

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET**

**Title of Project:** **Exploring the impact of non-medical prescribing on the role identity of physiotherapists**

**Name of Researcher (s):**

**Colin Waldock, Dr T Thomas, Prof J Billings, Prof B Singh**

You are being invited to take part in a study because you are a Physiotherapist who has been qualified for at least 6 months and are registered with the HCPC and/or you are at the forefront of the use of independent prescribing within physiotherapy including the teaching of students on non-medical prescribing programmes. Before you decide if you want to take part, you must understand why the study is being done and what it involves. Please take time to read the following information. Ask if anything is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide if you want to take part or not.

**Why is the study being done?**

There is a lack of published literature regarding the impact non-medical prescribing has had on the healthcare professions involved within the project. Despite the ability of Physiotherapists to gain qualifications in supplementary prescribing since 2005 and independent prescribing since 2013; there has not been as large an uptake as expected. Currently approximately only 3% of qualified Physiotherapists have a non-medical prescribing qualification. This study seeks to explore the views of physiotherapists and the public about the impact non-medical prescribing is having or may have had on the profession’s role identity. Phase 1 of the study that we are inviting you to be part of seeks to explore the perception of the role of the physiotherapists and to explore the role of non-medical prescribing in physiotherapy of a group of ‘thought leaders’ and influencers within the profession

**Do I have to take part?**

No. It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. Even if you agree to take part, you can change your mind at any time without giving any reason. If you decide not to take part in the study, you will not be affected in any way. If you are unable to take part but know of sowmone who you think would like to then please feel free to pass my contact details to them

**If I do take part, what would I have to do and what would be done to me?**

You will be invited to take part in an interview which will be conducted by the researcher. The interview will be held over the telephone, skype, or face to face at a time that is mutually convenient and will be audio recorded for the purpose of accuracy in transcription

If you agree to take part, you will be asked to sign a consent form. You may be contacted in the future for a further interview

**Are there any risks if I take part?**

There are no risks to taking part in the study

**Are there any benefits if I take part?**

This study seeks to explore the role identity of physiotherapists, subsequently leading to generation of a theory of the physiotherapy role identity including how the role identity responds to change. We intend to publish our work and try to use it to develop further work on the development of non-medical prescribing within physiotherapy. This is an opportunity for you to potentially influence the future of physiotherapist independent prescribing.

**Will anyone know that I’ve taken part?**

We will not tell anyone that you have taken part in the study and your name and specific job title will not be associated with any of the reports or publications produced as a result of this work. .

However because of the small number of people who might be construed as ‘thought leaders’ it is possible that your identity might be inferred from the broad description of the roles consulted in this phase. Specific quotes will not be attributable to you as an individual so you will be able to give your opinions without them being traced back to you. You need to be aware of this and happy that your involvement may be implied.

**What will happen to the results?**

The findings will be published in peer reviewed journals and presented at conferences. Your name will not appear in any publications (see comments above). Anonymised data may be used for future work e.g. post doctoral research.

All data will be held securely in lockable filing cabinets and using laptops and portable memory devices that are password protected with up to date virus software installed. Hard copies of consent forms will be kept for 5 years in a locked cabinet to which only the researcher has access. At the end of this time they will be shredded. No identifiable data will be stored on laptops or university computers. Only members of the research team will have access to the anonymised data. Only the lead researcher will know your personal details in order to contact you.

Participants will be offered a summary of the results via a summary posted on the study website <https://cwaldock-551.wixsite.com>. Data for the study will be held securely for 5 years after the cessation of the project and then sent to a secure storage facility (the University of Kent Repository).

**Who is Organising and Funding the study?**

This study is being carried out by Colin Waldock in part fulfilment of a PhD at the Medway School of Pharmacy (MSoP). It is being funded by a studentship with the Medway School of Pharmacy (Universities of Kent and Greenwich)

**Who should I contact if I want to know more about the study?**

Dr Trudy Thomas [t.thomas@kent.ac.uk](mailto:t.thomas@kent.ac.uk) Colin’s PhD supervisor

Mr Colin Waldock c.waldock-551@kent.ac.uk

**Who should I contact if I have any concerns about the study or the way it has been conducted?**

If you have concerns about how this research study has been conducted please contact the Chair of the MSoP Research Ethics Committee on [S.A.Corlett@kent.ac.uk](mailto:S.A.Corlett@kent.ac.uk)

**General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Privacy notice for research – University-level**

The University of Kent uses personally-identifiable information to conduct research, including to improve health, care and services. As a publicly-funded organisation, we have to ensure that we use and safeguard your data according to the law. You can find more information or contact The University of Kent’s Data Protection Officer at: https://www.kent.ac.uk/infocompliance/dp/staff-info/staff-info.html

**Thank you for taking time to consider taking part in this study.**

This project has been looked at and approved by the MSoP Research Ethics Committee