# Appendix 6 - ELDERLY DEPRESSION – INFORMATION SHEET



**TITLE OF RESEARCH:**

Identifying depression in older patients in the emergency department – assessing the efficacy of a two-stage screening tool.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

Dr Umang Grover

RESEARCH SITE:

Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust.

**Why is this research being done?**

This study is being done in an attempt to determine the best way to identify older people in the Emergency Department who are suffering from low mood so that they can be given help.

**What will happen to me?**

You will be interviewed by two doctors or nurse practitioners from the Emergency Department and then assessed by a psychiatric nurse. Each of the Emergency Department staff will ask you a series of questions aimed at finding out whether you may be suffering from low mood. Each interview will take about 5 minutes. The psychiatric nurse will also assess whether you might have a problem with low mood. This final assessment will be a bit more detailed and may take up to 45 minutes.

**Can anything bad happen to me?**

There is very little risk involved of harm to anyone participating in the study. We will be collecting some information from you, which we will use to determine whether our questionnaire can accurately diagnose low mood in older people. However, all the information we collect will be kept confidential.

**What is in it for me?**

During your assessment, you will be seen by a specialist nurse and if they diagnose that you have low mood, you will be referred (if you wish to be) so that you will get the help you need. The findings of our study will also help us to identify and help older people attending the Emergency Department who may be experiencing problems with low mood.

**What if I end the study early?**

You can end the study at any time. This will not affect your treatment in any way. If you withdraw before your assessments have been completed, we may still use the information we have already collected from you in our analysis, but no-one will be able to identify that the information came from you.

**What are my rights?**

You have the right to refuse to answer any question which you do not wish to. You have the right to privacy, and you have the right to knowing that your personal information will be kept confidential. You have the right to stop answering the questionnaire at any time, and you can decide to not continue to participate in the study at any time.

**What are my responsibilities if I join?**

You will be expected to answer any questions in as complete and truthful manner as you can.

**What about confidentiality?**

Any information gathered from you will be kept confidential at all times. No part of this information will be shared or broadcasted in any form to any one, except for the sole purpose of the research process.

With your consent, we will inform your General Practitioner that you were involved in this study. This is in case you need any further follow up treatment as a result of our assessment, which may need to be provided through your GP. However, when a patient is seen by a psychiatric nurse a letter is always sent out to your GP as part of routine practice regardless of whether a research GP letter is sent out or not. Therefore if you do not wish for us to inform your GP, we will not enroll you in the trial, to ensure that this does not happen.

**What is in it for the study doctors?**

The researchers would like to publish the results of this study so that more doctors will know whether this questionnaire is useful in diagnosing low mood in older patients in the Emergency Department. If the questionnaire is found to be effective it may be used by Salford Royal Hospitals to assess older patients in the Emergency Department.

**Permission for the research team to use your confidential health information:**

**What is confidential health information?**

Confidential health information is any information from your hospital notes that can be traced back to you. We need your permission to use your confidential health information in this research study.

The type of confidential health information that we will use and share for this study includes:

* Clinical notes, which may include any problems you have had with your emotional and mental health
* Information about your age, gender and the reason you came to hospital today

**Who else will see my information?**

Only the investigators and the health workers who will be doing the assessments will have access to your information.

**How long will the investigators use and share my information?**

Once you have been assessed by the psychiatric nurse in this study, anything that can link you to the information we gathered from you will be removed from our files.

**What if I change my mind about sharing my research information?**

If you change your mind then you will be removed from the study.

**Who can I contact if I have any questions or complaints about the study?**

If you have any concerns about the study, you can contact the lead researcher at Salford RoyalNHS Foundation Trust:

**Dr Umang Grover**

Consultant in Emergency Medicine

Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust

Telephone: 0161 206 2478

Email: [umang.grover@srft.nhs.uk](mailto:umang.grover@srft.nhs.uk)

If you have any complaints about the treatment you received as part of this study, you can contact the hospital PALS (Patient Advice and Liaison Services) team:

**Patient Advice and Liaison Service**

Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust

Stott Lane, Salford M6 8HD

Telephone: 0161 206 2003

**This research was reviewed by the Cornwall & Plymouth Research Ethics Committee.**