HAUNERRS Qualitative Interview Information Sheet

Hospital Admission for people who are Underserved, No fixed abode and Early/iRRegular discharge Study: A Qualitative Investigation

We are inviting you to take part in a separate interview as part of the HAUNERRS study.

You are being asked because you are taking part, or have taken part, in the main HAUNERRS study.

This sheet explains why we are doing the interview study and what taking part would involve. If anything is unclear, please ask.

Do I have to take part?

No. Taking part is completely up to you. If you do decide to take part, you are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason. Deciding not to take part or withdrawing from this interview will not affect your ability to take part in the rest of the pilot study if you still want to participate. Withdrawing will also not affect your access to support from Simon Community Scotland, Cyrenians, the NHS, or any other service.

If you decide to withdraw from the study, we will not collect any new information from you after that. Information already collected up to the point of your withdrawal may still be used as part of the research, unless you ask for it to be removed and this is still possible. Once your information has been anonymised and included in the analysis, it may not be possible to identify and remove it. If you want to take part, we will ask for your consent first.

What is the interview study about?

We want to understand people's experiences of:

- leaving hospital or the Emergency Department early
- getting healthcare and support afterwards
- taking part in the HAUNERRS study
- getting support from the HAUNERRS worker, if you were allocated to that group

We are doing these interviews to help us understand whether the study is acceptable and how it could be improved in future.

Why have I been invited?

You have been invited because you are involved in the main HAUNERRS study.

What will happen if I decide to take part?

The interview will last about 30 to 45 minutes. We can arrange an interview in person, over the phone or online. If you prefer to be interviewed in person, we will find somewhere that suits you.

You have been invited to take part in this one qualitative interview during the study. In some cases, you may also be invited to take part in a second qualitative interview near the end of the HAUNERRS study, after approximately 6 months of participation. Participation in any interview is entirely optional.

The researcher will ask open questions about your experiences. You do not need to answer all of the questions.

What kinds of things will you ask me about?

- your experience of leaving hospital or emergency care early
- your contact with health services and support services afterwards
- what it was like taking part in the HAUNERRS study
- what helped or made it harder to stay in contact with services or the research
- what you think could be improved

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

There are no direct benefits, but by sharing your experiences with us, you will help Christian Newman and the University to better understand how feasible and acceptable the intervention and study procedures are, what helps or makes it harder for people to stay engaged, and how the study could be improved in future.

Are there any risks in taking part?

Some topics may feel personal or upsetting. For example, we may ask about health, housing, substance use, hospital experiences, or difficult life events.

You can pause, take a break, or stop the interview at any time without giving a reason.

What if there are any problems?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study please contact Christian Newman christian.newman@ed.ac.uk 07515 596642 who will do his best to answer your questions.

In the unlikely event that something goes wrong, and you are harmed during the research, then you may have grounds for a legal action for compensation against The University of Edinburgh, but you may have to pay your legal costs.

Will I be paid for taking part?

Yes. You will receive **£20 in cash** at the end of each interview to thank you for your time.

Will the interview be recorded?

Yes, if you agree. The interview will be audio-recorded so that we can listen back and write it out accurately.

You do not have to agree to the interview being audio-recorded. If you do not want the interview to be recorded, we will ask whether you are happy for the researcher to take handwritten notes instead. If you do not agree to audio-recording or handwritten notes, the interview will not go ahead, because we would not be able to accurately collect and analyse your views.

The recording will be written out word for word, anonymised, and stored securely. We may use Edinburgh University's transcription service to transcribe interviews. If so, Edinburgh's Electronic Transcription and Translation of Audio (ETTA) complies with all GDPR regulations and policies for the secure and sensitive handling of sensitive information.

Will my information be kept confidential?

Yes. We will handle your information confidentially and in line with data protection law.

How will we use information about you?

We will need to use information from you for this research project.

This information will include:

- your name and contact details, if needed to arrange the interview
- your age, gender and ethnicity
- your interview answers
- basic information about your place in the study, such as which group you were in
- Your interview data will be analysed together with information from other participants to help us understand common experiences and differences.

People will use this information to do the research.

You will be given a study ID number and your name and contact details will be stored separately from the interview data. Only the research team and authorised study staff will have access to identifiable information.

We will keep all information about you safe and secure.

Is there any risk that someone could recognise me?

We will remove names and other identifying details before using interview information in reports or publications. However, because this is a small study in one city, there is a small chance that someone who knows you may recognise part of what you said, even after we remove names. We will reduce this risk by removing

identifying details, using quotations carefully, paraphrasing or combining quotations where needed.

How long will my information be kept?

Anonymised interview data will be stored securely for at least 3 years after the end of the project.

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 will keep information about you that we already have.
- We need to manage your records in specific ways for the research to be reliable. This means that we won't be able to let you see or change the data we hold about you.

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

The University of Edinburgh is the data controller for this study. This means it is responsible for looking after your information.

For further information about data privacy for research participants please refer to: https://data-protection.ed.ac.uk/privacy-notice-research

- our leaflet available from The Edinburgh Support Hub, 22 Holyrood Road
- by asking one of the research team
- by sending an email to christian.newman@ed.ac.uk, or
- you can contact the University of Edinburgh Data Protection Officer at: dpo@ed.ac.uk

What will happen to the results?

This research will form part of Christian Newman's PhD thesis at the University of Edinburgh. The results of this study may also be summarised in published articles, reports and presentations. You will not be identifiable from any published results. Quotes or key findings will always be made anonymous in any formal outputs unless we have your prior and explicit written permission to attribute them to you by name. With your consent, your anonymised information may also be kept for future research. We will provide you with a summary of the findings when the study finishes.

Who is organising the study?

The study is being organised by researchers at the University of Edinburgh.

The University of Edinburgh is the sponsor of the study.

Who has reviewed the study?
The study has been reviewed by the School of Health in Social Science Research Ethics Committee

Who can I contact for more information?

If you have any questions about the study, please contact:

Christian Newman
Email: christian.newman@ed.ac.uk
Phone: 07515 596642

If you want to speak to someone independent, please contact: Cat Tottie
cat.tottie@ed.ac.uk

What if I want to complain?

If you have a complaint about the study, you can contact:

Professor Matthias Schwannauer
Head of School, School of Health in Social Science
Email: headofschool.health@ed.ac.uk
or

Research Governance Co-ordinator, University of Edinburgh (CAHSS)
Email: cahss.res.ethics@ed.ac.uk

What if I lose this sheet?

You can ask the researcher or a member of staff for another copy, or contact Christian Newman and we will arrange to give you one.