

## Participant information sheet

### Experiences of providing care at Urgent Dental Centres in England during the Covid-19 pandemic: A qualitative study

**You are invited to participate in a study on Urgent Dental Care centres. Please read the information sheet carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. If you wish to participate please contact the field researcher.**

**([dental.hubs@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:dental.hubs@plymouth.ac.uk))**

#### Purpose of study

This research aims to explore the experiences you have of providing care at Urgent Dental Care (UDC) centres during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In this research study, we will be interviewing dental care professionals who are, or have been involved, in care delivery at UDC centres throughout England. By gaining a deeper understanding of your experiences, challenges, barriers and enablers in delivering care at UDC centres in England during the COVID-19 pandemic, this research could inform efforts to optimise patient care and ensure a safe care delivery in the dental setting.

#### Who can take part in the study?

If you are a dentist or dental nurse involved in care delivery at UDC centres in England, you are eligible to take part in this study.

#### What would taking part involve?

Taking part in the study would involve an interview at a convenient time for you, including evenings and/or weekends. It would take about 30-45 minutes and would take place online (e.g. using Skype, zoom- depending on your preference). Alternatively, a telephone interview could be arranged. The interview will be recorded.

#### What are the possible benefits of taking part?

By taking part in this research, you will be contributing to knowledge about the experiences, challenges and facilitators involved in care and service delivery at UDC centres. This can help to inform future developments designed to improve care providers' experience at these centres and enable better preparedness for future pandemics. The findings from this project may equally be used to facilitate better transition of care from UDC centres to primary dental care practices.



### **What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?**

It is not anticipated that there is any risk of harm to you from this study. If you feel distressed during the interview, you will have the opportunity to pause or end the interview and I will recommend that you contact your GP for further help.

### **How will my information be kept confidential?**

The researcher will conduct the interviews alone in a quiet room to ensure privacy during the interview. Interviews will be uploaded onto a secure and password-protected University drive as soon as the interview is completed, and the original audio recording will then be deleted. A unique identifier code to anonymise the data/transcripts will be used. Your personal details will not be published and where quotations are used, they will be presented anonymously and confidentially, so that they cannot be attributed to individuals.

### **What if I don't want to carry on with the study?**

Your participation is entirely voluntary and you can withdraw at any time before, during or within two weeks of the interview date, without providing any reason for that and without this affecting your practice or legal rights. You can withdraw from the study by email before the interview, or verbally during the interview. Once your data is anonymised with a unique identifier, it will not be possible to withdraw your anonymised data as the results will be untraceable.

### **What happens when the study is finished?**

We will post a summary report on the study webpage when the study is completed. You will not be identifiable in the report. The study will be presented through research conferences and publication in research journals.

### **What if I have a concern?**

If you have any concerns which you would like to discuss with someone else, please contact one of the Principal Investigators:

Mr Robert Witton

Director of Community-based Dentistry  
Chief Executive Peninsula Dental Social Enterprise CIC  
Consultant in Dental Public Health  
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If your concern is not resolved after talking to Mr Witton, you can contact the Research Administrator to the Faculty Research Ethics and Integrity Committee, Mo Bottomley at: [hhsethics@plymouth.ac.uk](mailto:hhsethics@plymouth.ac.uk).



## Ethical approval

The project has been reviewed and approved by the Faculty of Health Research and Integrity Committee, University of Plymouth and all researchers involved have DBS/CRB clearance.

## Researcher contact details

Please contact the field researcher by email if you would like to take part in this study, or if you have any questions or concerns: This information sheet and study consent forms can also be downloaded by the study web-page link: <https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/research/experiences-of-providing-care-at-urgent-dental-centres-in-england-during-the-covid-19-pandemic>

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*Thank you for reading this participant information.*