

Podiatrist Information Sheet

Interviews with podiatrists as part of the REFORM study

Invitation to take part in an interview

You have already kindly agreed to take part in the REFORM study which is evaluating a multifaceted podiatry intervention which aims to improve balance and prevent falls in older adults.

As part of this study, we are now inviting you to take part in an interview which will look at your experience of delivering the podiatry intervention to older adults.

Before you decide whether or not to take part it is important to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read this information sheet carefully. If there is anything you wish to discuss in more detail or that is unclear please contact us.

Why am I being invited to take part?

We are inviting you to participate because you are delivering the multifaceted podiatry intervention for falls prevention to older adults who are taking part in the REFORM trial. We want to talk to a variety of podiatrists from the study to find out about their experience of delivering the multifaceted podiatry intervention.

We hope to interview approximately 10 podiatrists who are taking part in the study.

Why is it important to know what podiatrists think about the multifaceted podiatry intervention for older adults?

We would like to find out your views and opinions about the intervention. We are

also interested in finding out about any problems you may have encountered, and things you think helped in the delivery of the intervention.

What will I need to do if I take part?

If you are happy to take part, you will need to give about one hour of your time. A researcher will contact you to arrange a date and time to suit you.

The researcher and yourself will agree a place where you can be interviewed which could be at your place of work or at the University of York, if that is best for you.

There are no right and wrong answers to any questions we will ask in these interviews. We just want to find out about your thoughts and experience of delivering the multifaceted podiatry intervention to older adults.

The interviews will be recorded using a digital voice recorder so that we can keep an accurate record of everything you say. The recording of the interview will be copied to a secure University of York computer. The interview will then be typed-up by a secretary.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

The results of the study may help us better understand how podiatry interventions can be delivered to patients over the age of 70 in order to help improve their balance and reduce the number of falls they have.

What are the possible disadvantages of taking part?

If you take part in the interview, you will need to give roughly one hour of your time.

What if something goes wrong?

While we anticipate that no harm or distress will occur to anyone as a result of this study it is important to state that there are no special compensation arrangements. If you are harmed due to someone's negligence, then you may have grounds for legal action but you may have to pay for it. Regardless of this, if you wish to complain, or have any concerns about any aspect of the way you have been approached or treated during the course of this study, the normal National Health Service complaints mechanisms are available to you.

Do I have to take part?

It is entirely up to you to decide whether or not to take part. Participation in the study is voluntary. If you do decide to take part, you will be asked to sign a consent form.

What happens when the interviews and observations finish?

When the interviews finish, we will write up the information and publish it in journals that will be read by health professionals and researchers. We may also present the findings at conferences, anonymised excerpts from the interview may be used as part of the presentation. We will look at the results of the interviews together with the results of the main study. We will be happy to give you a summary of the results.

If I take part, will all the information be kept confidential?

Yes, only the research team will know that you have taken part in the interview. Your name will not be written on the transcripts. You will be anonymous in any written reports of the research. We may use written quotations from the interviews in

presentations and teaching. All recordings will be stored securely for a period of 5 years after the study is finished; then it will be destroyed.

Who is organising and funding the study?

This study is being organised by researchers at the University of York. The research has been funded by the Department of Health, National Institute of Health Research Health Technology Assessment programme.

Who has reviewed and checked the study?

All research in the NHS is looked at by an independent group of people, called a Research Ethics Committee to protect your safety, rights, wellbeing and dignity. This research has been reviewed and approved by NRES Committee East of England – Cambridge East Research Ethics Committee.

What do I do now?

If you would like to take part please complete the "Permission for release of podiatrist's personal details" form and give it to the Principal Investigator at your site. He/she will then give it to the qualitative researcher. They will then telephone you in the next few days to arrange to meet with you. The researcher can give you more information if you need it and will be happy to answer any of your questions.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information.

If you have any questions about the study please contact us.

Contact details:-

Researcher:

Tel:

Email:

Address: