Kingston University. None of the investigators stand to gain financially from this study.

What will happen to the results of the research study?

The results will be part of my dissertation which will be made available within the Department of Pharmacy at Kingston University for others to view. In addition, findings arising from this study may be presented at national and international conferences as well as published in

scientific journals. It will not be possible to identify you or others from any such publications with results being aggregated for the whole group. In such cases where an interview is used, if you permit for the interview to be recorded and transcribed, participants will always be referred to by pseudonyms.

Please contact the research student (Amal Khlafa) or the supervisor Dr Nabhani if you have any questions about this project. The contact details can be found below and on the informed consent document.

Contact details for myself:

Amal Khlafa – k1841184@kingston.ac.uk

Contact details for my supervisor:

Dr Nabhani – s.nabhani@kingston.ac.uk

Who has reviewed the study?

The delegated Kingston University Faculty of Health, Science, Social Care and Education Research Ethics Committee has reviewed and approved this study.

In addition, this project is being supervised by Dr Nabhani and co-supervised by Prof Gaelle Vallee-Tourangeau and Dr Yasmin Okan.

Contact for further information.
Further information may be obtained from:

Amal Khafa
K1841184@kingston.ac.uk

Dr Shereen Nabhani
s.nabhani@kingston.ac.uk

If you become concerned about any issue that may have been raised by you participating in this study, please contact Dr Nabhani.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet.