# **Short survey on aspirin use for cancer prevention among the general public**

**Participant Information Sheet**

Preventive therapy is the use of medication to reduce a person’s risk of developing cancer. Regular aspirin use may reduce a person’s risk of developing bowel cancer and other cancers in the future. However, we do not know if aspirin is used by people in the UK general population for this reason. You are invited to take part in a short survey on your current aspirin use, and what you know about the drug. You do not need to know anything about this topic to take part. After completing the survey, you will be offered the opportunity to take part in a follow-up interview study exploring this topic in more depth.

If you are interested, please read all of the information below, which outlines what will be involved. You may discuss it with others if you wish. You may also contact a member of the research team to ask questions, using the information below.

## **What is the purpose of the study?**

We are aiming to investigate aspirin use and awareness of using aspirin for cancer prevention in the UK general population.

## **Why have I been invited to take part?**

We are inviting you to take part as you are based in the UK and between the ages of 50 to 70 years old.

## **Do I have to take part?**

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kelly Lloyd to discuss the study ([umkel@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:umkel@leeds.ac.uk)).

## **How do I take part?**

If you would like to take part in the study, please read and complete the consent form on the next page.

## **What will happen if I decide to take part?**

You will need to complete the survey, which consists of several questions examining your current use of aspirin, your awareness of using aspirin for cancer prevention, and on your characteristics (e.g. age, ethnicity). We estimate the survey will take up to 10 minutes to complete.

## **What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?**

Our experience tells us that harmful effects from taking part in surveys such as these are uncommon. If you do become distress by any of the questions, you can exit the survey at any point.

## **What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

The information you provide in the study will help us understand more how people use aspirin in the UK. We will also use this information to develop further research that may help us find ways to support people who are considering using aspirin for preventive therapy.

## **Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential? How will we use information about you?**

The information you provide will be confidential. Your name will not be attached to any of the data. Instead, you will be given a unique ID code. Your anonymised data (i.e. with all identifiable data removed) will be stored in the University of Leeds online data repository. The data will be openly available to the public. No personally identifiable information will be included in any data shared. Therefore, nobody should be able to link back this data to you.

If you express interest in taking part in the follow-up interview study, your contact details will be stored in password protected file on University of Leeds computer. Only Kelly Lloyd and Dr Samuel Smith will have access to this file. If you take part in the interview study, your contact details will be shared though with Dynata, who will provide you with the £25 for completing the interview. Your contact details will be saved in a separate file from your survey responses. After 5 years, all personal information will be deleted.

You can find out more about how we use your information by contacting the University data protection officer on [dpo@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:dpo@leeds.ac.uk), and read the University’s privacy notice for research participants here: <https://dataprotection.leeds.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/48/2019/02/Research-Privacy-Notice.pdf>

## **Who can I contact if I have a complaint?**

If you want to complain about how researchers have handled your information, you should contact the research team (details at the end). If you are not happy with how this complaint is dealt with, you can contact the Data Protection Officer on [dpo@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:dpo@leeds.ac.uk).

## **What happens to the results of the research study?**

We will publish the results of the study in scientific journals and present the results at scientific meetings.

## **Withdrawal from the study**

We will be unable to withdraw the information you provided in the survey once you have submitted it, regardless of whether you have included your contact details in the survey. This is because your contact details will be saved in a separate file to the file containing the survey responses data. Once the survey is closed, all data will be deleted from the survey platform. After the data has been deleted from the platform, we will have no way of identifying any survey responses. You can though withdraw your contact details if you provided these so that we could get in contact with you about taking part in the follow-up interview study. To withdraw your contact details, please get in touch with the research team.

## **Who is organising and funding the research?**

The research is funded by Cancer Research UK and the Economic and Social Research Council. The study is sponsored and organised by the University of Leeds. The University of Leeds is acting as the data controller for this study, meaning they are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

## **Who has reviewed the study?**

This study has been reviewed and given a favourable opinion by the University of Leeds School of Medicine Ethics Committee (approved on xx xxx 2022).

## **Contact for further information**

If you wish to discuss the study in greater detail, then please contact a member of the research team (Kelly Lloyd in the first instance):

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| Kelly Lloyd | Dr Samuel Smith |
| Postgraduate researcher | Associate Professor |
| Email: [umkel@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:umkel@leeds.ac.uk) | Email: [S.Smith1@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:S.Smith1@leeds.ac.uk) |