

Changes to knowledge and confidence after attending peer discussion

Participant Information Sheet

You are being invited to take part in a research study to investigate changes to your knowledge and confidence after attending the Peer Discussion provided by Vision Action. Before you decide whether to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being conducted and what it will involve. This project is being carried out by the staff in the Division of Pharmacy and Optometry. Please take time to read the following information carefully before deciding whether to take part and discuss it with others if you wish. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

About the research

- **Who will conduct the research?**

This study is being led by Dr Catherine Porter & Dr Ketan Parmar

Division of Pharmacy and Optometry, School of Health Sciences, Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health, The University of Manchester, UK

- **What is the purpose of the research?**

The aim of this research is to understand how attendance at the peer discussion session impacted your knowledge and confidence of clinical cases

You have been chosen as you are attending a peer discussion run by Vision Action

- **Am I suitable to take part?**

Any person who attends the peer discussion can take part

- **Will the outcomes of the research be published?**

The results of this research will be published in a peer-reviewed journal and at conferences.

Who has reviewed the research project?

The project has been granted a letter of ethical exemption from The University of Manchester

- **What would I be asked to do if I took part?**

You will be asked to fill in an anonymous online questionnaire, hosted on Qualtrics. You will be asked about how confident you are at diagnosing and managing clinical conditions. There will be pre and post survey questions to test your knowledge. All responses are voluntary. Please note, the questionnaire will not collect your IP address or any personal identifiable information.

The questionnaire will take approximately 15 minutes to fill in.

- **Will I be compensated for taking part?**

No compensation is offered as part of this study.

- **What happens if I do not want to take part or if I change my mind?**

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part, you will be able to download a copy of this information sheet to keep and will be asked to tick a box for online consent. If you decide to take part, you are still free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason and without detriment to yourself up until the point that you submit your online responses. It will not be possible to remove your data from the project once you have submitted your responses as they are collected anonymously, and we will not be able to identify your specific data. This does not affect your data protection rights. If you decide not to take part, you do not need to do anything further.

Data Protection and Confidentiality

Will my participation in the study be confidential?

In accordance with data protection law, The University of Manchester is the Data Controller for this project. This means that we are responsible for making sure your information is kept secure, confidential and used only in the way you have been told it will be used. All researchers are trained with this in mind, and your data will be looked after in the following way:

For your security, we recommend using a trusted internet connection when completing this survey.

Only the study team at The University of Manchester will have access to the survey data which you provide. The survey platform (Qualtrics) is University approved. When downloaded, this data will be stored on the University's Research Data Storage System for 5 years.

We will not be asking for your personal details in this survey.

Please also note that individuals from The University of Manchester or regulatory authorities may need to look at the data collected for this study to make sure the project is being carried out as planned. All individuals involved in auditing and monitoring the study will have a strict duty of confidentiality to you as a research participant.

Will the outcomes be published?

The outcomes will be reported at scientific conferences and in peer-reviewed journals but you won't be identifiable in any of these.

Auditing and Monitoring

Please also note that individuals from The University of Manchester or regulatory authorities may need to look at the data collected for this study to make sure the project is being carried out as

planned. This may involve looking at identifiable data. All individuals involved in auditing and monitoring the study will have a strict duty of confidentiality to you as a research participant.

- **What if I have a complaint?**

If you have a complaint that you wish to direct to members of the research team, please contact:

CATHERINE PORTER on catherine.porter@manchester.ac.uk

If you wish to make a formal complaint to someone independent of the research team or if you are not satisfied with the response you have gained from the researchers in the first instance then please contact

The Research Ethics Manager, Research Office, Christie Building, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL, by emailing: research.complaints@manchester.ac.uk or by telephoning 0161 306 8089.

If you wish to contact us about your data protection rights, please email dataprotection@manchester.ac.uk or write to The Information Governance Office, Christie Building, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, M13 9PL at the University and we will guide you through the process of exercising your rights.

You also have a right to complain to the [Information Commissioner's Office about complaints relating to your personal identifiable information](#) Tel 0303 123 1113

Contact Details

If you have any queries about the study or if you are interested in taking part, then please contact the researcher **CATHERINE PORTER** on catherine.porter@manchester.ac.uk