Rec Ref: IRAS ID: 345225

Participant Information Sheet (PIS)

Part 1

**Study Title:** Assessing the use of artificial intelligence in rectal magnetic resonance

imaging.

Chief Investigator: Dr Anita Wale, Consultant Radiologist

Invitation to participate in the above study:

We would like to invite you to take part in a research study part of a MSc Clinical Science (Medical Physics) student project along the workstream of the Imaging Research Group with the hope that it will benefit future patients referred for the same type of MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) scan as you. Before you decide we would like you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve for you. Please take time to read the following carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. We will go through the information sheet with you and answer any questions you have. We'd suggest this should take about 35 minutes.

Part 1 of the PIS tells you the purpose of this study and what will happen to you if you take part.

Part 2 gives you more detailed information about the conduct of the study.

Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

What is the purpose of the study?

This study aims to assess an Artificial Intelligence (AI) technique that can make MRI

images clearer and more detailed, whilst also able to complete the scan in a much

shorter time. This AI technique has already been established at numerous NHS trusts

and is a CE marked product (the product has been tested and deemed to meet Eu safety,

health, and environmental protection requirements), however, requires validation in MRI

rectum scans at St George's Hospital before we add it to patient scans.

MRI scans of the rectum are only performed for patients who are diagnosed with rectal

cancer. These scans have been proven to select patients for the right treatment. Patients

with more advanced disease need a tumour shrinkage for successful surgery. Therefore,

all patients with rectal cancer with have an MRI scan at diagnosis and patients who need

additional treatment before surgery have another MRI scan to show that this has worked

and helps plan their surgery. As a result, all patients having a rectal MRI scan irrespective

of where on their cancer pathway they are (diagnosis or post downstaging) will be invited

to take part.

Why have I been invited?

You have been invited to take part in this study as you were identified by our radiology

booking system as being referred for a rectum MRI scan.. If you would like to take the

opportunity and enrol in this study, you will be 1 of approximately 60 other participants.

Do I have to take part?

Your involvement in this study is completely voluntary.

Prior to your involvement, we will describe the study and go through this information

sheet. If you would like to be involved in this study, you will be given this information

sheet to keep and asked to sign a consent form. You are still free to withdraw at any

time, even if you had initially accepted the invitation for this study. You will never need

to give a reason for withdrawing, nor will you be asked for one. A decision to withdraw at

any time or not take part will not affect the standard of care you receive.

What will happen to me if I take part?

If you decide to enrol in this study, your MRI scan will be increased by no more than 15

minutes where one or two additional scans will be acquired. These additional scans will

use the AI technique that can make images clearer, scans shorter or both. Apart from

the additional scans, no other scans will use the AI technique and so the set of images

taken will always contain the images you would've had if you hadn't joined the study.

Following your scan, the images will be reviewed by a radiologist, a specialist doctor who

usually reads the MRI scan images and who will also assess if the additional scans with

the AI technique are improved. If this is the case, then the additional scans will replace

the routine scans benefitting other patients.

All images will be stored on the hospital computer network. If any images are deemed

useful for publication e.g. in a scientific journal, all images will be fully anonymised.

Therefore, you will not be able to be identified from the images.

It should also be made clear that we may need to access your medical history and any

results that are related to your MRI scan.

This study is expected to last up to a year.

**Expenses and payments** 

Unfortunately, there are no expenses or reimbursements for participating in this study.

What do I have to do?

If you choose to participate in this study, please read this Participant Information Sheet

(PIS) in its entirety and complete the consent form. You will also have to complete the

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'MRI Screening Questionnaire' and change into a patient gown; however, this is also

necessary for all routine MRI scans.

You will not be excluded from this study if you are/have been involved in any other study

but may be rejected if you have an implant or are pregnant. If you do have an implant of

any sort, or may be pregnant, it is important to make a radiographer aware of this before

your scan.

Your participation in this study will only require you to spend up to an additional 15

minutes of scanning under the same conditions as the routine MRI scan you were

referred for. You will not be asked to do anything apart from continuing to remain still

and breathing normally. Once we have completed the scan that you were referred for,

we will check that you still wish to participate in the study before proceeding with the

additional scans. If you choose not to go ahead with the additional scans, then your MRI

appointment is complete.

Once your scan is over, you won't have to do anything further as part of your participation

in the study. If you are referred for the same MRI scan at a later date, you may be asked

if you would like to be scanned again with the additional scans that use Al. Again, this

would add no more than 15 minutes to your scan.

What are the alternatives for diagnosis or treatment?

There are no other methods of medical imaging that can be used as an alternative to MRI

for your care.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

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As you will be spending up to an additional 15 minutes in the scanner, please consider whether you are a suitable candidate. An additional 15 minutes in the scanner should

not be underestimated if you suffer from claustrophobia or anxiety.

Also, the additional scans will cover the same area as the routine MRI scan and so is

unlikely to have an incidental finding (something unexpected discovered during your MRI

that was done for another reason) elsewhere in the body. In the event of an incidental

finding, your GP will be contacted and informed. You will be informed that your GP has

been contacted regarding an incidental finding from your MRI. You should be made

aware that discovery of an incidental finding may influence current or future life

insurance or medical insurance policies (or equivalent).

What are the side-effects of any treatment received when taking part?

There is no added risk when using the Al tool compared to a normal MRI scan. Though

While MRI is a purely diagnostic tool and does not provide any treatment, we still must

consider a number of factors. This includes loud acoustic noises that are generated by

the scanner, for which you are provided ear plugs and headphones. Additionally, a small

amount of heating can be induced within the human body, however, this is normal for

routine MRI and there is no added risk of this from the additional sequences that use AI.

It should be made clear that radiographers are trained to monitor and limit any heating

that is induced by the MRI scanner.

It is highly unlikely that any side-effect or adverse effect would result from MRI but if you

would like to discuss the safety of MRI or wish to report any adverse effect to us, please

contact us on 0208 266 6244 or email us at mriphysics@stgeorges.nhs.uk..

**Radiation Risk** 

There is no ionising radiation used in routine MRI or as part of this study.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

The potential benefits of taking part in this study is that the additional scans that you

receive may provide more information to the radiologist reporting on your scan.

Furthermore, participation in this study means that if the scan using the AI technique is

found to be successful, it can be implemented routinely sooner. Consequently, any future

referrals/follow-up scans may be shorter.

What if there is a problem?

If there is a problem during your scan, you can halt it at any time using the patient buzzer

that is handed to you during your MRI.

Any complaint about the way you have been dealt with or any possible harm you might

suffer will be addressed. The detailed information on this is given in part 2.

Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?

Yes, we will follow ethical and legal practice and all information about you will be handled

in confidence. The details are included in Part 2.

This completes Part 1. If the information in Part 1 has interested you and you are

considering participation, please read the additional information in part 2 before making

any decision.

Part 2

What if relevant new information becomes available?

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It is unlikely that any new information about the AI technique would impact your care, as

we will still acquire the images that you would've had if you did not participate in the

study and only received the routine scan.

What will happen if I don't want to carry on with this study?

You may wish to exit from this study at any point, even during the additional sequences.

If you do wish not to carry on with the study whilst you are in the MRI scanner, press the

patient buzzer that you are provided with, and a radiographer will assist you exiting the

scanner.

With your permission, we would like to keep any images that have been acquired up to

the point of your withdrawal for use in scientific publications. Furthermore, the findings

of this study may lead to further research questions. If so, we would be keen to use your

imaging in the future. No images would contain information that could be used to identify

you, and we understand if you choose not to give permission for this. You will also not

need to give or feel pressured to explain your decision.

What if there is a problem?

If there is an issue that relates to the MRI scan procedure that you underwent, please

contact the MRI department on **0208 725 3037** so that radiographers and, if necessary,

MRI physicists can investigate further. If it was found that an incident did occur, then this

will be reported locally, via a DATIX, that aims to learn and prevent the incident from

occurring again.

Complaints:

If there is any issue you would like to highlight or a complaint you wish to make about

your experience on the study, then please report this to one of the researchers, (Zach

**NHS Foundation Trust** 

Pang, Khaliesah Bolhassan) who will do their best to answer your questions or concerns,

on 0208 266 6244 or email us at mriphysics@stgeorges.nhs.uk.

If the issue or complaint you wish to raise is about the care you received from a member

of staff, unrelated to the study, then please report this to the MRI department on 0208

725 3037.

If you do not wish to raise a complaint through either of these channels, then a complaint

can be made via the normal National Health Service complaints mechanism

available/patient advice and liaison services (PALS) via email (pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk)

or by phone (02087252453), which is open 9am - 5pm, Monday - Friday.

All complaints raised will be handled with the utmost care and understanding.

St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust sponsored research:

St Georges University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is party to NHS Litigation Authority

(NHSLA) / NHS Resolution. As an NHS body it is liable for clinical negligence and other

negligent harm to individuals covered by their duty of care. NHS Institutions employing

researchers are liable for negligent harm caused by the design of studies they initiate.

In the event that something goes wrong and you are harmed during the research and

this is due to someone's negligence then you may have grounds for legal action for

compensation against the sponsor (St Georges University Hospitals NHS Foundation

Trust), but you may have to pay your legal costs. The normal NHS complaints mechanism

will still be available to you.

Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?

Your involvement in this study will be always kept confidential with only those directly

involved in your care or this research study able to see the images we take. You can also

choose not to notify your GP about your involvement in this study.

Any images that we collect will be stored on St George's Hospital's secure network for

up to 10 years. If you wish for the images acquired as part of this study to be deleted,

please contact the research team on 0208 266 6244 or email us at

mriphysics@stgeorges.nhs.uk. Any data that is collected about you will be coded and/or

anonymised so that you will not be able to be identified. Any electronic copies will be

secured on St George's Hospital's secure network whilst any hard copies will be secured

on site.

Furthermore, your data will only be accessed by researchers on this project with your

data being retained only for as long as it is needed for the study. This also means that

the images can be deleted once the study has finished.

How will we use information about you?

As part of this project, we may need to access your information that includes your name,

NHS number, GP and your medical records. This information will only be accessed by

staff involved in this research project and those involved in your care. Relevant sections

of a participant's medical notes and personal data collected during the study may be

looked at by responsible individuals from St George's University Hospitals NHS

Foundation Trust (SGHFT), the NHS Trust or from regulatory authorities.

Additionally, we will also need to use your height and weight as the scanner requires this

to calculate safety parameters for your scan.

In the case of an incidental finding, responsible individuals from St George's University

Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (SGHFT) will need to access your name, NHS number,

and GP information in order to inform your GP.

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People who are not involved with your care or this research study will not be able to see

information that could be used to identify you. Any of your information that we keep will

be safe and secure.

What are your choices about how your information is used?

You can stop being part of the study at any time, without giving a reason, but we would

like to keep your images and information about you that we already have. Your images

will be stored for up to 10 years. If you do not wish for your MR images, acquired as part

of this study, to be used or you wish for your images to be deleted from St George's

Hospital's secure network, please contact the research team on 0208 266 6244 or

email us at mriphysics@stgeorges.nhs.uk. so that this can be arranged.

Where can you find out more about how your information is used?

You can find out more about how we use your information

[https://www.stgeorges.nhs.uk/education-and-research/research/research-privacy-

notice/

For general information on how the NHS uses research data please visit

https://www.hra.nhs.uk/information-about-patients/

What will happen to the results of the research study?

It is intended for the results of the research study to be published as an MSc thesis, as

well as published in peer-reviewed scientific journals and/or at international

conferences.

If you wish to see these, please let us know and we can make them available to you when they are complete.

The research and data collected will not result in a discovery of commercial value.

## Who is organising and funding the research?

This study is being sponsored by St George's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. No one in this organisation, nor the organisation itself will earn an income from this study.

## Who has reviewed the study?

All research in the NHS is looked at by independent group of people, called a Research Ethics Committee (REC), to protect your interests. This study has been reviewed and given favorable opinion by \_\_\_\_\_\_Research Ethics Committee.

## COVID-19

As you are most likely aware, due to the outbreak of Covid-19 (Coronavirus), St George's, like other hospitals, is treating Covid-19 patients. We are taking extra steps to ensure both staff and patients are kept safe at all times and to prevent any further spread.

We would like to reassure you that we are taking every step possible to ensure your visit is as safe as possible, as part of this you will be asked to follow our Hospital policy on social distancing and PPE whilst you are here for your visit.

Staff will be adhering to strict cleanliness guidelines and, in some cases, this may mean full PPE.

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Please attend for the appointment on your own if at all possible. Do not bring any children

or relatives. Exceptions to this are official Carers or a Parent / Guardian of a Paediatric

Patient.

Please don't attend if you:

1) Have been informed that you are in a vulnerable group and should not attend

hospital (unless specifically instructed by your doctor that the scan is needed)

2) Have a household member, or are yourself, currently experiencing any COVID-19

symptoms

Then you must stay at home and please contact us to let us know so we can postpone

your appointment. If you feel your appointment is no longer needed, please let us know.

Further Note:

Routine medical appointments are an exception to social isolation rules. Unless you have

received a shielding letter or are currently self-isolating due to COVID-19 exposure, you

are permitted to travel to your appointment.

If you have concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us (see below for details)

**Further Information and Contact Details** 

If you have any questions or concerns about this study, please contact one of the

researchers (Zach Pang & Khaliesah Bolhassan) on 0208 266 6244. Alternatively, the

researchers can be emailed via mriphysics@stgeorges.nhs.uk

The organisation's Data Protection Officer can also be contacted via

data.protection@stgeorges.nhs.uk