**Participant Information Sheet**

**Study Title**: Called to Serve: The experience of final-year medical students during COVID-19 and beyond

**Researchers**: Mrs Aimee O’Neill, Prof Julia Sinclair

**ERGO number:** 56024

To help you decide whether you would like to take part in this study, it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read the information below carefully and ask questions if anything is not clear or you would like more information before you decide to take part in this research. If you are happy to participate you will be asked to tick a box to indicate your consent.

**What is the research about?**

The coronavirus outbreak has had a significant impact on the delivery of patient care and medical education including extraordinary measures being undertaken to enable NHS frontline staff to meet clinical demand. The implications of this on the medical workforce and future medical education is unknown. This study will assess the effect of these circumstances on the health and wellbeing of medical students and their early workplace experiences.

This research is part of a portfolio of work from the Centre for Workforce Wellbeing, a collaboration between Health Education England and the University of Southampton. The research also forms part of a PhD research project.It is supported by the Faculty of Medicine, Prof Diana Eccles and Dr Jane Wilkinson.

**Why have I been asked to participate?**

Because you were a final-year medical student at the University of Southampton in April 2020.

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

After you have read this information sheet you will be asked to click a consent box, so that we know you understand the study and want to participate.

You are being asked to take part in a questionnaire that will be anonymised. This should take less than 15 minutes to complete and will ask about your health and wellbeing and how you make decisions. [You will also be invited to complete a similar set of questions in approximately 3 months time.]

**Are there any benefits in my taking part?**

There are no direct personal benefits in taking part, beyond the involvement in this important and unique research. For each survey you complete, you will receive £5 towards your Amazon voucher. If you complete the baseline survey and both follow-up surveys you will receive a £15 Amazon voucher. The voucher will be provided upon completion of the second follow-up survey in October 2020.

**Are there any risks involved?**

There are no anticipated risks associated with the answering the survey questions. However, it is possible that completing the questionnaire at follow-up could bring to mind negative experiences of the pandemic.

**What data will be collected?**

Your consent form and a decryption file will be the only place that your personal information your name is listed. You will be asked some demographic information about your gender, ethnicity and religion before completing the main survey. Summary statistics (e.g. the number of people answering each question) will be recorded, along with free text answers. Your name will not be linked to any of your answers.

For the duration of the study, your anonymised data will be stored on the University of Southampton network and require password input for access. The investigators involved with this study will not use for any purpose other than performance of the study, any information you provide during the course of the study. Identifiable information about you will be kept for up to 15 years after the study has finished after which time any link between you and your information will be removed.

**Will my participation be confidential?**

Yes. Your participation and the information we collect during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential. The Investigators involved with this study will not use for any purpose other than performance of the study, any information given by participants during the course of the study. All electronic data will be anonymised and stored on the secure University of Southampton network and require password input for access. Members of the University of Southampton may be given access to data for monitoring purposes and/or to carry out an audit of the study to ensure that the research meets regulatory requirements. These people have a duty to keep information strictly confidential.

**Do I have to take part?**

No. It is entirely up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you decide you want to take part, you will need to tick a box to show you have agreed to take part.

**What happens if I change my mind?**

You have the right to change your mind and withdraw at any time without giving a reason and without your participant rights being affected. If you withdraw, we will clarify with you whether you wish to have all of your data withdrawn or if you only wish to withdraw from future data collection.

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

Research findings made available in any reports or publications will not include information that can directly identify you without your specific consent. We will keep you informed with updates via our social media pages.

**Where can I get more information?**

Aimee O’Neill

[c4ww@soton.ac.uk](mailto:c4ww@soton.ac.uk)

02382 310776

Centre for Workforce Wellbeing, Academic Centre, College Keep, 4-12 Terminus Road, Southampton, Hampshire, SO14 3DT.

**What happens if there is a problem?**

If you become distressed during the completion of these surveys, a list of resources for potential help will be placed at the end of each questionnaire or you can email us at [c4ww@soton.ac.uk](mailto:c4ww@soton.ac.uk) if you wish to have a follow-up contact. This email will be monitored daily over the course of the study, will give details of emergency contacts numbers and a clinical member of the research team (or their delegate) will respond to any requests for urgent follow up within 24 hours.

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, contact Aimee O’Neill ([c4ww@soton.ac.uk](mailto:c4ww@soton.ac.uk)) or Prof Julia Sinclair ([Julia.sinclair@soton.ac.uk](mailto:Julia.sinclair@soton.ac.uk)) who will do their best to answer your questions. If you remain unhappy or have a complaint about any aspect of this study, please contact the University of Southampton Research Integrity and Governance Manager (023 8059 5058, [rgoinfo@soton.ac.uk](mailto:rgoinfo@soton.ac.uk)).

**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 up to 15 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)).