**PRIMER: Primary Care Research in Manchester Engagement Resource**

**Background to PRIMER**

The PRIMER group was established in October 2008, with the aim of supporting research in primary care by:

a) Working with researchers to offer advice on best practice in Patient and Public Involvement (PPI).

b) Inputting into research at an early stage when there is still an opportunity to shape the research.

c) Suggesting areas of work for future research.

d) Networking with other groups and using existing networks to talk about research and test out ideas.

e) Contributing to policy within the Centre for Primary Care and through broader affiliations.

*(PRIMER, away day, 4/9/2009)*

**The Group**

The Group is made up of ‘core’ members who regularly attend meetings and ‘corresponding’ members who do not attend meetings but work with us via email, telephone or by post. The Group consists of patients, carers, mental health service users and members of the public with an interest in research. To find out more about the Group and our members, please visit the PRIMER website [www.sites.manchester.ac.uk/PRIMER](http://www.sites.manchester.ac.uk/PRIMER)

**What you can expect at a PRIMER meeting**

The PRIMER group will set aside two 45 minute slots at each of their meetings for researchers to come along and present their emerging ideas for a research project, grant application, research tools and materials etc. Meetings are informal so no facilities for Power Point will be provided but you are welcome to bring handouts.

Before you attend a meeting you will be asked to provide a [Plain Language Summary](http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=46107) at least 7 days in advance, which is circulated to the Group. At the meeting you will be asked to talk through the plain language summary which is followed by a general discussion and Q&A.

The group has agreed that between 1- 3 members will provide feedback on any written materials, but at a stage where there is still an opportunity to shape the content. They will return written comments to the research team within 14 days. The group feels that this is still probably insufficient, for most grants, to ensure meaningful involvement. They will therefore try, wherever possible, to direct researchers towards local relevant groups who might want to work more closely with the research team in developing the research and offer suggestions for how to ensure PPI is meaningful.

**What PRIMER expects from you**

Please look through the following checklist.

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| **Before the meeting** | **√** |
| Have you read: Involving the public in NHS, public health and social care research: Briefing notes for researchers <http://www.invo.org.uk/posttypepublication/involve-briefing-notes-for-researchers/>  |  |
| Have you looked at the PRIMER website and familiarised yourself with the work of the Group? <http://www.population-health.manchester.ac.uk/primer>  |  |
| Have you provided the group with a Plain Language Summary of the project/ your ideas for a project? |  |
|  Have you attended a PPI clinic <http://www.population-health.manchester.ac.uk/primer/>  |  |
| **During the meeting** |  |
| Try to avoid using acronyms and if you have to use them please explain what they stand for |  |
| Explain jargon and medical terms |  |
|  |  |
| **After the meeting** |  |
| Please complete the evaluation form |  |
| Please notify the Group of the outcome of the grant application |  |
| Please acknowledge PRIMER input on grant applications, conference posters/ presentation slides and publications |  |