



Participant information sheet

Migrant women's experiences of maternity care within the NHS

I am a researcher at Lancaster University and I would like to invite you to take part in a research study about migrant women's experiences of maternity care, funded by the Wellcome Trust.

Please take time to read the following information carefully before you decide whether or not you wish to take part.

What is the study about?

This study aims to find out more about how immigrant mothers experienced pregnancy and childbirth in the UK, and especially what kind of care they got on the NHS.

Why have I been invited?

I have approached you because you work for the NHS and have contact with, or deal with issues relevant to, pregnant migrants or new migrant mothers. I would be very grateful if you would agree to take part in this study.

What will I be asked to do if I take part?

If you decided to take part, I would interview you about your experiences at work, especially your experiences with pregnant migrants and new mothers and/or issues relevant to their care. The interview will last between 1 and 2 hours. It is like an informal chat, and you should feel free to bring up anything you think is important. You can bring an interpreter of your choice if you like.

How will this interview take place?

At the moment, because of Covid, all interviews will take place online or over the telephone. You can choose which way you prefer. If we have the interview online, Lancaster University recommends we use Microsoft Teams, but we can use another platform (Skype or Zoom, for example) if you prefer. Please note you can register to use Teams for free.

Will I be identifiable?

After the interview, only I will have access to the ideas you share with me. The only other person who will have access to what you contributed is a professional transcriber who will listen to the recordings and produce a written record of what you have said. The transcriber will sign a confidentiality agreement.

I will keep all personal information about you (e.g. your name and other information about you that can identify you) confidential, that is I will not share it with others. I will remove any personal information from the written record of your contribution.

What are the possible benefits from taking part?

Sharing your experiences will help us better understand what particular challenges facing migrant women during pregnancy and childbirth in the UK. The final results of the project will be shared with migrant mothers and the groups that support them in order to help address some of these challenges.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

As I mentioned above, all of your information will be confidential. Your real name will not appear in the interview transcript or any other documents related to the project. I will not tell anyone I have interviewed you unless you say I can.

Some online platforms, especially Zoom, store users' email address, location, and other personal information. I will work with you to limit the information you share with them. In particular, I will host any meeting so that you only have to give them your email address. It is best, however, to use Microsoft Teams if we can.

Although it is very unlikely to happen, if I think that you might be at immediate risk of severe harm, I may have to contact someone to help you, like child services or local health services.

I want the interview to be a positive experience, but it's possible that the discussion might raise issues or memories you find upsetting. **You are free to refuse to answer a question or to take a break or to leave at any time.** I can also provide you with a list of places where you can get support if the interview has been upsetting.

**Do I have to take part?**

No. It's completely up to you to decide whether or not you take part. Your participation is voluntary.

What if I change my mind?

You are allowed to change your mind without giving me a reason. I will not be upset about this, because it is very important to me that everyone involved in my project is happy to participate. You can change your mind up to 3 months after you have been interviewed. If you change your mind, all information about you, including your interview, will be deleted from my files.

How will the information you have shared with me be used and what will happen to the results of the research study?

When writing up the findings from this study, I would like to reproduce some of the views and ideas you shared with me. I will only use anonymised quotes (e.g. from my interview with you), so that although I will use your exact words, you cannot be identified in our publications.

The results from this study will be published in a book, in academic journals, in a research report, and possibly in mainstream media stories. I will also present the results of my study at academic conferences and at workshops for medical personnel, and for migrant women and their supporters. I will also share the results with groups that support migrant mothers, in the hope that the information will be useful in their work.

This study is funded by The Wellcome Trust. The funder expects me to make my data available for future use by other researchers. I will exclude all personal data from archiving. I intend to archive/share the data via the Research Data Management Archive at Lancaster University.

How will my data be stored?

Lancaster University will be the data controller for any personal information collected as part of this study. Under the GDPR you have certain rights when personal data is collected about you. You have the right to access any personal data held about you, to object to the processing of your personal information, to rectify personal data if it is inaccurate, the right to have data about you erased and, depending on the circumstances, the right to data portability. Please be aware that many of these rights are not absolute and only apply in certain circumstances. If you would like to know more about your rights in relation to your personal data, please speak to the researcher on your particular study.

For further information about how Lancaster University processes personal data for research purposes and your data rights please visit our webpage: www.lancaster.ac.uk/research/data-protection

Your data will be stored in encrypted files (that is no-one other than me, the researcher will be able to access them) and on password-protected computers. I will store hard copies of any data securely in locked cabinets in my office. I will keep data that can identify you separately from non-personal information (e.g. your views on a specific topic). In accordance with University guidelines, I will keep the data securely for a minimum of ten years.

What if I have a question or concern?

If you have any queries or if you are unhappy with anything that happens concerning your participation in the study, please contact me: g.lonergan@lancaster.ac.uk or 01524 594175. If you have any concerns or complaints that you wish to discuss with a person who is not directly involved in the research, you can also contact my Head of Department, Professor Imogen Tyler at i.tyler@lancaster.ac.uk or 01524 594186 or Professor I Tyler, Bowland North, Lancaster University, LA1 4YN.

This study has been reviewed and approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Lancaster Management School's Research Ethics Committee.

Thank you for considering your participation in this project.