



7 December 2020

Health workers needed for research on ethnicity and COVID-19

Dear Pharmacist

We are writing to invite you to take part in the United Kingdom Research Study into Ethnicity and COVID-19 Outcomes in Healthcare Workers (UK-REACH).

This is an important study that could help to protect the health of your fellow health and care workers. We hope you will consider taking part.

To take part in the study, register on the UK-REACH website www.uk-reach.org/psni

What is the UK-REACH study and why is it being carried out?

UK-REACH is an urgent public health study funded by the UK Government to help understand why people from certain ethnic minorities are more likely to have severe COVID-19.

UK-REACH is led by the University of Leicester with several other UK universities. The Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland (PSNI), along with 6 other healthcare regulators, also support the study and encourage you to consider taking part.

UK-REACH will look at COVID-19 outcomes in people of different ethnicities working in health and social care, and how these relate to working conditions, job types, and general health and living circumstances. Findings will be used to make rapid recommendations to the Government to protect health and social care workers.

Why am I being invited to take part?

The PSNI is sending you this invitation on behalf of the UK-REACH research team. UK-REACH want to hear from people of all ethnicities working in health and care. They're especially keen to hear from people from ethnic minorities to understand why some groups have been particularly affected by the pandemic.

If I take part, what will I be asked to do?

Clicking the link above will take you directly to the registration process. First you will be asked to register with a username and password. You will then be asked to read a participant information sheet and, if happy to take part in the study, sign an online consent form. After providing consent you will be asked to provide some personal details and then to complete an online questionnaire. UK-REACH will then send you two further questionnaires over the following year. Each questionnaire will ask for some information about you, your

health, work and home life. Each will take about 30 minutes to complete and can be done in parts if you wish.

How will my information be kept safe? Will you share it with anyone?

All the information you give the UK-REACH research team will be kept securely. Personal details such as your name and contact details will be kept separately from any other information you provide. No information will be shared with the PSNI or your employer.

Taking part in the study is entirely your choice. The PSNI will not be told if you take part in the study or not.

To find out more about how we would use and store your information, please read the participant information sheet on the UK-REACH website www.uk-reach.org/main/pis.

How do I get involved?

Visit the UK-REACH website www.uk-reach.org/psni to sign up. You can also find out more about the study www.uk-reach.org/faq on the website. The UK-REACH team can also be contacted via email uk-reach@leicester.ac.uk, or telephone 07425 611865.

Thank you for taking the time to read this invitation.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Manish Pareek



UK-REACH Chief Investigator
Associate Clinical Professor
University of Leicester

Trevor Patterson



Chief Executive
Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland



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