**Participant Information Sheet**

**Study Title**: Investigating the Relation Between Impulsivity and Conditioned Inhibition

**Researcher**: Ovidiu Brudan

**ERGO number: 31873.A3**

You are being invited to take part in the above research study. To help you decide whether you would like to take part or not, 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. You may like to discuss it with others but it is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you are happy to participate you will be asked to sign a consent form.

**What is the research about?**

The current research is part of an MSc dissertation/PhD thesis and it aims to examine the relation between conditioned inhibition and impulsivity. More specifically, the current project aims to facilitate our understanding of how individual differences influence associative learning processes in the normal population. By doing so, we would then also be able to make predictions of how impulsivity is likely to influence clinical populations, such as people suffering from addictions, ADHD patients and OCD patients. During the experiment, which is expected to last around 45 minutes, you will be asked to complete two questionnaires as well as three computer based tasks.

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

You have been asked to participate because you are a student, member of staff or a visitor at the University of Southampton Highfield campus.

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

The current project will constitute of a single laboratory session in which you will be asked to fill in two questionnaires, each taking roughly 5 minutes. Then you will be asked to complete three computer based tasks, which are estimated to last 10 minutes each. For the first task you will be asked to press the left arrow if they see a square on the screen and the right arrow if a circle is presented. For the second task you will have to choose the most appealing reward out of two virtual rewards. Finally, for the last task you will have to learn to predict the occurrence of an event based on the previous occurrence of certain stimuli.

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

Your participation will help us understand how individual differences influence associative learning processes, which could lead to improvements in rehabilitation treatments.Student participants can collect research participation credits if they are registered on select modules. Participants will also be offered to take a lucky-dip from a selection of sweets/chocolate.

**Are there any risks involved?**

There are no significant risks associated with the current study beyond those which you might encounter in your day to day life. However, if at any point you feel uncomfortable please let the researcher know immediately.

**What data will be collected?**

No personal data will be collected as part of the current study and the data that will be collected will be anonymised and all participants will receive a random participant number. The data that is collected regards participants ability to respond to three behaviour tasks and their trait impulsivity as measured by two questionnaires.

**Will my participation be confidential?**

Your participation and the information we collect about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential.

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.

Your data will be anonymised and stored on a university password protected computer.

**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 sign a consent form 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.

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

Your personal details will remain strictly confidential. Research findings made available in any reports or publications will not include information that can directly identify you without your specific consent.

The results of the study will be used in writing up a PhD thesis and may be included in publications, and may also be used to inform related studies.

**Where can I get more information?**

If you have any further questions regarding the study please email me, Ovidiu Brudan, at: [ob4g14@soton.ac.uk](mailto:ob4g14@soton.ac.uk)

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

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, you should speak to the researchers 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 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 for your interest in the current study.**