Oxford Vaccine Group, Department of Paediatrics, University of Oxford.

NAVIGATE: Navigating Attitudes to Vaccination Implementation for Gonorrhoea in the UK: Acceptability, Trust and Engagement

SURVEY PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Central University Research Ethics Committee Approval Reference: [MSD IDREC 947232]

1. Introductory paragraph

You are being invited to take part in a research project. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether you wish to take part.

2. Why is this research being conducted?

The UK government is considering a vaccination programme to prevent gonorrhoea, a sexually transmitted infection, primarily targeting gay and bisexual men and other men who have sex with men (GBMSM) – this is because they are at a higher risk of infection from gonorrhoea. Studies have shown that the vaccine usually used to prevent meningitis in young children, can offer some protection against gonorrhoea

It's important to understand what people think about vaccination against gonorrhoea, if they would accept the vaccine, what information they would need to make this decision, and how to make it easy for the vaccine recipients to receive the vaccine logistically.

To do this, researchers plan to ask questions to gather information from different perspectives to help make decisions about the vaccine programme. By understanding what people think, and if they would find this programme acceptable, researchers can make sure the programme is effective and well-received by the public if it goes ahead.

3. Why have I been invited to take part?

You have been invited to take part in this research because you have identified as a user of sexual health services and are aged 18 years and over.

4. Do I have to take part?

No. It is up to you to decide whether to take part. You can withdraw yourself from the research without giving a reason by not completing the survey. Once the survey has been submitted, it will not be possible to withdraw your answers from the study; this is because no personally identifiable data will be collected, and therefore we will be unable to find out which survey answers need to be withdrawn.

5. What will happen to me if I take part in the research?

You will be asked to read through this participant information sheet before taking part. If you decide you would like to continue and take the survey, we will ask you to fill in an online consent form. You will then be able to access the survey – this should take you roughly 10-15 minutes to complete. You will be able to pause the survey, or exit the survey, should you wish you no longer want to take part. It is also possible to skip any questions you do not want to answer.

You will also be asked if you would like to take part in a separate online interview to expand upon some of the questions we would like to ask. This is optional, and we will interview the first 20-30 participants who express interest. Interview participants will be given a voucher for their time. We will ask for your name and contact details so we can arrange the interview to discuss your answers in more detail. If you provide this information, we will be able to link your survey responses to your contact details.

6. What are the possible disadvantages and risks in taking part?

In this survey, we will ask you questions about a potential vaccination programme against gonorrhoea, therefore, topics around sexually transmitted infections will be discussed. We understand that some people might find this topic embarrassing or difficult to talk about, but you can choose not to answer any of the questions.

7. Are there any benefits in taking part?

While there are no immediate benefits for those participating in the research, it is hoped that this research will inform discussions around future gonorrhoea vaccination programmes.

8. What information will be collected and why is the collection of this information relevant for achieving the research objectives?

We are interested in the thoughts of various groups of people about how acceptable, and how feasible, an adolescent gonorrhoea programme would be. We also want to find out what information you would like to receive about this vaccination, and how you would like to receive, should this programme go ahead. We will be asking questions to this effect.

The data we will collect that could identify you will be your contact details, should you wish to express interest in completing the optional interview.

Your IP address will not be stored. We will take all reasonable measures to ensure that data remain confidential.

The responses you provide will be stored in a password-protected electronic file on University of Oxford secure servers. Identifiable information will be deleted as soon as it is no longer required for the research. Research data will be stored for 3 years after publication or public release of the work of the research.

9. Will the research be published? Could I be identified from any publications or other research outputs?

The findings from the research will/may be written up into a thesis, academic papers, conference presentations, or other publication methods (such as poster presentations etc). Policy recommendations will also be written and delivered to the government as a result of this research. This will ensure that if this vaccine program does go ahead, it will be informed by the thoughts of the people the program is aimed at. No personally identifiable data will be published.

A copy of my thesis/ dissertation will be deposited both in print and online in the Oxford University Research Archive where it will be publicly available to facilitate its use in future research.

10. Data Protection

The University of Oxford is the data controller with respect to your personal data, and as such will determine how your personal data is used in the research. The University will process your personal data for the purpose of the research outlined above. Research is a task that is performed in the public interest. Further information about your rights with respect to your personal data is available from the University's Information Compliance website at https://compliance.admin.ox.ac.uk/individual-rights.

11. Who is funding the research?

This research is being funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

12. Who has reviewed this research?

This research has received ethics approval from a subcommittee of the University of Oxford Central University Research Ethics Committee. (Ethics reference: **MSD IDREC 947232)**.

13. Who do I contact if I have a concern about the research or I wish to complain?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this research, please contact Dr Katrina Pollock, principal investigator, or Charlie Firth, DPhil Student, and we will do our best to answer your query. We will acknowledge your concern within 10 working days and give you an indication of how it will be dealt with. If you remain unhappy or wish to make a formal complaint, please contact the University of Oxford Research Governance, Ethics & Assurance (RGEA) team at rgea.complaints@admin.ox.ac.uk or on 01865 616480.

14. Further Information and Contact Details

If you would like to discuss the research with someone beforehand (or if you have questions afterwards), please contact:

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