

Participant Information Sheet for Pregnant Women



Date: 18.01.2022

Version: 12

IRAS ID: 253999

Study title: Maternal Oral Health and Dental care access Enablers: the MODE exploratory study.

Invitation and brief summary

We would like to invite you to participate in this research project. Before you decide whether you want to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what your participation will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

What is the purpose of the study?

Oral health is important for the mother and baby. We are interested in better understanding how you access dental care while pregnant and post-natally. We want to know the reasons that either help or make it difficult for you and other new mothers to use dental care services.

What would taking part involve?

You are invited to take part in a 1-hour informal interview to explore your views about the issues that make it easy or difficult for pregnant women, new mothers and their babies to use dental care services. This interview will be held either face-to-face or via your preferred form of online communication (such as telephone, Whatsapp, Microsoft Teams, Skype, etc.). Interviews will be audio-recorded and transcribed using a confidential service. You are welcome to have a family member/ partner there for support. If they would also like to participate, we have a separate information sheet for them.

You will also be asked to complete a short questionnaire, which includes routine questions about your oral health, teeth, mouth and gums. For example: How do you take care of your mouth, teeth and gums? Do you access professional dental care? What experiences have you had accessing oral health services? Have you had any negative or positive experiences? What do you feel could help you to improve your oral health and gain access to services? The questionnaire will take approximately 10-15 minutes of your time to complete and can be completed online or during the interview. A paper copy will also be available.

Further engagement

If you consent, we would also like to stay in contact with you and talk again when baby is between 8 and 12 months old. If you give us permission, we will contact you by your given preferred form of contact and invite you to participate in another interview to further explore your views and experiences.

Incentives

You will receive a £20 voucher to thank you for your participation in this research.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

This study could give you an opportunity to reflect on yours and your baby's dental care. If you need help in registering with a dentist, we will provide the required information on local services. We hope all participants will benefit from knowing they have contributed to new knowledge that will support women and young children and their oral health needs.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

We do not anticipate any specific risks to anyone who participates in this study, however some people may feel participation could be a burden upon their time or add to a sense of pressure (thus being a disadvantage).

It is also possible that some participants may have had previously traumatic experience with dental care and could find talking about their experiences upsetting. If this does occur, the interview would be stopped and only continue if you are happy to do so.

What will happen if I do not want to carry on with the study?

Your participation is voluntary, and you are free to withdraw at any time prior, and up to two weeks after the focus group or interview without giving any reason, and without your medical care or legal rights being affected.

Who is funding this study?

King's Together: Multi and Interdisciplinary Research Scheme is the funder for this study based in the United Kingdom.

Who has reviewed the study?

This study has been internally reviewed by each of the research team from King's College London. It has also been independently, externally reviewed by the King's College Hospital Trust as well as the Cambridge South Research Ethics Committee.

Will my taking part be kept confidential?

All information obtained will be treated as strictly confidential, kept securely and you will not be identifiable in any publications derived from the study. You can find out more about how we use your information at: <https://www.kch.nhs.uk/research>

King's College Hospital (KCH) and Princess Royal University Hospital (PRUH) will collect information about you for this research study in accordance with our instructions. KCH and PRUH will use your name and contact details to contact you about the research study, and make sure that relevant information about the study is recorded for your care, and to oversee the quality of the study. Individuals from King's Together and regulatory organisations may look at your medical and research records to check the accuracy of the research study. KCH and PRUH will pass these details to King's Together along with the information collected from you. The only people who will have access to information that identifies you will be the research team who need to contact you to arrange interviews and focus groups or audit the data collection process. The people who analyse the information will not be able to identify you and will not be able to find out your name or contact details. King's Together will keep identifiable information about you from this study for seven years after the study have finished.

Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. If you withdraw from the study, we will keep the information about you that we have already obtained. To safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personally identifiable information possible.

What will happen to the results of the study?

As a participant you will receive a copy of the research project results if you request it. The findings will be also disseminated in a manuscript published in a peer-reviewed journal.

Who should I contact for further information?

If you have any questions or require more information about this study, please contact me using the following contact details:

Professor Jennifer E Gallagher MBE
Newland-Pedley Professor of Oral Health Strategy
Honorary Consultant in Dental Public Health
King's College London Dental Institute
Denmark Hill Campus, Bessemer Road,
London, United Kingdom, SE5 9RS
Email: jenny.gallagher@kcl.ac.uk
Tel: 020 3299 3481

What if I have further questions, or if something goes wrong?

If this study has harmed you in any way or if you wish to make a complaint about the conduct of the study you can contact King's College London using the details below for further advice and information:

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

Email: kch-tr.PALS@nhs.net
Phone: Tel: 020 3299 3601, 9am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (not bank holidays)
Post: Patient Advice and Liaison Service, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Denmark Hill, London SE5 9RS
Visit: The PALS office is on the ground floor of Hambleton Wing, near the main Bessemer Road entrance. Open 9am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. If you are being treated on another King's site and cannot make it to our office, please phone us. We will arrange a time to visit you.

Thank you for reading this information sheet and for considering taking part in this research.

Yours sincerely,

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