



NAVIGATE: Navigating Attitudes to Vaccination Implementation for Gonorrhoea in the UK: Acceptability, Trust and Engagement

PARENT INFORMATION SHEET

Central University Research Ethics Committee Approval Reference: [MSD IDREC 947232]

1. Introductory paragraph

You and your child are being invited to take part in a research project. Before you decide if either of you want to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it 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.

2. Why is this research being conducted?

There is the possibility that in future teenagers may be offered a vaccine to protect them against a sexually transmitted infection (STI) called gonorrhoea, before they start having sex. Currently, the UK government is considering offering this vaccine to men who sex with other men, and others who are at higher risk of getting an STI, for example people who have had an STI before.

The vaccine they are considering is the same vaccine that is already given to babies to protect against Meningitis B. Research has shown that it can offer some protection against gonorrhoea too. If giving the vaccine to men who sex with men works well and the data shows the protection against gonorrhoea lasts for a long time, there is the potential to give the vaccine to early teenagers as well, to protect them before they become sexually active.

Researchers plan to ask questions to 13-14 year olds, their parents, young adults, and people who are at a higher risk of getting an STI to understand what they think about the potential of being vaccinated against gonorrhoea.

3. Why have I and my child been invited to take part?

Your child has been invited to take part in this research as they are 13 or 14 year-olds and based in the UK, and you have been invited to take part as you have a child aged 13 or 14 years. You have been invited to read through the parent information sheet to understand the research before consenting for you and your child to take part. Just one of you can take part without the other.

4. Do I, or my child, have to take part?

No. It is up to you to decide whether your child takes part in this research. You or your child can withdraw from the research without giving a reason by not completing the survey. Once the survey has been submitted, it will not be possible to withdraw your answers from the study; this is because no personally identifiable data will be collected, and therefore, we will be unable to find out which survey answers need to be withdrawn.

5. What will happen to me or my child if we take part in the research?

If, after reading this participant information sheet, you decide you would like for yourself, or your child to take part, you will be directed to complete the survey. The survey should take roughly 10-15 minutes to complete. It is possible to pause the survey, or exit the survey, should they wish or you no longer want them to take part. It is also possible to skip any questions they do not want to answer.

As the parent of a 13 or 14 year old, there is also the possibility of taking part in a 45 minute interview to discuss your thoughts more in depth. If, after completing the survey, you decide you would like to take part in the interview, there will be a space on the last page to leave your contact details. We will select a random sample of around 20-25 people who express interest in taking part in the interview.

6. What are the possible disadvantages and risks in taking part?

In this survey, we will ask questions about a potential vaccination programme against gonorrhoea, therefore, topics around sexually transmitted infections will be discussed. We understand that some people might find this topic embarrassing or difficult to talk about, but they can choose not to answer any of the questions.

7. Are there any benefits in taking part?

While there are no immediate benefits for those participating in the research, it is hoped that this research will inform discussions around future gonorrhoea vaccination programmes.

8. What information will be collected and why is the collection of this information relevant for achieving the research objectives?

We are interested in the thoughts of various groups of people about how acceptable, and how feasible, an adolescent gonorrhoea programme would be. We also want to find out what information you would like to receive about this vaccination, and how you would like to receive, should this programme go ahead. We will be asking questions to this effect.

The data we will collect that could identify you will be your contact details, should you wish to express interest in completing the optional interview.

Your IP address will not be stored. We will take all reasonable measures to ensure that data remain confidential.

The responses you provide will be stored in a password-protected electronic file on University of Oxford secure servers. Identifiable information will be deleted as soon as it is no longer required for the research. Research data will be stored for 3 years after publication or public release of the work of the research.

The research team (including the researchers and supervisors) will have access to the research data. Responsible members of the University of Oxford may be given access to data for monitoring and/or audit of the research.

9. Will the research be published? Could I be identified from any publications or other research outputs?

The findings from the research will/may be written up into a thesis, academic papers, conference presentations, or other publication methods (such as poster presentations etc). Policy recommendations will also be written and delivered to the relevant government or regulatory body as a result of this research. This will ensure that if this vaccine program does go ahead, it will be informed by the thoughts of the people the program is aimed at. No personal identifiable data will be published.

A copy of the research thesis will be deposited both in print and online in the [Oxford University Research Archive](#) where it will be publicly available to facilitate its use in future research.

10. Data Protection

The University of Oxford is the data controller with respect to your personal data, and as such will determine how your personal data is used in the research. The University will process your personal data for the purpose of the research outlined above. Research is a task that is performed in the public interest. Further information about your rights with respect to your personal data is available from the University's Information Compliance website at <https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/individual-rights>.

11. Who is funding the research?

This research is being funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

12. Who has reviewed this research?

This research has received ethics approval from a subcommittee of the University of Oxford Central University Research Ethics Committee. (Ethics reference: **MSD IDREC 947232**).

13. Who do I contact if I have a concern about the research or I wish to complain?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this research, please contact Prof Katrina Pollock, Principal Investigator, or Charlie Firth, DPhil Student, and we will do our best to answer your query. We will acknowledge your concern within 10 working days and give you an indication of how it will be dealt with. If you remain unhappy or wish to make a formal complaint, please contact the University of Oxford Research Governance, Ethics & Assurance (RGEA) team at rgea.complaints@admin.ox.ac.uk or on 01865 616480.

14. Further Information and Contact Details

If you would like to discuss the research with someone beforehand (or if you have questions afterwards), please contact:

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