

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

### **Participant Information Sheet (PIS)**

You are being invited to take part in an online questionnaire about the factors that encourage and discourage the use of hearing aids in teenagers. 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. 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?**

Miss Christy Kurian, Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health, under the supervision of Dr. Anisa Visram, and Prof. Kevin Munro at the University of Manchester.

##### **➤ What is the purpose of the research?**

There are many factors that may encourage and discourage teenagers in using their hearing aids. We want to find out what these factors are, to help understand teenagers' experiences, and to help them get the most out of using their hearing aids.

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

##### **➤ Who has reviewed the research project?**

This project has been reviewed by the University of Manchester Research Ethics Committee.

#### **What would my involvement be?**

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

You would be asked to complete an online questionnaire, about your experiences of using hearing aid. You will also be asked some basic information about you and your hearing loss. The online questionnaire will take approximately 20 minutes to complete, and is anonymous, that is, we will not be collecting any personal identifiable information, including your IP address.

Before you complete the questionnaire, you will be taken to a consent form to confirm you have understood what we are asking and consent to taking part. If you are under 16 you will also need a parent to consent to taking part.

##### **➤ Will I be compensated for taking part?**

No, you are not compensated for taking part.

##### **➤ 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 given this information sheet to keep and will be asked to tick a box to confirm consent. If you decide to take part, you are still free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason and without harm to yourself up until the point that you submit your answers to the questionnaire. As all responses are anonymous, we will not be able to identify your answers once you have submitted them through the online platform. This does not affect your data protection rights. If you do decide not to take part, you do not need to do anything further.

For detailed information about how we plan to use and store the information that you share with us, please read our [Data Protection, Confidentiality and Further Details page](#)

## Data Protection, Confidentiality and Further Details information

### **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.

All information gathered for this questionnaire is anonymous.

The study team will store your anonymised data for 5 years after the end of the study on encoded and secure University storage systems.

In accordance with the University of Manchester's Research Privacy notice and with your consent, we would like to be able to share your anonymised data with other University of Manchester researchers who are doing studies similar to ours.

At the end of the project, we would like to deposit a fully anonymised dataset in an open data repository or archive where it will be permanently stored. We will use Figshare at the University of Manchester Library. Researchers at other institutions and others can access the anonymised data directly from the repository and use it for further research or to check our analysis and results.

#### ➤ **Will the outcomes of the research be published?**

The outcomes will be reported at a student dissertation but you won't be identifiable in any of these.

#### ➤ **Will my information be shared with others?**

When you agree to take part in a research study and with your informed consent, the information about you may be provided to researchers running other studies here or at other organisations. With your consent your anonymous responses will be shared in order to support additional research in accordance with The University of Manchester's Research Privacy Notice.

This information will not identify you and will not be combined with other information in a way that could identify you. The information will only be used for the purpose of that research and cannot be used for any other matter including making decisions about future services available to you.

#### ➤ **Will my information be put into an archive?**

At the end of the project, we will deposit a fully anonymised dataset in an open data repository where it will be permanently stored. We will use [name of repository and location

(e.g., Figshare at the University of Manchester Library)]. Researchers at other institutions and others can access the anonymised data directly from the repository and use it for further research or to check our analysis and results.

➤ **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:

**Dr. Anisa Visram ( [anisa.visram@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:anisa.visram@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.complaints@manchester.ac.uk](mailto: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](mailto:dataprotection@manchester.ac.uk)

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

**Christy Kurian**

**Email: [christy.kurian@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk](mailto:christy.kurian@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk)**