Information for patients about an interview study

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1. About this study

We are doing a research study.

We want to learn about **virtual wards** and how they work for people with **dementia or memory problems**.



A virtual ward is where:

- A person stays at **home** instead of going to hospital
- Doctors and nurses still visit the person's house to **check on** them
- Care may happen **in person or using technology**

You may have also heard a virtual ward be called **hospital at home**.

We want to understand:

✓ What works well

✓ What does not work well

✓ How care at home can be improved

Your experience can help improve care for other people.

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2. Why have I been asked?

You were invited because:

- You received care from a **virtual ward** in the last year
- You are living with **dementia or memory difficulties**

Your experience is important.

3. What will happen if I take part?

Interview

We will talk with you about your experience of the virtual ward.

We may ask questions like:



- What worked well?
- What was difficult?
- What could be better?

The interview can happen:



In person (face-to-face)



By video call



By telephone

You can choose what is easiest for you.



The interview will last **up to 1 hour**.

You can:

- Take a **break**
- **Skip questions**
- **Stop at any time**

Short questions about you

We will ask a few short questions, such as:



- Your age
- Your gender
- Your ethnicity
- Who you live with

This takes about **5 minutes**.

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4. Will the interview be recorded?

With your permission:

- The interview will be **audio recorded** and the researcher will take notes.

This helps us remember what was said.

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5. What are the benefits?

By taking part, you will help improve virtual ward care for people living with dementia.

To say thank you, you will receive a **£20 high street voucher**.

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6. Are there any risks?

Talking about experiences may sometimes feel upsetting.

If this happens you can:

- Pause the interview
- Skip questions
- Stop the interview

You are always in control.

7. Do I have to take part?

No.

Taking part is **your choice**.

Your care will **not change** if say no or decide to take part.

If you say yes but change your mind later:

- You can let us know within **6 weeks**
- We will delete your information if you ask

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8. How will my information be kept safe?

In this research study we **will use information from you**. We will only use information that we need for the research study. We will let very few people know your name or contact details, and only if they really need it for this study.

Everyone involved in this study **will keep your data safe and secure**. We will also follow all **privacy rules.**

At the end of the study, we will save some of the data in case we need to check it and/or use it for future research.

We will make sure no-one can work out who you are from the reports we write.

The study results may be shared in:

- Research journals or conferences

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9. Can my information be used in future research?

We may ask if we can use anonymous information in future studies.

Anonymous means:

- Your name and personal details are removed.
- You can **say no** and still take part in this study.

10. Who is running the study?

The study is led by **Professor Nathan Davies**.

Email: n.davies@qmul.ac.uk

The research is run by **Queen Mary University of London**.

The study is funded by the **Alzheimer's Society**.

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11. Has the study been checked?

✓ Yes.

An independent **Research Ethics Committee** has checked and approved this research.

This helps make sure research is **safe and fair**.

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12. Who can I contact?

📞 If you would like to take part or ask questions, please contact:

Emily Spencer – Researcher

Phone: 07502 872305 Email: emily.spencer@qmul.ac.uk

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13. Thank you

Thank you for reading this information. Your experience can help improve care for people with dementia.