

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Title of Project: Marginalisation and the microbe: Gender and Bladder Health Issues

Name of Researcher and School: Eleanor Kashouris, LPS

C-REC Ref no: <(ER/EK403/5)>

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide whether or not to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY?

This research is part of a larger Wellcome Trust funded research programme called Marginalisation and the Microbe: How to Mobilise around Anti-Microbial Resistance without Increasing Health Inequalities. This part of the project looks at experiences of poor bladder health.

WHY HAVE I BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE?

In this part of the programme we would like to reach people who have insight into poor bladder health. This includes people who have experience of urinary symptoms and identify wholly or partially as a woman.

We have contacted you because you have seen our recruitment material and expressed interest in taking part. We would like to speak to you to gain insight, context and understanding of the experience of poor bladder health. Because the purpose of these interviews is to explore the context and situation, they might range quite broadly. We expect to reach around 19 other people.

DO I HAVE TO TAKE PART?

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form. If you decide to take part you are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ME IF I TAKE PART?

We are asking you to do an interview with the researcher, Eleanor Kashouris. We may also ask you to take a photograph to describe your experiences of bladder health. You will not be told or asked to photograph anything that you do not feel comfortable with. It is your choice what you photograph but you will be asked not to include any people.

We would undertake the interviews at time and place to suit you, either online (Microsoft Teams), via telephone, or at your own or our offices or at another public venue of your choosing. (This would only be the case if government policy changes around social distancing during the Coronavirus outbreak.) We expect the interview

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will last no more than an hour. Ideally we would like to record interviews to get an accurate record of what is said. We will ask for your permission before we do this and would destroy the recordings once they have been written out.

We may ask you to send us a photo, which we may discuss in the interview.

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE DISADVANTAGES AND RISKS OF TAKING PART?

You are not likely to suffer any disadvantage for taking part in the study, apart from the time taken to do an interview, take a photo, and any potential embarrassment you may feel discussing urinary issues. You should consider this when deciding whether to take part.

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE BENEFITS OF TAKING PART?

There is unlikely to be a direct benefit to you as an individual as a result of this study. However, your participation in the research may help further our understanding of bladder health, and to work to improve them.

WILL MY INFORMATION IN THIS STUDY BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL? WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH STUDY?

Transcripts of the interviews (written out versions) will be kept confidential and stored only in an anonymous form. Publications or a thesis for the degree of PhD in Sociology may include quotations from the interviews, but your real name will not be used unless you give us your explicit consent to do so (see Consent Form.)

Photographs may also be included but your real name will not be used unless you give us explicit consent. If you wish to obtain a copy of published research or of the PhD thesis, please contact Eleanor Kashouris (ek403@sussex.ac.uk) If at any point you wish to withdraw we will respect your decision immediately and remove any data not yet included in publications that arose from interviews.

WHO IS ORGANISING AND FUNDING THE RESEARCH?

The research is being carried out by Eleanor Kashouris and researchers working in the School of Law, Politics and Sociology at the University of Sussex in the UK, funded by an Investigator Award from The Wellcome Trust.

WHO HAS APPROVED THIS STUDY?

The research has been reviewed by the Social Sciences and Arts Research Ethics Committee at Sussex. The ethical review application number of the study is <(ER/EK403/5)>

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

If you are interested in taking part in this research, please contact Eleanor Kashouris using the details provided below.

Eleanor Kashouris, PhD student, School of Law, Politics and Sociology, Freeman Building, University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9QE, UK. Tel: 07502420195 or email: ek403@sussex.ac.uk.

If you have any concerns about the way in which the study has been conducted, you can contact the Chair at c-recss@sussex.ac.uk, or Dr Catherine Will (C.Will@sussex.ac.uk) who is supervising the research.

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INSURANCE

The University of Sussex has insurance to cover its legal liabilities in respect of this study.

**Thank you for taking the time to read the information sheet. Please keep a copy for your records
Date 12th November 2020**

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