



#ReproductiveBorders

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Study title: Reproductive Borders and Bordering Reproduction: Access to Care for Women from Ethnic Minority and Migrant Groups

We are inviting you to take part in the *Reproductive Borders* research project. The study is about understanding how people from different backgrounds experience reproductive healthcare. 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 one of the researchers if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

Who is carrying out the research?

This independent study is being carried out by a team of researchers from King's College London, University of Sussex, and University of Bristol. The researchers are: Dr Sarah Milton, Professor Sheelagh McGuinness, Dr Ulla McKnight, Professor Suzanne Hall and Dr Harriet Boulding. The study is running for 36 months and is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), a government body that supports social research.

This research project was originally sponsored by Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) Ethics Committee and received ethics approval from their Research Ethics Committee (QME24.0221). Sponsorship of this study has now been transferred to King's College London and the College Research Ethics Committee has considered and accepted the ethical approval provided by QMUL. Data will now be stored at King's College London. All further correspondence related to this research will now come from KCL.

What is the purpose of this study?

The purpose of this study is to better understand the experiences of women from ethnic minority and migrant groups in accessing healthcare when they face challenges getting pregnant and or when they experience miscarriage and pregnancy loss. We are also interested in the experiences of healthcare practitioners in providing such care.



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We are interested to hear about how and why you accessed care and any challenges or obstacles you may have faced. We are also interested in your previous experiences of care.

Our work will help us understand how we can think about better ways to help people. This study will take a few years, and we'll include people from different parts of England with different stories to share.

Why have I been invited to take part?

You're being invited to be part of this study because you identify as belonging to a minority ethnic group or were born outside of the UK. That's why you're a good fit for this project.

What will happen if I take part?

You will be asked to take part in an interview with a researcher named Dr Sarah Milton or Professor Sheelagh McGuinness. The interview will be like having a chat and will last about an hour. The researcher may ask about your experiences, your life, and your background. If you are comfortable to discuss them, topics may include your experience of miscarriage, attempts to get pregnant and pregnancy, experiences of healthcare in these areas, as well as experiences of discrimination. If you consent, your interview will be audio-recorded so that the interview can be typed up so that it can be analysed. Any identifying information will be removed before the transcript is analysed by the research team.

You will be compensated £25 per hour for your time.

Do I have to take part?

No, participation is completely voluntary. You should only take part if you want to and choosing not to take part will not disadvantage you in anyway. Once you have read the information sheet, please contact us if you have any questions that will help you make a decision about taking part. If you decide to take part, we will ask you to sign a consent form and you will be given a copy of this consent form to keep.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

It may be distressing to talk about experiences and memories. You may take breaks during your interview, decide not to answer certain questions or stop the interview fully without any explanation or consequences to yourself.



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We will provide you with contact information for support organisations, should you need these. The Researchers are not trained medical/healthcare professionals but can signpost you to support services such as Maternity Action, SANDS, and organisations more local and specific to you.

If you feel very distressed during the interview, with your consent one of the Researchers will call you again at a time agreed by you (later that day or in a few days for example) to check how you are feeling and whether you need further support.

There may be a risk that you make illegal disclosures.

Limits to confidentiality: The only reason that confidentiality would be broken, including if you made illegal disclosures, is if the researcher has safeguarding concerns, i.e., the researcher has concerns that you are at risk of harming yourself or others. It may be necessary to break confidentiality and contact, for example, emergency services or relevant health professionals to share this information. The researcher(s) will let you know their intentions before disclosing any information.

We will not be sharing any information to outside organisations, such as the Home Office. Any information about immigration status will be confidential and anonymous.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

We can't promise this study will help you directly, your participation will be an important contribution and it could help clinics and policymakers improve care. Some people find discussing their experiences helpful.

Data handling and confidentiality

Kings College London is the Sponsor of this research and is responsible for looking after your information.

We will need to use information from you for this research project, such as your age, ethnicity and contact details. The research team and authorised administrative staff will use this information to do the research or to make sure that the research is being done properly.

Your data will be processed in compliance with UK data protection laws, including the UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.



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Further information on how King's processes research data can be found at:

<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/support/research-ethics/kings-college-london-statement-on-use-of-personal-data-in-research>

Please contact the research team if you require further information on data processing or a printed version of the webpage link above.

What will happen to my data?

Your name and contact details will not be shared with anyone outside the research team and will be handled in accordance with data protection regulations. This information will be securely held in a SharePoint folder to which only the research team have access and will be deleted 6 months after completion of the project.

Audio files of interviews may be shared with a transcription company, who have signed a confidentiality agreement. The fully anonymised interview transcript or notes will be retained by King's College London, University of Sussex, and University of Bristol for ten years after the study has been completed. Subject to your agreement, the fully anonymised interview transcript or notes will be submitted to the online UK Data Archive (<https://www.data-archive.ac.uk/>), along with other transcripts and notes from this study. This will allow other researchers to access the data and use it in future research. You will remain anonymous in any research outputs.

What if I change my mind about taking part?

You are free to withdraw from the project, without having to give a reason. Withdrawing from the project will not affect you in any way.

You will be able to withdraw your interview data from the study up to one week (7 days including weekends) after your interview, following which it may not be possible to remove your data as it may have been anonymously incorporated into data analysis and publications resulting from the study. If you chose to withdraw your data prior to publication of the study findings any quotes from your interview will be removed from publications.

What will happen to the results of the research study?



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The results of the study will be used in various ways. They will be internally reported, and reports will be issued to our funders. We will disseminate the research findings in various ways, for example through a policy report and presentations to policy makers, healthcare providers, and key stakeholders as well as in academic articles and at academic conferences.

Should you wish to have a copy of the final report, please let your interviewer know, and we will forward you a copy on completion of the study.

Who should I contact for further information?

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

Dr Sarah Milton; sarah.milton@kcl.ac.uk; Department of Global Health and Social Medicine, Faculty of Social Science and Public Policy, King's College London, Bush House, North East Wing, 40 Aldwych, London, WC2B 4BG

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

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

The Chair of the College Research Ethics Committee, rec@kcl.ac.uk

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