Study advert / email:
Experiences and impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak for older adults

The following text may be used to invite people’s participation in the project as either an email or a brief advert.

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic is resulting in significant changes in the way we each live our lives. Government guidance issued in March 2020 advised older adults and those with underlying health conditions to take particular care, including social distancing measures. This research focuses on the impact of these measures on older adults, including those living with existing health conditions.

What is the aim of study?

The aim of this study is to gain an in-depth understanding of how people aged 70 and over are experiencing the COVID-19 outbreak, the impact it is having on their daily lives and wellbeing, and how it may continue to have an impact in the months to come.

What will it involve?

We are looking for volunteers aged 70 and over to take part in a total of five telephone calls between April 2020 and May 2021. Four of the telephone calls will take place between April and September 2020; approximately one every six weeks. The fifth and final telephone call will take place in Spring 2021.

Each of these phone calls will involve you taking part in a telephone survey and / or an interview.

If you volunteer and are selected to take part in the telephone surveys, a researcher will contact you at these five time points and ask you questions to capture information about how the COVID-19 outbreak might be affecting your physical and mental health, your social contact, and wellbeing. We think these phone calls will last around 20 minutes each.
If you volunteer and are selected to take part in the telephone interviews, a researcher will contact you at the above five time points and ask you a series of questions that allow for exploration of your experiences of the COVID-19 outbreak and how it has been affecting your daily life and wellbeing. We think these interviews would last between 30 and 45 minutes each.

If you take part in both the surveys and the interviews, these will take place within the same telephone call. The final interview may take place either by telephone or in your own home – whichever you prefer.

**Who is running the research?**

This research is being conducted by members of the Centre for Ageing Research at Lancaster University.

**Who should I contact for more information or if I want to take part?**

If you wish to take part in this research or if you have any questions about the study, please contact the following researcher:

**Dr Sandra Varey  Email**  [s.varey@lancaster.ac.uk]  **Telephone**  07841 750841