Participant Information Leaflet (PIL)

Study Title: Facilitators and barriers to adopting rapid point of care tests for curable sexually transmitted infections in NHS sexual health clinics: a mixed method exploratory study

Chief Investigator: Dr Sebastian S Fuller, St. George's University of London, Cranmer Terrace London SW17 0RE

Invitation to participate in the above study:

We are inviting you to take part in a brief questionnaire about key facilitators for adoption of point-of-care tests (POCTs) for sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Before you decide if you would like to participate we would like you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve for you. Please take time to read the following carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Please contact us if there is anything that is not clear or if you have any questions.

What is the purpose of the study?

The study has been designed to investigate key facilitators and barriers for adoption of new technology into sexual health clinics (SHCs) in England. It will help us to understand the social, structural and contextual forces that can facilitate/create barriers to adoption of these novel technologies.

There are no right or wrong answers to the questions that we will ask; this is about *your* thoughts and experiences.

Why have I been invited?

We are asking key decision-makers in purchasing and implementing POCTs in SHCs. We are interested in your perspective on that process.

Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do, you will be asked to proceed with the questionnaire. Clicking the link to begin the questionnaire will be treated as your consent to participation in the study. You are still free to withdraw, i.e. discontinue or stop answering the questionnaire, at any time and without giving a reason. There will be no negative consequences for deciding not to take part or failing to complete the questionnaire for any reason.

What will happen to me if I take part?

If you agree to take part, you will be asked to complete the questionnaire. The whole questionnaire will take about 5-10minutes to complete.

Expenses and payments

You will not be reimbursed for your participation.

What do I have to do?

To participate in the study we would expect that you to complete the questionnaire.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

In the analysis, some categories of respondents (decided upon, for example, their professional role or/and geographical location) may result in small numbers. This may lead to the risk of deductive disclosure, i.e. the identification of an individual's identity using known characteristics of that individual. We will minimise the risk of deductive disclosure through employing special approaches to data analysis.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

Your participation in this study will not benefit you personally. However, it will contribute to our understanding of the social and structural facilitators and barriers to purchasing

and implementing POCTs for STIs, and new technology more generally, into NHS SHCs in England. This may benefit your future work in sexual health services.

What if there is a problem?

Please contact us with any problems you experience while taking part in this research. Contact information is provided at the bottom of this leaflet.

Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?

Yes. All information which is collected about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential. If you agree to participate you will be assigned a unique Study ID. All of the information collected about you for the research study will be linked by this unique Study ID. Your email address will not be linked to your survey responses.

What will happen if I don't want to carry on with this study?

You are under no obligation to enter the study and can withdraw at any time during the study, without having to give a reason. Because we are not keeping personal details alongside questionnaire responses to keep your responses anonymous there is no way for us to withdraw you from the study once you have completed the survey.

Complaints:

If you wish to complain, or have any concerns about any aspect of the way you have been treated during the course of this study then you can speak with the chief investigator of the study, who will do his best to answer your questions or concerns. Contact details are provided at the bottom of this leaflet.

Harm:

St Georges, University of London has agreed that if you are harmed as a result of your participation in the study, you will be compensated, provided that, on the balance of probabilities, an injury was caused as a direct result of the intervention or procedures

you received during the course of the study. These special compensation arrangements apply where an injury is caused to you that would not have occurred if you were not in the trial. We would not be bound to pay compensation where: The injury resulted from a drug or procedure outside the trial protocol and/or the protocol was not followed. These arrangements do not affect your right to pursue a claim through legal action.

St George's University of London sponsored research:

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What will happen to the results of the research study?

Once the data has been collected we will analyse it to identify and investigate key social and structural facilitators and barriers to purchasing and implementing POCTs for STIs in NHS SHCs in England

In order to best use the information collected in this study we will publicise our findings. This includes analysis of the survey responses. Any publications or presentations using information you provide will not identify you individually. All details that might identify you will be changed in order to protect your confidentiality.

Who is organising and funding the research?

St George's University of London is sponsoring this research study. The research study is organised by the Applied Diagnostic Research and Evaluation Unit (ADREU), Institute

of Infection and Immunity, St George's University of London. This project is funded by Innovate UK Small Business Research Initiative (SBRI) grant "Stratified medicine: connecting the UK infrastructure. Phase 2" Ref: no. 90174-463338.

No one involved in this study will receive any extra compensation for participation.

Who has reviewed the study?

This study has been reviewed by Health Research Authority (Ref 18/HRA/0271; IRAS ID: 224413).

Further Information and Contact Details

For more information about this research study please contact:

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If you are still not satisfied with the response, you may contact the Joint Research and Enterprise Office at St George's:

Tel: 020 8725 4986
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