



## Stroke and the senses

**Have you had a stroke that affected your vision, hearing, taste, smell or touch?**

If so, then we would really like to hear from you.

We want to bring together as much information as we can about the best ways to manage these problems. This is an area where there is very little research. Doing this will help us tell researchers and funders what research questions need to be answered. It will also make sure that health professionals and stroke survivors know what treatments work best.

We will bring this information together by doing a “systematic review”. A systematic review is a type of research study which finds and brings together published evidence to answer a question.

To make sure that our systematic review answers questions which are important to stroke survivors, their family and carers, we want to involve them in our project. We will do this by creating a small group of those with lived experience. This group will have a small but very important role in the project. If you live in the UK and have experience of stroke and sensory changes, then we are keen to have you involved.

### **What will I be asked to do?**

We would like to get in contact with you. We want to find out you think on

- the key questions on how to manage sensory changes caused by stroke
- what information we should include in our systematic review

- what is the most useful way to bring this information together

We might ask you if you would read and comment on our plans for our review. You would not have to do this if you did not want to.

### **What happens after the initial meeting/chat?**

We are going to write a short plan and apply for money to fund our project. We will submit this to the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), who have asked for research plans on this topic. You can find more information by clicking on this link: [NIHRlink](#). If our project is funded, then we will carry out the planned systematic review. If our project is not chosen to be funded, then we will not do any more on this.

### **What happens if your systematic review is funded?**

Having people with experience of sensory problems involved in our review is very important to us. If our systematic review is funded, we will set up a group of 5-8 people who can give us guidance and help us produce the review. You could choose to be part of that group if you wanted to. We would give you information about this group, and let you know how the group could help with the review. We would let you know the dates of any meetings.

### **What about any expenses?**

We would pay the cost of any phone calls. We would pay for any travel expenses for you and your carer, if you come to any meetings. We would ask you to keep any receipts.

### **How do I get in contact?**

If you are interested in speaking to us about our project, or would like to find out more, please contact **Christine Hazelton**

By telephone: **0141 331 8181**

By email: [stroke@gcu.ac.uk](mailto:stroke@gcu.ac.uk)

**We look forward to hearing from you.**