

Child Participant Information Sheet (11-15 years)

(Version 3 09/12/2020)

4S Sore Throat Study - Scores and Swabs to Self-assess Sore Throat Feasibility Study (Stage II)

We want to find out the best way to rate and test children with sore throats

Do you want to join our study?

What is this study about?

To see if your Mum, Dad or carer can rate your sore throat and take tests from your throat that a doctor or nurse would normally do. Many children in the UK are given antibiotics for sore throats but not everyone needs them and rating and testing sore throats can help decide who needs the antibiotics. We don't know if parents/carers can do the rating and tests well enough and this study will help us decide.

Why me?

We are asking children and young people with sore throats who are between 3 and 15 years old to take part.

Why is it a good idea to take part?

To help us find out if parents can rate and test your sore throat.

Do I have to do this?

No, it's up to you. You can say no at any time and you don't have to say why.

What will happen?

- 1) When you get a sore throat your Mum, Dad or carer will answer some questions about it.
- 2) You will answer some short questions and write your name on a form to say you want to take part.
- 3) Your Mum/Dad/carers will rate your sore throat by asking some questions and looking for signs that can appear like swollen glands or pus on tonsils.
- 4) Your Mum/Dad/carers will take a swab test from your throat (using what looks like a cotton bud on a small stick) and take saliva samples. These tests are only taken if you are happy to have them.

What happens to your information?

Your information will be kept in a safe place at the University of Southampton. We will write about what we find but we will not tell anyone your name.

What if I change my mind?

You can change your mind at any time and nobody will be upset. Tell your Mum, Dad or carer you do not want to do it anymore and they will tell the researcher. The researcher will then take your name out of the study.