



Participant Information Sheet (PIS)

Study Title:

Cystic Fibrosis Health Care Professional (CF HCP) Experiences and Perceptions of Managing Overweight and Obesity in Adults with Cystic Fibrosis treated with Cystic Fibrosis Transmembrane Conductance Regulator Therapy

We would like to invite you to take part in an online focus group as part of a research project.

Before you decide whether to take part or not, you need to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. Taking part in research is voluntary, it is up to you to decide. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Contact us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

Why are we doing this research?

Since the introduction of Cystic Fibrosis Transmembrane Conductance Regulator Therapies (CFTR), many patients with CF have experienced weight gain and many have become overweight/obese.

CF HCP's have observed a change in the health and nutritional status of their patients with CF and have modified their clinical practice to include advice about how to manage weight for those who are overweight.

There is a limited amount of published evidence exploring CF HCP's experience of managing adults with CF who are overweight/obese in their clinical practice, and/or how patients are best supported to make changes to their established diet and physical activity behaviours.

What is the purpose of the study?

The aim of this study is to explore CF HCPs experience of providing weight management advice to adults with CF who are overweight/obese and treated with CFTR modulator therapies. It also aims to identify what has been helpful and any challenges experienced when supporting this patient population to change their diet and physical activity behaviours.

The results of this research study will inform the development of a CF specific weight management programme. This programme will be co-designed with patients with CF, CF HCPs, and behaviour change and weight management experts.

Who is conducting this research?

This research study is being conducted by Joanne Barrett, CF Dietitian and National Institute for Health and Social Care Research (NIHR) Doctoral Fellow at University of Birmingham. Joanne is being supervised in this research by Professor Annie Topping and Dr Sally Fenton from University of Birmingham. Joanne has been awarded funding from the NIHR to conduct this research as part of her doctoral fellowship.

Why have I been invited to take part in this research?

We are inviting dietitians, physiotherapists, clinical nurse specialists and doctors who have experience of working with adults with CF who are overweight/obese treated with CFTR modulator therapy to take part in this research.

Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide if you would like to take part in the study.

If you agree to take part, we will then ask you to complete a consent form to confirm that you have agreed to take part.

If I decide to take part, can I change my mind at any time?

You are free to withdraw without giving a reason. If you withdraw before taking part in the focus group, any information collected about you will be securely destroyed.

It will not be possible for you to withdraw your data during or after the focus group due to the nature of the group discussion and video recording.

If I decide to take part, what will I be required to do?

- **Complete an online eligibility screening questionnaire and consent form**
- **Complete a participant demographic information form with your contact details, which CF Centre you work in and your gender**
- **Attend 1 online focus group interview with other CF HCP's who are from the same HCP discipline**

You will be required to take part in one online focus group interview with other CF HCP's. There will be between 4 and 8 CF HCPs in the group. The interview is expected to last between 60-90 minutes. A video-conferencing platform (Zoom© or MS Teams©) will be used to deliver the session. You will need to be somewhere private with access to a computer to take part in the focus group interview. The session will be video recorded and you will be required to have your camera on so you are visible to the group.

Two days before the date of your scheduled focus group interview you will receive a link with a password to access the virtual meeting room where the focus group interview will take place and a copy of the focus group 'ground rules' for information.

The facilitators (Joanne Barrett and Professor Annie Topping) will then welcome the group and ask them a series of questions to stimulate discussion between participants about their experience of managing patients with CF who are overweight/obese.

Will I be paid any expenses if I take part in this research?

Taking part in this research should not incur any expenses and you will not be paid to take part in this research.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

There are no anticipated disadvantages, side effects, or risks of taking part in this study. You will be asked about your own experiences and views. You may feel uncomfortable discussing your experiences with other CF HCP and being video recorded.

We will ask you and others in the group not to talk to people outside the group about what was said during the discussion. However, we need you to be aware that we cannot stop or prevent participants who were in the group from sharing information that should be confidential.

What are the potential benefits of taking part in this research?

It will help the researcher understand how CF HCPs support patients with CF to manage their weight and the approaches they use in their clinical practice. Understanding the current experience CF HCPs when supporting patients to manage their weight will help to identify what needs to be included in the design of a specific CF weight management programme.

Will my part in this study be kept confidential?

Yes. All information which is collected about you during the research will be kept strictly confidential and will be pseudonymised. You will only be identified as a number and pseudonym in the study, your name or any other identifiable information will not be used.

The recordings and written transcriptions of your interviews will be stored securely on a password protected server at the University of Birmingham. Only the authorised researchers involved in this study will have access to identifiable data. Joanne Barrett, the chief investigator for the study will be responsible for ensuring that data remains secure and anonymous.

We will follow ethical and legal practice and all information about you will be handled in confidence.

The University of Birmingham is the sponsor for this study based in the United Kingdom. We will be using information from you in order to undertake this study and Joanne will act as the data controller for this study. This means that she is responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways for the research to be reliable and accurate. If you withdraw from the study, before the focus group interview we will destroy the information about you that we have already obtained. During and after the focus group interview we will still use this information. If we must safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personally-identifiable information possible.

The University of Birmingham will keep your name and contact details confidential. The research team at the University of Birmingham will use this information as needed, to contact you about the research study to oversee the quality of the study. Certain individuals from regulatory organisations may look at the research records to check the accuracy of the research study. The people who analyse the information will not be able to identify you and will not be able to find out your name or contact details.

The University of Birmingham will keep identifiable information about you from this study for ten years after the study has finished.

What to do if you are interested in participating?

If you would like to take part, please complete the eligibility screening questionnaire, consent form and demographic information using this link. Alternatively contact Joanne by email and she will send you a copy of these forms by email or post (jbb902@student.bham.ac.uk).

Once, Joanne has received your consent form she will contact you to arrange a date and time for you to take part in a focus group.

What if I have any questions about this research?

General information about participating in research can be obtained from the following website INVOLVE (www.invo.org.uk).

If you have any concerns or questions about any aspect of this research, please contact the Joanne Barrett, Specialist Cystic Fibrosis Dietitian, Doctoral Fellow, and Chief Investigator by email jbb902@student.bham.ac.uk.

Who is funding this research?

This research is being conducted as part of a Doctoral Fellowship funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR).

Who has reviewed this research?

This research has been reviewed and given a favourable opinion by the University of Birmingham Research Ethics Committee Need Reference adding .

Thank you taking the time to read this information