

Participant Information Sheet

Title of project: Breastfeeding outcomes and experiences after attending an Interprofessional Student-Led Breastfeeding Clinic

Invitation to take part

You are being invited to take part in a research project. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

Who is organising/funding the research?

Bournemouth University are funding this PhD study.

What is the purpose of the project?

We want to find out how mothers feed their babies after attending the Newborn Feeding Clinic, and mothers' experiences of feeding their babies. It is important for us to hear directly from mothers, as you are the experts of your own experiences.

This study may be used to make suggestions to improve the Clinic for families in the future.

Overall the study will be running for about 6 months.

Why have I been chosen?

All mothers of babies aged 4 weeks or younger who come to the Newborn Feeding Clinic are being invited to take part. It is important to hear from lots of mothers as no feeding journey or experience is the same. Overall around 100 mothers will be included in this study.

Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part, you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a participant agreement form. You may stop taking part at any time without giving a reason. Once the questionnaire data is anonymous, we won't be able to delete the questionnaire responses you provided.

Deciding to take part or not will not affect the care you receive at the Newborn Feeding Clinic or AECC Clinic in any way, now or in the future.

What would taking part involve?

If you decide to take part you will be asked to complete three questionnaires; one when you arrive at the clinic, one when your baby is six weeks old, and one when your baby is twelve weeks old. Each questionnaire will take around 10 minutes to complete. You will also be asked to give permission for your notes from your appointment in the Newborn Feeding Clinic to be used in the study. The notes will be anonymous. This is to avoid repeating questions as much as possible. For the second and third questionnaires, we will email you a link to the electronic copy of the questionnaire so you can complete it at a convenient time.

You may also be invited to take part in a one-to-one interview with the researcher. If you decide to be interviewed, the researcher will meet you at a convenient time and place, for example your home or a place local to you, or by telephone. The interview will last around 20 minutes. You will be given a separate information sheet with more details if you decide to take part in an interview.

What are the advantages and possible disadvantages or risks of taking part?

There are no risks associated with taking part in this study. You would need to spend some of your time completing the questionnaires; otherwise there are no disadvantages to taking part.

Whilst there are no immediate benefits for those people participating in the project, it is hoped that this work will be used to improve care for families with feeding difficulties in the future.

What type of information will be sought from me and why is the collection of this information relevant for achieving the research project's objectives?

The questionnaires are about how you feed your baby and your experiences of feeding your baby, which will help us to understand more about the mothers and babies who come to the clinic, and what happens next in your feeding journey. You will be asked to answer each question honestly. You do not need to share or discuss your answers with anyone.

How will my information be kept?

All the information we collect about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly in accordance with current Data Protection Regulations. You will not be able to be identified in any reports or publications. Research results will be published 1-3 years after the completion of the study.

All personal data relating to this study will be held for 5 years from the award of the degree. BU will hold the information we collect about you in hard copy in a secure location and on a BU password protected secure network where held electronically.

Except where it has been anonymised, we will restrict access to your personal data to those individuals who have a legitimate reason to access it for the purpose or purposes for which it is held by us. Only the BU student researcher and BU staff working on the research project will have access to your personal data.

The information collected about you may be used in an anonymous form to support other research projects in the future and access to it in this form will not be restricted. It will not be possible for you to be identified from this data.

If you have any questions about how we manage your information or your rights under the data protection legislation, please contact the BU Data Protection Officer on dpo@bournemouth.ac.uk.

Contact for further information

If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact the researcher, Amy Miller at amiller1@bournemouth.ac.uk

In case of complaints

Any concerns about the study should be directed to Prof Edwin van Teijlingen at evanteijlingen@bournemouth.ac.uk

If your concerns have not been answered by Professor Edwin van Teijlingen, you should contact Prof Vanora Hundley, Deputy Dean for Research in Faculty of Health and Social Sciences at Bournemouth University researchgovernance@bournemouth.ac.uk.

Finally

If you decide to take part, you will be given a copy of the information sheet and a signed participant agreement form to keep. Thank you for considering taking part in this research project.