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Evaluation of Embedded Liaison Psychiatry Teaching Within Final Year Clinical Medicine Course

What is the purpose of the research study?

- ◆ To understand whether students find the format of the liaison psychiatry teaching pilot helpful
- ◆ To test whether the liaison psychiatry pilot improves students' knowledge and skills in psychiatry
- ◆ To test whether the liaison psychiatry pilot leads to more positive attitudes towards psychiatry

What will it involve if I agree to take part?

There are three components to this study:

- ◆ Completion of some short questionnaires now. All students will be asked to complete one questionnaire (32 short items) about their attitudes to psychiatry. Students who took part in the liaison psychiatry pilot will be asked to complete one short questionnaire about their opinions about the pilot. We think this should all take less than 10 minutes
- ◆ Us comparing the finals exam results (psychiatry questions on the MCQ papers and psychiatry stations in the SCEE) of students who received the pilot against those who did not. This will not involve you having to do anything and is anonymous.
- ◆ Completion of the questionnaires early in 2017, to see if there are any long-term effects of the teaching

If I take part will other information about me held by the University be used?

- ◆ No, we shall only use the information detailed above

Why should I take part in this research study?

- ◆ You will be helping to improve the clinical medicine course for students who follow you.

How can I take part in the study if I am interested?

- ◆ If you would like to take part in the questionnaire part of the study, please click on the link from the study email. If you complete the consent questions, then the webpage moves onto complete the online questionnaires. There will be a separate email with a link to opt-out of your exam scores being used in the study.
- ◆ If you would be happy to complete the follow-up part of the study in February 2017, then please enter a long-term e-mail address in the appropriate part of the webpage.

What should I do if I do not want to take part in the study?

- ◆ If you do not want to take part in the questionnaire parts of the study, then do nothing
- ◆ The Psychology Research Ethics Committee have agreed that we can use an 'opt out' consent system for the exam marks part of the study. This means that we can use the anonymised marks of all students, unless you specifically tell us you do not want us to use your marks. This is allowed so we can maximize our recruitment rate. If you do not want us to use your marks like this, then of course we shall respect that. In this case please opt-out when the separate email arrives asking this question.

Will my answers be treated as confidential?

- ◆ **Yes.** In particular, we think it essential that the research team (David Christmas and Paul Wilkinson) and the Dean and her team do not have any access to your answers and do not even know whether or not you take part in the study
- ◆ Therefore this team will only have access to a database of anonymised answers, with a unique ID number, but no personally identifiable details
- ◆ The database that matches your personal details with the ID number, and sends you your unique link to the questionnaire, will be managed at arms length by a data management team (with experience in this kind of work) in the Department of Public Health. This team will also manage prizes and follow-up questionnaires
- ◆ The only circumstances in which your anonymity would be breached would be if you wrote anything on the questionnaires that made us worried about your safety, or the safety of somebody else. In this case, Dr Wilkinson or Dr Christmas would be able to request your personal details and would contact you. We do not foresee this to happen, as there will be no questions about the safety of you or other people

Will my decision to take part affect my progress on the course?

- ◆ **No.** Your progress on the course will **not** be affected by your decision. Indeed, the Deanery team will not know whether you take part in the study

What happens if I find some of the questions upsetting?

- ◆ If you find any of the questions upsetting, you can contact one of the study psychiatrists, Dr David Christmas (01223 216167, David.Christmas@cpft.nhs.uk) or Dr Paul Wilkinson (01223 746001, pow12@cam.ac.uk). Alternatively, you can contact one of the pastoral systems already in place in your college or at the clinical school or your GP.

Will I get paid for completing the questionnaire?

- ◆ All students who would like to will be entered into a prize draw. 1st prize will be £100, 2nd prize will be £50.

What will happen to the findings of the survey?

- ◆ The findings will be presented at academic conferences and published in academic journals. Comparisons are normally made in terms of groups. If presented, individual data (in the form of written questionnaire answers) will be anonymized such that it is not possible to identify individuals.
- ◆ A summary of the aggregate findings will be sent to you, if you provide a contact e-mail address