



DO YOU PROVIDE SUPPORT AND HELP TO A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND?

If so you may be a carer and we would like to hear from you. Family members or friends who are carers can provide a range of support including personal care, help with housework, health and physical care, financial care, and social and emotional support. We are particularly interested in hearing from you if you have never had contact with health and/or social care services about your caring role.

Researchers at the Universities of Oxford, Kent and Hull are developing a programme of work on how to identify carer and their needs. Different types of support are available to carers, however carers often do not benefit from this support as they are not known to health and care services. Consequently, services may not be aware of the support needs that carers have. Supporting carers is important to ensure that the carer's own health does not suffer and that they can continue living their lives whilst providing care.

To make sure that the project we are planning is appropriate and suitable for carers, we would like to discuss the project with current carers.

If you live in England and are a carer, we are keen to have you involved.

What will you be asked to do?

We would like to talk get your thoughts on

- The key questions that the research is trying to answer i.e. how to identify carers and their needs through primary care
- How the study is designed
- How to involve carers throughout the study

We will do this by asking carers to read the application and comment on it either via email or the telephone.

What happens after we have talked to you?

We will use your views to further develop the plans for the project. The project will then be submitted for funding to the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) who have specifically asked for projects on carers to be put forward. The NIHR will tell us if they like our plans and if they wish for us to develop the plans more thoroughly. If the project gets funded, it will be carried out as agreed in the application.

What about expenses?

Your input at this stage would most likely happen over the telephone or via email. We pay for the costs of phone calls. If you did travel to us, we would pay for reasonable travel expenses (you would need to keep all your travel receipts).

How do I get in touch?

If you are interested in speaking to us about the project, please contact Dr Michele Peters at the University of Oxford

By telephone: 01865 289428

By email: michele.peters@dph.ox.ac.uk

Thank you for taking the time to read this!