

Participant Information Sheet

Developing a medication management and a contingency management intervention protocol to enhance adherence to acamprosate for relapse prevention in alcohol dependence

We invite you to take part in a research study

Thank you for taking time to read this information. We'd like to invite you to take part in our research study paid for by the National Institute for Health Research and run by King's College London.

Joining the study is entirely up to you, before you decide we would like you to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. One of our team will go through this information sheet with you, to help you decide whether or not you would like to take part and answer any questions you may have. We'd suggest this should take about 15 minutes. Please feel free to talk to others about the study if you wish.

The first part of the Participant Information Sheet tells you the purpose of the study and what the process will be if you take part.

Then we give you more detailed information about the conduct of the study.

Do ask if anything is unclear.

Why are we doing this research?

Acamprosate (Campral) may be prescribed to people who have had problems with alcohol to help reduce the risk of them drinking again. Many people who take this medication have problems taking it as regularly as it is prescribed and therefore may not be getting the full benefit from the medication. We are planning an intervention delivered in the pharmacy by pharmacists to help support people to take acamprosate as it is prescribed. This research aims to get a better understanding of pharmacists' and pharmacy support staff's beliefs, attitudes and knowledge of alcohol dependence and their perceptions of the factors that may influence adherence to acamprosate. We are also interested in their opinions of the planned intervention, previous experience of delivering health interventions and possible training needs.

Why have you been invited to take part?

You have been invited to take part as we are interested in the experience and opinions of pharmacists and pharmacy support staff.

Do I have to take part?

No, taking part in this research is entirely voluntary.

What will taking part involve?

If you decide to take part you will be invited to attend a focus group with other pharmacists/pharmacy support staff, which will be held in a place convenient for you in either a university or a public building with good transport links at a time outside of normal working hours. There will be a short presentation before the focus group to explain some key parts of the topics for

discussion. The focus group will be guided by some questions for discussion, there are no right or wrong answers, we are interested in your opinions. The questions will include;

- what do you know about alcohol dependence?
- what factors do you think will influence a person taking acamprosate as prescribed?
- What barriers of facilitators do you think there will be to delivering a health intervention to support people taking acamprosate in the pharmacy?
- What has been your previous experience with delivering health interventions?
- What support and training do you think you would need in order to effectively deliver a health intervention in the pharmacy?

You will be asked to complete a consent form before the presentation/focus group begins. The presentation/focus group will last for approximately 60-90 minutes and will be audio recorded for analysis purposes.

Will taking part cost me anything and will I be paid?

No, taking part in the research will not cost you anything, you will be given £20 as thank you for taking part and your travel expenses will be reimbursed.

What if you change your mind?

You are free to change your mind at any time and withdraw from the research without giving a reason

Will everything I say be kept private?

All audio recordings and personal information collected during the research will be securely stored and treated as confidential. When we report the findings of the focus groups no personal identifiable information will be used but anonymised quotes may be used.

What will happen to the results of the research?

The focus group will be audio recorded and then transcribed and anonymised by a researcher. The data collected in the focus groups will be used in a workshop to develop an intervention to help support people taking acamprosate as prescribed. The data will also be used in future publications and presentations.

What are the risks and benefits of taking part?

There are no risks anticipated for anyone who chooses to take part in the research. However, some participants may not feel comfortable contributing to all aspects of the focus group discussion. Participants will not be expected to contribute to any discussions that they do not feel comfortable with.

There are no expected benefits from taking part in the study but the results will be used to help develop interventions to support people taking acamprosate, which may benefit you in the future.

Who should I contact if I have concerns about how the research was conducted?

If you have any concerns about the research please contact the King's College London using the details below for further advice and information;

Colin Drummond (Chief Investigator), National Addictions Centre, Addictions Department,

Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience, King's College London, Addiction Sciences Building, 4 Windsor Walk, Denmark Hill, London SE5 8BB, Tel: +44 (0)20 7848 0817 Email: colin.drummond@kcl.ac.uk.

Thank you for taking the time to consider taking part in this research.

If you would like to know more about the research at any stage please contact;

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