



#ReproductiveBorders

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Study title: Reproductive Borders and Bordering Reproduction: Access to Care for Women from Ethnic Minority and Migrant Groups

We are inviting you to take part in the *Reproductive Borders* research project. The study is about understanding how people from different backgrounds experience reproductive healthcare. Before you decide whether you want to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what your participation will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask one of the researchers if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

Who is carrying out the research?

This independent study is being carried out by a team of researchers from Queen Mary University of London, King's College London, University of Sussex, and University of Bristol. The researchers are: Dr Camillia Kong, Dr Ulla McKnight, Dr Sarah Milton, Professor Sheelagh McGuinness, and Professor Devyani Prabhat. The study is running for 36 months and is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), a government body that supports social research.

The study has been approved by QMUL Ethics Committee (QME24.0221).

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY?

The purpose of this study is to better understand the experiences of women from ethnic minority and migrant groups in accessing reproductive healthcare. We are also interested in the experiences of healthcare practitioners in providing such care.

This portion of our study explores ways in which women from ethnic minority and migrant groups experience care. We are interested to hear about how and why you accessed care and any challenges or obstacles you may have faced. We also interested in your previous experiences of care.

Our work will help us understand how we can think about better ways to help people. This study will take a few years, and we'll include people from different parts of England with different stories to share.



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Why have I been invited to take part?

You're being invited to be part of this study because you identify as belonging to a minority ethnic group or were born outside of the UK. That's why you're a good fit for this project.

What will happen if I take part?

You will be asked to take part in an interview with a researcher named Dr Sarah Milton or Professor Sheelagh McGuinness. The interview will be like having a chat and will last about an hour. The researcher may ask about your experiences, your life, and your background. If you consent, your interview will be audio-recorded so that the interview can be typed up so that it can be analysed. Any identifying information will be removed before the transcript is analysed by the research team.

Do I have to take part?

No, participation is completely voluntary. You should only take part if you want to and choosing not to take part will not disadvantage you in anyway. Once you have read the information sheet, please contact us if you have any questions that will help you make a decision about taking part. If you decide to take part, we will ask you to sign a consent form and you will be given a copy of this consent form to keep.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

It may be distressing to talk about experiences and memories. You may take breaks during your interview, decide not to answer certain questions or stop the interview fully without any explanation or consequences to yourself.

We will provide you with contact information for support organisations, should you need these. The Researchers are not trained medical/healthcare professionals but can signpost you to support services.

If you feel very distressed during the interview, with your consent one of the Researchers will call you again at a time agreed by you (later that day or in a few days for example) to check how you are feeling and whether you need further support.



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What are the possible benefits of taking part?

We can't promise this study will help you directly, your participation will be an important contribution and it could help clinics and policymakers improve care. Some people find discussing their experiences helpful.

If you agree to be interviewed, you will be compensated for your time with a voucher worth £25 per interview. You will still be given the voucher if you choose to stop the interview at any time.

Will my information in this study be kept confidential?

Your data will be processed under the terms of UK data protection law (including the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018). For further information on this please visit our project website which contains extensive detail on our data management processes.

What will happen to my data?

Your name and contact details will not be shared with anyone outside the research team and will be handled in accordance with data protection regulations. This information will be securely held in a SharePoint folder to which only the research team have access and will be deleted 6 months after completion of the project.

The fully anonymised interview transcript or notes will be retained by Queen Mary University of London, King's College London, University of Sussex, and University of Bristol for ten years after the study has been completed. Subject to your agreement, the fully anonymised interview transcript or notes will be submitted to the online UK Data Archive (<https://www.data-archive.ac.uk/>), along with other transcripts and notes from this study. This will allow other researchers to access the data and use it in future research.

Limits to confidentiality: If the researcher has concerns about your safety or the safety of another person, it may be necessary to break confidentiality and contact, for example, emergency services or relevant health professionals to share this information. The researcher(s) will let you know their intentions before disclosing any information. **We will not be sharing any information to outside organisations, such as the Home Office. Any information about immigration status will be confidential and anonymous.**

Data Protection Statement



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If you would like more information about how your data will be processed in accordance with GDPR please visit the link below:

<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/privacy/media/arcs/policyzone/Data-Protection-Policy-v03.1.pdf>

Under what legal basis are you collecting this information?

- Queen Mary University of London **processes personal data** for research purposes in accordance with the lawful basis of 'public task'.
- Please read [Queen Mary's privacy notice for research participants](#) containing **important information about your personal data and your rights** in this respect.
- **If you have any questions** relating to data protection, please contact Queen Mary's Data Protection Officer, Queens' Building, Mile End Road, London, E1 4NS or data-protection@qmul.ac.uk or 020 7882 7596.

What if I change my mind about taking part?

You are free to withdraw from the project, without having to give a reason. Withdrawing from the project will not affect you in any way.

You will be able to withdraw your interview data from the study up to one week (7 days including weekends) after your interview, following which it may not be possible to remove your data as it may have been anonymously incorporated into data analysis and publications resulting from the study. If you chose to withdraw your data prior to publication of the study findings any quotes from your interview will be removed from publications.

What will happen to the results of the research study?

The results of the study will be used in various ways. They will be internally reported, and reports will be issued to our funders. We will disseminate the research findings in various ways, for example through a policy report and presentations to policy makers, healthcare providers, and key stakeholders as well as in academic articles and at academic conferences.

All of these will be made available on the project's website where you can sign up for direct updates and news of events (please see <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/reproductive-borders/> for details).



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Should you wish to have a copy of the final report, please let your interviewer know, and we will forward you a copy on completion of the study.

Who should I contact for further information?

If you have any questions or require more information about this project, please contact the researchers using the following contact details:

Dr Sarah Milton; sarah.milton@kcl.ac.uk; Department of Global Health and Social Medicine, Faculty of Social Science and Public Policy, King's College London, Bush House, North East Wing, 40 Aldwych, London, WC2B 4BG

Professor Sheelagh McGuinness; sheelagh.mcguinness@bristol.ac.uk; School of Law, University of Bristol, 8-10 Berkley Square, BS8 1HH.

What should I do if I have concerns about this study?

- **If you have any concerns** about the manner in which the study was conducted, in the first instance, please **contact the Principal Investigator** responsible for the study: Dr Camillia Kong, c.kong@qmul.ac.uk
- **If you have a complaint** which you feel you cannot discuss with the researchers then you should **contact the Research Ethics Facilitators** by e-mail: research-ethics@qmul.ac.uk.
- When contacting the Research Ethics Facilitators, **please provide details** of the study title, description the study and QMERC reference number (where possible), the researcher(s) involved, and details of the complaint you wish to make.

Thank you for reading this information sheet and for considering taking part in this research.