



Interview Participant Leaflet

Professional wellbeing and termination of pregnancy services in Ireland

An interview study from the HPAC Research Project

Introductory statement

We invite you to participate in an interview study exploring the views and experiences of healthcare professionals with regards to termination of pregnancy services in Ireland.

The interview study is part of the HPAC research project, which is led by Dr Camille Nadal, an Assistant Professor with the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research, Education and Innovation in Health Systems at University College Dublin. The wider research team includes the following collaborators:

Dr Aoife Mullally – Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist at the Coombe Hospital
Prof. Kath Browne – Professor at University College Dublin
Dr El Reid-Buckley – Postdoctoral Research Fellow at University College Dublin
Ifeoma Njoku – Doctoral Researcher at University College Dublin
Dr Sarah Foley – Lecturer at University College Cork
Dr Kellie Morrissey – Lecturer at University College Cork
Prof. Katie Siek – Professor at Indiana University

1. What is this research about?

The interview study explores why healthcare professionals participate, or not, in termination of pregnancy services, their professional experiences with termination of pregnancy services, and how they could be better supported in their role.

We are looking to hear from GPs, Primary Care Women's Health Doctors, Nurses, Midwives, Obstetricians/Gynaecologists, Anaesthesiologists, and Trainees in these specialties.

The research is for:

- healthcare professionals who participate in termination of pregnancy services
- healthcare professionals who do not, or have chosen not to, participate in termination of pregnancy services

The goal of this interview study and the wider HPAC project is to support the wellbeing of *all* healthcare professionals.



2. Why are we doing this research?

The interview study and the wider HPAC project aim to develop context-appropriate and operational policy recommendations as well as practical resources for healthcare professionals and healthcare managers.

The project is expected to improve and support the long-term professional wellbeing of health workers by:

- enabling better-informed decisions about (non) participation in termination of pregnancy services,
- proposing practical solutions to the issues identified in the research
- offering resources to navigate professional interactions with regards to termination of pregnancy services

3. How will your data be used?

The interview will be audio recorded and transcribed. All recordings and transcripts will be pseudonymised, and any information that could identify you will be removed.

Non-identifiable quotes from the transcripts may be used in research publications or presentations.

4. What will happen if you decide to take part in this research study?

If you choose to take part, you will be contacted to schedule an interview with Dr Camille Nadal (the Principal Investigator) or Dr El Reid-Buckley (Postdoctoral Research Fellow). The interview will be conducted online and will last no longer than 45 minutes. At the beginning, you will be asked to read and sign an informed consent form. You will also be invited to complete a few optional demographic questions.

Once the recording begins, you will be asked about reasons for participation, or not, in termination of pregnancy services, professional experiences with termination of pregnancy services, and opportunities for better supporting healthcare professionals in their role. At the end of the interview, the recording will be stopped and you will have the opportunity to debrief with the researcher interviewer.

Once the study findings are written up, you will be contacted again and given the chance to review the results and provide feedback before publication. This feedback will be reviewed by the Principal Investigator who will then decide on its relevance for the research aims described earlier, and the extent to which it may be integrated into the research results. The Principal Investigator cannot guarantee that participants' feedback will lead to amendments in the research results, however feedback provided by each participant will be reviewed with equal consideration without prioritising any viewpoints or experiences.



5. What will happen if you decide not to take part?

Taking part in this interview study is entirely voluntary. If you choose not to participate, this will not affect you in any way. There are no consequences, and your decision will be fully respected.

6. How will we protect your privacy?

Your participation in this study is completely confidential. Whether or not you choose to tell anyone about your involvement is entirely up to you. Only the Principal Investigator (Dr Nadal) and her Postdoctoral Researcher (Dr Reid-Buckley) will have access to participants' names; they will not be shared with anyone else, including the rest of the research team. All data will be stored securely, and no personally identifiable information will be shared or disclosed. If any identifiable information is mentioned during the interview, it will be removed from the transcript.

7. What are the benefits of taking part in this research study?

By taking part, you will have the opportunity to share your views and experiences in a respectful space. Your participation will help shape tools and resources to support the long-term professional wellbeing of health workers participating, or not, in termination of pregnancy services in Ireland. The HPAC research project aims to make these resources available in clinical settings on the ground, as well as online in a digital format.

8. What are the benefits to the researchers if I take part in this study?

By participating in this research, you will help us develop a better understanding of healthcare professionals' views and experiences with regards to termination of pregnancy services, and contribute to the development of policy recommendations and the creation of resources to support the long-term professional wellbeing of health workers in Ireland.

9. What are the risks of taking part in this research study?

We do not anticipate any risks for participants in this study. We recognise that termination of pregnancy services may be a sensitive topic and will ensure the conversation remains respectful at all times. If you choose to participate, you are free to pause the interview or take a break whenever you wish.

The findings of this research will be reported in academic publications and presentations and the research team will do their best to minimise any risk of misinterpretation. While it is not possible to predict how the findings of this research might be interpreted or used by others, your participation in this study will remain strictly confidential at all times.

10. Can I change my mind at any stage and withdraw from the study?



Yes, you are free to change your mind and withdraw from the study at any time during the interview and up to one week afterwards, without giving a reason and without any negative consequences. If you decide to withdraw, any data collected from you will be securely deleted and will not be used in the study.

11. How will I find out what happens with this project?

At the end of the project, Dr Nadal will contact you to review the findings and offer you the opportunity to provide feedback before the paper is submitted for publication. A summary of the findings will also be available upon request. If you would like to receive this summary, please let us know (contact details below). The study's results may be published in academic journals or presented at conferences: all information will be non-identifiable to protect your identity.

12. Contact details for further information

Principal Investigator:

Dr Camille Nadal

Assistant Professor

UCD Centre for Interdisciplinary Research, Education and Innovation in Health Systems

School of Computer Science

University College Dublin

Camille.Nadal@ucd.ie

13. Support services for healthcare professionals

Practitioner Health Matters Programme

- Confidential telephone line: +353 (0)85 760 1274
- Email: Practitioners can send emails to confidential@practitionerhealth.ie

For more information, please visit the Practitioner Health Matters Programme website:

<https://practitionerhealth.ie/>