

### **Do you / have you had any of the following conditions or treatments?**

- Eczema or Allergic Asthma that has required treatment at a hospital (this could be an outpatients appointment)
- Allergy to Pets that has resulted in you having to part with a pet or avoid visiting people who have pets.
- Malaria
- undergoing or undergone peritoneal dialysis for kidney disease
- noticed improvements in your skin whilst on HRT
- A shift worker with experience of IBS

### **Would you be willing to tell us about your experiences of it?**

A patient's perspective of a condition is often very different to a scientist's. By talking to University masters students who are studying the immune system, you could help them to understand the impact that their research could have on people's lives. You could also help them to explain their research findings to a general audience.

The **closing date** for expressing interest is **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

### **Who are we looking for and what do we need you to do?**

We are seeking 4 patients/members of the public who have ever been diagnosed with one of the conditions listed above and would be happy to:

- Talk about their experiences of the condition to a small group of students
- Listen to student presentations about their research

You will be given £60 (**£30 for attending each event**) to thank you for your time. Payment will be made into your bank account. Reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed and refreshments will be provided. Please note that travel expenses up to the value of £30 can be reimbursed on the day. Amounts above this will be paid into your bank account. Please let us know if this would cause you any difficulties)

### **Who will you be talking to?**

Masters students from the University of Manchester who are studying the immune system.

### **When would we need you and for how long?**

We are planning two events and need you to be available on both dates:

- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March: 2pm – 4pm (with an optional 1.30pm start if you would like to join us for some light refreshments)
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September: 2 - 4pm

## **What would you need to do?**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2 – 4pm

There will be 9 patients and 15 postgraduate students in this session. You will be asked to talk to a small group of students (maximum of 3) about your experience of your condition or treatment.

This could include: when it started, how it has progressed, any symptoms, how your condition has been treated, how it affects your life, including your ways of coping.

The student(s) will ask you some questions to help them to understand your condition and the impact of their research. They will also want to tell you about the research project they are planning and about some of the science behind your symptoms. This is to help them practice explaining scientific ideas to members of the public.

You will be free to ask the student(s) any questions that you have.

You are welcome to join us at 1.30pm for some light refreshments if you would like to.

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2 – 4pm

This session is for the students to share their research findings with you in short informal presentations. You will also be given the opportunity to ask questions and give feedback. This is really important to us, as explaining scientific concepts to the public is a vital skill for our students.

Tea, coffee and cake will be provided at this event.

Members of University staff and a patient representative will be present at both sessions. We can discuss the events over the phone to help you prepare and can spend some time with you immediately after the session if you would like to talk through the experience.

## **What should you do if you are interested?**

If you are interested in taking part please send an email to Lindsey Brown at [Lindsey.brown@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:Lindsey.brown@manchester.ac.uk) with a short paragraph explaining why you are interested and what you think you can bring to the role.

Please include:

- Which condition/treatment is relevant to you
- When you were first diagnosed
- How your experience of this condition/treatment has impacted your daily life
- Why you would like to talk to students about their research

**If you have any questions, or don't have access to e-mail please feel free to call on: 0161 306 3411.**

**We will confirm whether you have been successful by Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March.**

**What happens after I have applied?**

If you are invited to take part:

We will notify you via e-mail or telephone.

We will ask you to provide us with the following:

- Confirmation that you can attend both meetings.
- Any accessibility needs.
- Your mobile number – in case we need to contact you once you have set off for the session.
- Details of how you will be travelling to the event and the likely cost, so that we can ensure the cash is available to reimburse you on the day. Please note that travel expenses up to the value of £30 can be reimbursed on the day. Amounts about this will be paid into your bank account. Please let us know if this would cause you any difficulties)
- Details of any special dietary requirements.

If you are unsuccessful on this occasion:

Unfortunately we only have a small number of places available for this project, but we will notify you by e-mail or telephone if you have been unsuccessful. We will also ask if you are happy for us to keep your details on file. Please be assured that you do not have to consent, and we will not keep your details unless you have confirmed that you are happy for us to do so.