



## **What matters in the primary care consultation in the context of frailty? Participant Information Sheet (Survey 1)**

We would like to invite you to take part in our study. Before you make a decision, it is important that you understand why the research is taking place and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully. You may discuss it with others if you wish. Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear. If you would like more information contact details are on the last page. Thank you.

### **What is the purpose of this study?**

The overall purpose of our study is to explore how older people living with frailty, their family caregivers and healthcare professionals experience contacts and consultations in primary and community care. This survey with professionals aims to add to our understanding of the priorities and challenges of consultations / contacts with this patient group. The findings will provide information on ways in which services might be improved.

### **Why have I been approached about this study?**

You have accessed information about this study (publicised through newsletters and mailing lists) because you are a healthcare professional who offers some form of support or service to an older person living with frailty and their family caregivers.

### **Do I have to take part?**

No, it is up to you whether you would like to take part or not. If you are interested in taking part then please continue with the online survey after reading this information. Completion of the survey constitutes your consent to take part (there is no separate consent form for you to complete).

### **What will be involved if I take part in this study?**

We are using a technique called the Delphi method, which involves establishing a panel of professionals who are asked to respond to a number of surveys. The aim of this method is to generate consensus between the panel, which is achieved by allowing panel members to reflect on the results of each round of surveys before they respond to the next round.

This survey is the first of two rounds. Each survey will take less than 15 minutes to complete. Once we have received responses from this round, we will summarise the findings and formulate the second survey based on the initial response. You will receive a copy of our results summary alongside the second survey, which will give you the opportunity to revise and reflect on your answers in the next round.

**What are the advantages/benefits and disadvantages/risks of taking part?**

The information we get from this study is unlikely to benefit you directly, however, it may help improve future services and support for older people who are living with frailty and their family caregivers and may support health care professionals in their practice with this patient group.

**What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?**

We do not anticipate that there will be any disadvantages or risks if you take part.

**Can I withdraw from the study at any time?**

We are keen to find participants who will complete both rounds of the survey but you are free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason. However, if you have completed a survey(s) then we would include any information that you have already provided.

**Will the information I give be kept confidential?**

Yes. We will require your work email address to ensure that we can contact you directly with the results summary and link to the second survey. This personal information will not be attached to your completed survey but stored separately on a secure server at Newcastle University. You will be allocated a study ID to ensure your anonymity. The survey is confidential; only the research team will have access to the survey data. We will store all completed surveys to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998 (on a double password protected computer at Newcastle University with controlled access for the research team). Upon completion of this study, we would like to send you a summary of the survey findings direct to the email address that you provided to the research team. After this, we will not store your email address

**Who is organising and funding this study?**

This study is organised and run by the School of Healthcare, University of Leeds. This study is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) for the Collaborations in Leadership and Applied Health Research and Care (CLAHRC) Yorkshire and Humber team. The sponsor for the research is the University of Leeds. The sponsor may access data collected for monitoring purposes.

This study has been reviewed by the North West – Haydock NHS Health Research Authority and the University of Leeds.

**What will happen to the results of the study?**

We consider this study important. The survey you are being asked to take part in is one component of our study to understand what matters in primary care based consultations with older people living with frailty. We will publish findings of the

survey and seek future funds to develop this work. If you wish to obtain a copy of the findings, you can request one from the research team or visit our website (details on last page). You will not be identified in any report/publication.

**What if I have concerns about the study?**

If you have any questions or would like further details about the study, please contact Karen Spilsbury, Chief Investigator (contact details below).

**Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet.**

**Contact details:**

Professor Karen Spilsbury

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**More information on the project can be accessed at:**

<http://clahrc-yh.nihr.ac.uk/our-themes/primary-care-based-management-of-frailty-in-older-people/projects/5-communication-project>



