



**University of
Nottingham**

UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

Participant Information Sheet for an Online Survey/Questionnaire

Study Title: Mapping survey on the use of digital clinical consultations in NHS England's maternity units

Research Team:

Principal Investigator: Professor Catrin Evans, catrin.evans@nottingham.ac.uk

Lead researcher: Dr Georgia Clancy, georgia.clancy@nottingham.ac.uk

Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences Research Ethics Ref: 37-1023

This study is investigating how and to what extent digital (remote/telephone or video) consultations are being used in maternity care units in England.

'Harnessing digital technology' is a key work stream in NHS England's Maternity Transformation Programme. However, [recent research](#) funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) suggests that there is significant variability in the use of digital/remote consultations across NHS maternity care and a lack of information about how they are being used and the guidance used to inform good practice. This survey is designed to address some of these information gaps.

Thank you for your interest in taking part. You are invited to take part because you are a senior maternity professional e.g. head of midwifery/obstetrics or digital lead for midwifery/obstetrics working in maternity care services in NHS England.

Please read through this information before agreeing to participate. You can ask any questions by contacting the researchers (details above). Taking part is entirely voluntary.

What will I be asked to do?

After reading this participant information sheet please return to the online survey where you will be presented with a consent form. You will then be asked to provide your role in maternity care services, the NHS Trust in which you work and geographical region so that we can confirm your eligibility to take part and keep track of how many maternity units are represented in the research. Please note this information will be used for monitoring purposes only and will not be linked to the rest of your answers, which will be kept anonymous.

Next, you will be presented with the survey. It should take about 15 minutes to complete. Please answer all questions as honestly and completely as possible.

You can withdraw at any point during the survey for any reason before submitting your answers by exiting the survey or closing the browser. The data will only be uploaded when you submit the survey on the final page. At this point it will not be possible to withdraw your



**University of
Nottingham**

UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

answers as we are collecting minimal personal data and may not be able to identify your survey once submitted.

What are the disadvantages of taking part?

Reviewing this participant information sheet and consent form, as well as completing the survey will take some time, however the information will be highly useful for service development in future.

What are the advantages of taking part?

Your contribution together with others will help the researchers to understand how digital/remote consultations are being used in practice.

Who will know I have taken part in the study?

We will not ask you for your name in the survey, only your role, the NHS Trust you work in and broad geographical region so that we can keep track of participant eligibility and how many NHS Trusts are represented in the data. This information will be kept separate from the rest of your answers about the use of digital/remote consultations.

When the research is published the responses of all participants will be combined to give an indication of how digital/remote consultations are being used nationally. The published results will not refer to the responses or practices of individuals or individual maternity units. Any quotes published will be generalised so that individuals or individual maternity units cannot be identified.

What will happen to your data?

When you have clicked the submit button at the end of the survey, your responses will be password protected and securely stored by Microsoft Office 365 Forms. As we are asking you to provide minimal personal data (your role and place of work) it may not be possible to identify your survey after you have clicked the submit button and for this reason it will not be possible to withdraw the data at this point. Your personal data (your role and place of work) will be separated from your research data (your answers about the use of digital/remote consultations in your maternity unit) which will then be anonymised before analysis.

Both forms of data will be saved to dedicated password-protected project folders in Microsoft OneDrive, separate from one another.

In accordance with the University's data retention policy, all data will be kept for a minimum of 7 years before it will be deleted.

The anonymised results of the survey will be used in academic publications and presentations, shared with policy makers and relevant stakeholders. The overall anonymised data from this study may also be shared for use in future research and teaching.

For further information about how the university processes personal data please see: <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/utilities/privacy.aspx/>



**University of
Nottingham**

UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

Who will have access to your data?

The University of Nottingham is the data controller (legally responsible for data security) and the Principal Investigator of this study (named above) is the data custodian (manages access to the data) and as such will determine how your data is used in the study.

Responsible members of the University of Nottingham may be given access to data for monitoring and/or audit of the study to ensure it is being carried out correctly.

If you have any questions or concerns about this project, please contact:

Principal Investigator: Professor Catrin Evans, catrin.evans@nottingham.ac.uk

Lead researcher: Dr Georgia Clancy, georgia.clancy@nottingham.ac.uk

If you are unhappy and wish to complain formally, you should contact the FMHS Research Ethics Committee Administrator E-mail:

FMHS-ResearchEthics@nottingham.ac.uk