

Participant information sheet for young people aged 7 – 10 years

Sudden eye problems seen in healthcare centres and hospitals

We are from Cardiff University and we are asking if you and your parents would be interested in taking part in a research study.

Before you decide whether you would like to join in, it's important that you understand what the research is, what it is about and what it would mean for you.

Read this information carefully and talk to your family about it. You can ask us if there is anything that doesn't make sense or if you would like to know more.

A large print copy of this information sheet is available from the lead researchers upon request. Their contact details can be found in the table on page three of this document.

➤ **What is research?**

- **Research** is the way we try to find out answers to questions
- A **researcher** is a person whose job it is to find out the answers to these questions

➤ **Why are we doing this research?**

- If you have an eye problem you can ask for help from lots of people
- Some people go to their doctor. Some go to an optician, someone who is a bit like an eye doctor. Some go to the hospital or to other people instead – like the person who gives you medicine if you go to the pharmacy or chemist.
- We want to know what eye problems people that go to these places have, and how well they were looked after.

- You have been asked if you would like to help us with this because we want to talk to people who have had an eye problem that happened quickly and have asked one of these types of people for help
- **What will happen to me if I take part?**

On the day of you get help for your eye problem

On the day you get help with your eye problem, a person called a researcher will give you this letter to read and another one for your family to read. If you want they will talk about the research with you and let you ask as many questions as you like. If you want to help, we will ask you and your family to write your name on a special piece of paper called a form so we know you're happy to help. Anything you tell us while you're helping with our research will be kept private, this means no one will know that any information is about you.

If you or your family want to take time to think about if you would like to help us the researcher will give your parent or guardian some paper you might need. If you think you would like to help us then you can send the paper back to us in the post.

If you do not want to help out with this research that is fine. Tell your family and the researcher this. We need to know that both you and your parent or guardian are happy to help with the research. If either of you does not want to help then you won't take part in the research.

Later on

If you do want to help out, the researcher will look at information about your eyes and how healthy you are.

The researcher will sort out a time to telephone your family in a few weeks. They will ask them some questions about your eyes, and ask if you feel better now.

Wordsearch

- **Will anything bad happen if I help?**

Nothing bad will happen if you help out. You will still be well looked after.

- **Will anything good happen if I help?**

What we find out will hopefully help to improve eye and health care for lots of people.

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CARDIFF
CARE
DOCTOR
EYE
HEALTHY
OPTICIAN
PHARMACY
RESEARCH
RESULT
WALES

➤ **Do I have to take part?**

No – it is up to you and your family if you want to join in. If you say yes now but change your mind later and want to stop that is also fine. You don't need to tell us why and you will be looked after just the same.

We will not pay you or your parents/guardians for helping us with this research. But to say thank you we will give your parents/guardians a gift of a £10 voucher after the researcher has spoken to them on the phone.

➤ **What if I have questions?**

You can ask the researcher as many questions as you like while you're at the healthcare centre or on the telephone or by email afterwards (their contact details are on the next page).

➤ **What if there is a problem?**

If you don't feel well you should talk to your family and your doctor. If you don't like the research talk to your family, they can contact the people in charge for help like you can contact Richard Earlam, School of Optometry and Vision Sciences, Cardiff University on 02920 874852.

| Name | Email Address | Telephone Number |
|----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Angharad Hobby | HobbyAE2@cardiff.ac.uk | 02920 870588 |
| Jennifer Acton | ActonJ@cardiff.ac.uk | 02920 870203 |

➤ **Will anyone else know I'm helping?**

The people doing the research and the people where you had your eyes checked will know you've helped out. If you say it's okay we will also tell your doctor you have helped out.

Anything you or your family tell us for the research will be kept private, so no one will know that it is about you. The information you or your parents/guardians give us will be kept for 15 years after the research finishes.

➤ **Will any extra tests be done?**

No, extra tests will need to be done on your eyes. We will only need to contact your parent or guardian on the telephone for a chat.



➤ **What will happen to the results?**

The results of the research will show how we can look after everyone's eyes better. The results may be in the newspapers, on the internet, or on the TV. They will also be talked about with other researchers around the country and around the world. No one will be able to tell if you have helped us in any of the reports. If you would like to find out the results when everything is complete, let us know when you send the paper back to us saying you would like to take part.

➤ **Who is funding and reviewing the research?**

This study was reviewed and approved by a group called an Ethics Committee (North West - Preston Research Ethics Committee).

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Thank you for reading me!

