



Health &
Medicine



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET CoCoNet Survey

Research Project: COVID-19 Contact Network (CoCoNet) Study

Thank you for your interest in taking part in the CoCoNet Survey. Please read the information below carefully to decide whether or not you would like to take part.

What is the study about?

This is a short online survey which aims to measure people's interactions and travel under the current COVID-19 social distancing restrictions. The results of the survey will be used to improve UK predictions of COVID-19 spread, and to help identify which restrictions could be lifted safely in the future.

Can I take part?

Anyone who lives in the UK can take the survey. We are keen to get responses from people of all ages, and across all areas of the UK. For children under the age of 13 who wish to participate we ask that their parent or guardian reads through the information sheet for children with them, and that they complete the online survey together.

What will I be asked to do if I take part?

We will ask you to complete a short online survey, which should take about 5 to 10 minutes. We will ask questions on topics such as: how often you are leaving the house, the types of places you've visited, and how many people you meet during the day. **The survey is completely anonymous, so please answer questions as honestly as you can.**

Completion of the survey is voluntary at each stage. You can close the survey at any time, but any questions you have answered up to that point will be collected. As the data collected is anonymous, you will not be able to withdraw any information from the study has collected once you have started the survey.

Will my data be identifiable?

This survey is anonymous. We do ask for the first part of your home postcode. This is so we can work out which region of the UK you live in. However, we will not be able to identify you based on the information you provide. Postcode information will be removed from any data or results published by the study. All reasonable steps will be taken to protect the anonymity of the participants involved in this project.

At the end of the survey we will ask if you are happy to be contacted in the future for a follow-up survey and to receive an update on the study findings. If you choose to do so, we will ask for your email address. Your email address will be stored securely by the researchers

at Lancaster University. You can contact one of the researchers listed below, or ask to unsubscribe from the mailing list on receipt of an email, and your email address will be deleted from our records. Your email address will not be shared or used for any other reason. Your survey responses will remain anonymous.

Your personal data (email address) will be processed as a *task in the public interest* under GDPR and in accordance with the UK's Data Protection Act. For further information about how Lancaster University processes personal data for research purposes and your data rights please visit our webpage: www.lancaster.ac.uk/research/data-protection.

All data collected by the survey will be stored securely for 10 years, and only the researchers conducting the study will have access to all of the information. We may share fully anonymised data (without postcode information) with other COVID-19 researchers. Any research published may also provide unrestricted public access to the anonymised data.

What will happen to the results?

The results will be submitted as part of a PhD thesis at Lancaster University, and may also be submitted for publication in scientific journals. They may also be presented at national and international conferences. We expect our results of the study to be published in 2020.

Are there any risks?

We do not expect there to be any risk associated with participating in this study. However, if you experience any distress following participation, or are worried about catching coronavirus COVID-19, please use the resources provided at the end of this document.

Are there any benefits to taking part?

There is no direct benefit to you from taking part. However, we hope that you will find the research interesting, and we hope to use the results to help inform the epidemiology of COVID-19 outbreak.

Who has reviewed the project?

This study has been reviewed and approved by the Faculty of Health and Medicine Research Ethics Committee at Lancaster University.

Where can I obtain further information about the study if I need it?

For further information please contact one of the following researchers involved in the study:

Jessica Bridgen - PhD student, Lancaster Medical School

Email: j.bridgen@lancaster.ac.uk

Dr Jonathan Read - Senior Lecturer in Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Lancaster Medical School

Email: jonathan.read@lancaster.ac.uk

Complaints

If you wish to make a complaint or raise concerns about any aspect of this study, and do not want to speak to the researchers, you can contact:

Professor Joanne Knight +44 (0)1524 594800
Chair in Applied Data Science Email: jo.knight@lancaster.ac.uk
Faculty of Health and Medicine
(Lancaster Medical School)
Lancaster University
Lancaster
LA1 4YG

If you wish to speak to someone outside of the Lancaster Medical School Doctorate Programme, you may also contact:

Dr Laura Machin Tel: +44 (0)1524 594973
Chair of FHM REC Email: l.machin@lancaster.ac.uk
Faculty of Health and Medicine
(Lancaster Medical School)
Lancaster University
Lancaster
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Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet.

How can I get help or information related to coronavirus COVID-19?

Should you feel concerned or distressed either as a result of taking part, or in the future, the following resources may help:

If you need medical help, go to [NHS 111 online](#).

If you're struggling because of coronavirus (COVID-19) and need support:

<https://www.gov.uk/find-coronavirus-support>

If you need help with your mental health or wellbeing:

<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/mental-health-services/dealing-with-a-mental-health-crisis-or-emergency/>

or

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-your-wellbeing/#collapse838f8>

For COVID-19 NHS Medical advice:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

For information about COVID-19 UK Government guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>