

## **Barriers and facilitators of hearing aid use in teenagers**

### **Who is Conducting the Research?**

My name is Christy and I am a student at the University of Manchester. I would like to invite you to take part in our research study about the factors that encourage and discourage the use of hearing aids in teenagers

Before you decide if you wish to take part, please make sure that you understand:

1. Why the research is being done

2. What your involvement in the project will be

Take your time to read through this information sheet before you decide if you wish to take part. Ask as many questions as you wish.



### **What is the Purpose of the Research?**

#### **Why Are We Doing Our Research?**

The aim of our research is to find out what factors encourage or discourage teenagers with hearing loss to use their hearing aids. There may be many factors that make teenagers want or not want to wear hearing aids such as how they feel about their hearing aids, or how much they know about using and looking after the hearing aids.

Any results will help us to understand these factors better and hopefully help future researchers to make treatment plans to help teenagers make the best use of their hearing aids.

#### **Why Have I Been Asked to Take Part?**

We have asked you to take part because you are aged 13-18, have been advised to wear a hearing aid in one or both ears, and are in mainstream education.

#### **What Would I Be Asked to Do if I Take Part?**

If you want to take part, we will ask you to complete an online questionnaire, asking a bit about you and your experiences with wearing hearing aids. The questionnaire will not collect any identifiable personal details.

Just remember that there are no right or wrong answers to the questions.

8. Wearing hearing aid(s) make me feel good about myself:

Strongly disagree
Somewhat disagree
Neither agree nor disagree
Somewhat agree
Strongly agree

### **How Long is the Study?**

The study will take around 20 minutes to complete.

### **Where will the Study Take Place?**

You can complete the questionnaire in your own time, at home, or in any other quiet place.

### **Will my Participation in the Study be Confidential?**

In order to take part in the research we will need to know your age, and to confirm you have a hearing loss, have been advised to wear at least one hearing aid, and are in mainstream education. We will also ask about your gender, ethnicity, and degree of hearing loss in each ear, but you are free to skip any of these questions if you prefer. We will also ask about your experiences of using hearing aids.

Only the research team will have access to your information, and we will ensure it is kept safe and secure.

We are keeping this information safe and following data protection law.

The University of Manchester is the Data Controller, which means that we will protect the information about you. All researchers have received training to do this, and we will make sure that they keep your information safe.

We will make sure that no one knows you have chosen to take part in the study and will also not share any information you have given to us. To do this we will use a process called anonymising, which means that we will generate a secret code for you and make sure that your name is stored in a different place to the rest of the information you give us. We will also keep the information you give us for 5 years and then it will be safely destroyed.

You have a number of rights under data protection law, including the right to see any of the information you have shared with us. If you would like to know more about your rights or find

out the legal reason we collect and use your information, please read through the [Privacy Notice for Research](#) or discuss it with your parent/guardian.



### **Do I Have to Take Part?**

It is completely up to you if you wish to take part in the study. Make sure you think carefully and consider all the information contained in this sheet before you decide.

After you have decided you will be asked to sign an assent form that shows you understand and agree to take part in the research. Your parent/guardian will do the same (and sign a consent form) if they also agree for you to take part.

### **What if I Change my Mind?**

You are free to withdraw from the study at any point without having to give a reason. If you decide to withdraw any data already collected will be used in the final analysis. Please remember that your data will be anonymised and you will not be identified in any way.

### **Who is Organising and Approving the Research?**

The research is being sponsored by the University of Manchester.

The research has also been approved by the University of Manchester Division Research Ethics Committee, a group of people who work to protect your safety, rights, wellbeing and dignity.

### **What Do I Do Now?**

If you have any questions relating to the information contained in this sheet, please let me know:

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Thank you for reading this!

