**Participant Information Sheet and Consent Form**

**Researcher(s): Matt Sopp (Trainee Clinical Psychologist), Dr Katherine Newman-Taylor (Associate Professor), Dr Thomas Richardson (Associate Professor)**

**ERGO ethics: 64334 Version 4 (6/12/2021)**

**What is the research about?**

There has been a lot of research showing that cannabis use can increase paranoid thinking and other unusual experiences. This study is for people who use cannabis and sometimes feel wary of others, suspicious or paranoid.

This study will act as a screener to identify participants for a follow up study. After you have completed this study we may invite you to take part in the full study. We will provide further details of the full study at this point.

It is entirely up to you if you wish to take part in the full study. Deciding you do not want to take part in the full study will not impact your payment for the current study.

**Who can sign up to this study?**

Please only sign up to this study if you currently use cannabis and sometimes feel wary of others, suspicious or paranoid.

**What will happen to me if I take part?**

You will be asked you if you currently use cannabis (at least once in the last 2 months).

You will also be asked if you sometimes feel wary of others, suspicious or paranoid (at least once in the last 2 months).

**Will my participation be confidential?**

*Yes.* Your participation and the information we collect about you during this research will be kept strictly confidential. *We will not collect any identifiable information*. All data collected will be held under password protection.

Only members of the research team and responsible members of the University of Southampton may be given access to data about you for monitoring purposes and/or to carry out an audit of the study to ensure that the research is complying with applicable regulations. Individuals from regulatory authorities (people who check that we are carrying out the study correctly) may require access to your data. All of these people have a duty to keep your information, as a research participant, strictly confidential.

**How I will be paid**

You will be paid as soon as your submission has been processed by the researcher. This will be no longer than 7 days after completing this study.

You *will not* be paid for this study if you do not meet the study requirements. It is a requirement that participants only sign up if they currently use cannabis and sometimes feel wary of others/ suspicious/ paranoid.

**What will happen to the results of the research?**

The results of this study will be used as a screening tool to identify participants for a follow up study. The data collected will be used for this purpose only. The follow up study is *optional* and there is no requirement that you take part. In line with Prolific’s data policy, the data for this study will be destroyed after the follow up study has been concluded.

The results of this study will be written up as part of a final year thesis for the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology programme at The University of Southampton. It is intended that the results will also be used and submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

Anonymised data may be uploaded to a research data repository in line with best practice, so that other researchers can examine the data and check our analyses. No personally identifiable information would be included in this data.

**Where can I get more information?**

Please feel free to contact the researcher, Matt Sopp, via email [cannabisstudy@soton.ac.uk](mailto:cannabisstudy@soton.ac.uk) if you have any further questions.

**Data Protection Privacy Notice**

The University of Southampton conducts research to the highest standards of research integrity. As a publicly funded organisation, the University has to ensure that it is in the public interest when we use personally-identifiable information about people who have agreed to take part in research. This means that when you agree to take part in a research study, we will use information about you in the ways needed, and for the purposes specified, to conduct and complete the research project. Under data protection law, ‘Personal data’ means any information that relates to and is capable of identifying a living individual. The University’s data protection policy governing the use of personal data by the University can be found on its website (<https://www.southampton.ac.uk/legalservices/what-we-do/data-protection-and-foi.page>).

This Participant Information Sheet tells you what data will be collected for this project and whether this includes any personal data. Please ask the research team if you have any questions or are unclear what data is being collected about you.

Our privacy notice for research participants provides more information on how the University of Southampton collects and uses your personal data when you take part in one of our research projects and can be found at <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/assets/sharepoint/intranet/ls/Public/Research%20and%20Integrity%20Privacy%20Notice/Privacy%20Notice%20for%20Research%20Participants.pdf>

Any personal data we collect in this study will be used only for the purposes of carrying out our research and will be handled according to the University’s policies in line with data protection law. If any personal data is used from which you can be identified directly, it will not be disclosed to anyone else without your consent unless the University of Southampton is required by law to disclose it.

Data protection law requires us to have a valid legal reason (‘lawful basis’) to process and use your Personal data. The lawful basis for processing personal information in this research study is for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest. Personal data collected for research will not be used for any other purpose.

For the purposes of data protection law, the University of Southampton is the ‘Data Controller’ for this study, which means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. The University of Southampton will keep identifiable information about you for 10 years after the study has finished after which time any link between you and your information will be removed.

To safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personal data necessary to achieve our research study objectives. Your data protection rights – such as to access, change, or transfer such information - may be limited, however, in order for the research output to be reliable and accurate. The University will not do anything with your personal data that you would not reasonably expect.

If you have any questions about how your personal data is used, or wish to exercise any of your rights, please consult the University’s data protection webpage (https://www.southampton.ac.uk/legalservices/what-we-do/data-protection-and-foi.page) where you can make a request using our online form. If you need further assistance, please contact the University’s Data Protection Officer ([data.protection@soton.ac.uk](mailto:data.protection@soton.ac.uk)).

**Thank you for taking the time to read the information sheet and considering taking part in the research.**

**ONLINE CONSENT FORM**

**Study title**: Screening for a cannabis-related paranoia study.

**Researcher name**: Matt Sopp

**ERGO number**: 64334

***Please tick the box(es) if you agree with the statement(s):***

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| **I have read and understood the information sheet (6/12/2021*/ version 4*) and have had the opportunity to ask questions about the study.** |  |
| **I agree to take part in this research project and agree for my data to be used for the purpose of this study.** |  |
| **I understand my participation is voluntary and I may withdraw (at any time) for any reason.** |  |