

TAPER DCE survey sub-study

Participant information leaflet

What is this study?

- The TAPER DCE interview study will explore what matters most to women and their doctors/nurses when women are considering stopping or restarting HRT. We hope that this information will help us to improve care for women in the future. (the **TAPER qualitative sub-study**).
- *This study forms part of a larger programme of research called **DisconTinuAtion of hormone rePlacement thERapy (TAPER study); How and why do women decide and experience stopping HRT, why do women decide to restart and is a clinical trial comparing stopping methods feasible?***
- You can find out more information about the TAPER Study via this website or using the QR code: [website to be created](#)



Why should I get involved in this study?

- Stopping HRT often leads to menopausal symptoms returning. This can be problematic, and some women then choose to restart HRT. This can negatively affect women and also increase healthcare visits and healthcare costs.

Why is this study important?

- We will look at what matters most to women when women are considering stopping or restarting HRT. We would like you to complete our decision-making survey which will ask you what matters to you most. These results will show what women consider important when stopping/restarting HRT.

Why have I been invited to take part?

- You have been invited because you have (in the last 3 years) or are in the process of stopping your HRT, regardless of if you restarted or not.

What will I have to do to take part?

- If you agree to take part in the survey, the research team will ask you complete a consent form and a short background questionnaire, so we know a bit more about you (e.g., your age, ethnicity).
- Consent can be written or by email.

What are the benefits of taking part?

- The research might not directly benefit you, but what you tell us may help us to improve care for women and the information available to HCPs who care for these women.
- On completion of the survey you will be offered a £25 voucher to thank you for your time.

What are the risks of taking part?

- There are no physical risks to taking part in this study.

Do I have to take part?

- No. Taking part in this study is voluntary. If you decide to take part, you will be asked to complete a consent form. However, you will be free to withdraw at any time without giving us a reason.
- If you decide to withdraw within two weeks of completion of your survey, then we will securely destroy your data wherever possible.
- If you withdraw more than two weeks after completion of your survey, then we will continue to use your anonymised data as it will have been included in our ongoing analysis by that point.
- If you wish to withdraw, please contact the TAPER team using the information provided below.

Will my taking part be kept confidential?

- All the information collected as part of this study will be handled strictly in accordance with your consent, the Data Protection Act 2018 as part of the UK General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

What will happen to the results of the study?

- The results of this study will be used to develop a study looking at different methods of HRT discontinuation.
- The results may be published in academic journals, presented at conferences, and used to inform policy and practice.
- Please note that you will not be identifiable in any study related report.
- Results will be made available on the TAPER website – please scan the QR code or use the web address available at the end of this leaflet.

Who has funded and reviewed the research?

- This study has been funded by the National Institute for Health Research (Grant reference: NIHR 304353). It is organised managed and coordinated by the University of Birmingham where data will be securely stored.

- The study has been reviewed and had approval from the NHS research ethics committee
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What if there is a problem?

- If you are not satisfied with the way you have been approached or treated during this study, please speak to the researcher(s) first. Our contact details can be found below.
- You can also contact the lead researcher for the TAPER study, Dr Sarah Hillman (s.c.hillman@bham.ac.uk)
- If you wish to complain formally, you can contact the University of Birmingham Research Ethics team researchgovernance@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Research team contact details

Email us via s.c.hillman@birmingham.ac.uk add RF email

Call on phone to be confirmed

Visit the TAPER study website: web address to be confirmed

**Thank you for taking time to read this information leaflet and for considering
taking part in the TAPER DCE sub-study**