

Have you been diagnosed with Melanoma?

Would you be willing to tell us about your experiences?

A patient's perspective of a condition is often very different to a scientist's. By talking to our healthcare science students you could help them to understand the impact that their research may have on people's lives. This experience will also help our students to see the value of talking to patients at the planning stages of their research, and encourage them to explain their research findings to a general audience.

The **closing date** for expressing interest is **Tuesday 13th March 2018**.

Who are we looking for and what do you need to do?

We are seeking 8 patients/members of the public who have ever been diagnosed with one of the conditions listed above and who would be happy to:

- Talk about their experiences of the condition to a small group of students.
- Listen to student presentations about their research.

You will be given **£60 in cash (£30 for attending each event)** to thank you for your time. Reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed and refreshments will be provided.

When would we need you and for how long?

We are planning two events and need you to be available on both dates:

- Tuesday 21st March 2018: 11.30am – 3.00pm
- Tuesday 4th September 2018: 2.00pm – 4.00pm

What will happen at the events?

Wednesday 21st March 2018: 11.30am – 3.00pm

There will be 8 patients and 10 postgraduate students in this session. You will be asked to talk to a small group of students (maximum of 3) about your experience of your condition. This could include: how it started, how it has progressed, any symptoms, how it affects your life and how it has been treated, including your ways of coping.

The student(s) will ask you some questions to help them to understand your condition and the impact of their research. They may also want to tell you about the research project they are planning and tell you about some of the science behind your symptoms. This is to help them practice explaining scientific ideas to members of the public.

You will be free to ask the student(s) any questions that you have.

Lunch will be provided at this event.

Tuesday 4th September: 2-4pm

This session is for the students to share their research findings with you in a short informal presentation. You will also be given the opportunity to ask questions and give feedback. This is really important to us, as explaining scientific concepts to the public is a vital skill for our students.

Tea, Coffee and Cake will be provided at this event.

Members of University staff and a patient representative will be present at both sessions. We can discuss the events over the phone to help you prepare and can spend some time with you immediately after the session if you would like to talk through the experience.

What should you do if you are interested?

If you are interested in taking part please send an email to Nadia Ezzedine at clinicalimmunology@manchester.ac.uk with a short paragraph explaining why you are interested and what you think you can bring to the role.

Please include:

- Which condition is relevant to you
- Some details that you would feel comfortable sharing with the students, for instance how long you have had this condition or when you were first diagnosed.

If you have any questions, or don't have access to e-mail, please telephone Nadia Ezzedine on **0161 306 3411**.

We will confirm whether you have been successful by Friday 9th March.

What happens after you have applied?

If you are invited to take part:

We will notify you via e-mail or telephone.

We will ask you to provide us with the following:

- Confirmation that you can attend both meetings.
- Any accessibility needs.
- Your mobile number – in case we need to contact you once you have set off for the session.
- Details of how you will be travelling to the event and the likely cost, so that we can ensure the cash is available to reimburse you on the day.
- Details of any special dietary requirements.

If you are unsuccessful on this occasion:

Unfortunately we only have a small number of places available for this project, but we will notify you by e-mail or telephone if you have been unsuccessful. We will also ask if you are happy for us to keep your details on file and pass them on to other teams within the University of Manchester who also conduct similar patient involvement projects. Please be assured that you do not have to consent, and we will not keep or pass on your details until you have confirmed that you are happy for us to do so.