UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

School of Healthcare

Participant Information Sheet

Exploring Medicines Optimisation in Advanced Cancer

Phase 2: Clinical perspectives on medicines management and advanced cancer

You are invited to take part in the above research study. Before deciding if you would like to participate, it is important for you to understand the purpose of the research and what taking part involves. Please read this information carefully before deciding whether to take part. Please contact the researcher if anything is not clear, or if you would like more information. **Many thanks for taking the time to read this information.**

What is this study about?

This study is **Phase 2 of a PhD project**, which is exploring Medicines Optimisation for people living with advanced cancer. Medicines Optimisation refers to patients getting the best out of their medicines. This is relevant because evidence suggests that medicines use is sometimes sub-optimal. People with advanced cancer self-administer many medicines; to treat cancer and alleviate its symptoms, prevent complications and ease the adverse effects of medicines themselves. Additionally, medicines may also be required for co-morbidities. Research is limited investigating what this experience is like for patients and therefore how they could best be supported. This PhD project seeks to address this gap in understanding and generate knowledge which will promote Medicines Optimisation.

Phase 1 of this PhD, explored the patient experience of managing medicines. Interviews were conducted with people living with advanced cancer to understand their attitudes and approaches to managing medicines. Photographs were taken of their strategies and solutions for medicines management. The aim of Phase 2, is to explore the perspectives of healthcare professionals who support people living with advanced cancer in either Primary or Secondary care, specifically in relation to medicines management. Clinicians who have some role in the prescribing, management, dispensing and review of medicines will be sought, to give insight into their role in supporting medicines management.

Who is doing the study?

This research study is being carried out by Kathryn Chater, a registered nurse and full-time PhD student in the School of Healthcare at the University of Leeds. The PhD is being supervised by Dr Clare Harley, Dr Claire Easthall and Dr Nic Hughes.

Why have I been approached to take part in this study?

Participants in this study are people who provide care to patients diagnosed with advanced cancer and have a role in the prescribing, management, dispensing and review of medicines. This includes General Practitioners, Consultant Medical Oncologists and Oncology Registrars, Nurse Consultants, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Staff Nurses and Pharmacists. You have been invited to participate in this study because of the relevance of your current clinical role.

What will taking-part involve?

You will be asked to participate in an audio-recorded interview, lasting 30-60 minutes. During the interview, you will be asked to talk about your clinical role in supporting people with advanced cancer to

manage their medicines. You will also be shown photographs taken in the Phase 1 study, depicting patients' experiences of medicines management, to prompt the discussion.

Participation is voluntary. If you decide to take part, the interview will be arranged for a convenient time. The interview will be carried out by the researcher in person, at your workplace or over the telephone. At the time of the interview, you will be given a Participant Consent Form to read and discuss with the researcher. Your consent will be documented prior to commencing the interview.

What are the advantages of taking part in this study?
Participating should be a positive experience. It provides an opportunity for you to reflect on your clinical practice and raise issues relating to advanced cancer care and medicines management. This PhD project will hopefully contribute towards advancing cancer practice.

What are the disadvantages of taking part in this study?
In order to take part, you will be asked to give up approximately 30-60 minutes of your time. All efforts will be made to minimise the impact of taking part on your work.

Can I withdraw from the study?
You can withdraw from the interview at any time, without providing an explanation. If following the interview, you decide that you do not want your interview data to be included in the study, this can be destroyed up to a fortnight after the interview. After 2 weeks, data will be analysed and included.

Will my contribution to the study be confidential?
If you decide to participate, you will be asked to share your name and contact details so that you can be contacted about the study. This information will remain confidential, will be used only for study management purposes. All personal information and study data will be stored on the password-protected University of Leeds server, which is secure and can only accessed the research team.

You will be given an ID number, which will be used by the research team instead of your real name at all times. The audio-recording of the interview will be transcribed by the research team. The data that you provide will be anonymised and the original interview recording will be deleted. If during the interview you discuss something suggesting a risk of harm to yourself or someone else, or an illegality, the researcher has a duty of care to share this with academic and clinical supervisors.

What will happen to the results of the study?
The anonymised data will be analysed and the results will be shared and presented in the following ways:

- in the PhD thesis
- in published articles in journals, books or online
- in academic posters and presentations at conferences
- at public exhibitions
- in future research

Who has reviewed this study?
University of Leeds School of Healthcare Research Ethics Committee approval has been granted, which means that the study meets governance requirements.

To **take part** or for more **information** please contact:

Kathryn Chater **email: hcs5k2c@leeds.ac.uk** **telephone: 0113 3431374**

GDPR

University of Leeds 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 will act as the data controller for this study. This means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly. University of Leeds will keep identifiable information about you up to 5 years after the study in 2023.

Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. If you withdraw from the study, we will keep the information about you that we have already obtained. To safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personally-identifiable information possible.

You can find out more about how we use your information http://ris.leeds.ac.uk or by contacting the Research and Innovation Service on 0113 3430900