

# Participant Osteopath Information Leaflet

## Shared Decision Making Resources — Evaluation

### Invitation

We would like to invite you to take part in our study. Before you decide we would like you to understand why the study is being done and what it would involve for you. A member of the study team can go through the information sheet with you and answer any questions you have. You do not have to make your mind up now, please take your time and talk to others as you need.

### What is the purpose of this study?

This study aims to investigate and evaluate the suite of shared decision making resources that the General Osteopathic Council (GOsC) have developed to help both patients and osteopaths discuss options for care.

Shared decision making is an important part of any medical consultation and the GOsC, the osteopathic regulatory body, are keen to ensure that patients are provided the best opportunities to discuss options for their care.

This study is funded by the GOsC. The University College of Osteopathy, Research Department, has been commissioned to independently evaluate their shared decision making resources.

### Why have I been invited?

You have been invited to join this study because you completed the registrant questionnaire about shared decision making and indicated that you would be interested in further research on this topic.

### Do I have to take part?

No, it is up to you to decide whether you would like to take part in the study. This information sheet will provide you with information to help you decide. If you agree to take part, we will ask you to sign a consent form, however if you choose not to be part of the study at any time, you can withdraw from the study at any point. If you do decide to leave the study, a researcher will contact you confidentially to check that you are OK and your reason for leaving the study (although you do not have to say if you do not want to).

### What will happen to me I take part?

You will be required to familiarise yourself with the suite of GOsC shared decision making resources. We will ask you to recruit a patient and to use this material during a consultation with that patient.

You will be asked to listen to and consider the following:

- [Audio recording](#) — a discussion between Professor Bill Fulford and Professor Stephen Tyreman facilitated by Steven Bettles about values-based practice.
- [Practitioner Reflection form](#) — enabling practitioners to rate their own perceptions of person-centred care using the CARE measure.

You will also be asked to review the following patient focused resources and consider them during your consultation with the patient:

- [‘Visiting an osteopath’ animation](#) — advising patients on how to prepare for an osteopathic appointment.
- [Patient leaflet/poster](#) — this leaflet is designed to help think about any questions you might have for the osteopath in advance of your consultation and to consider any expectations you might have.
- [Patient History form](#) — this form is designed to enable you to present your history to your osteopath.
- [Patient Goal Planner](#) — this planner is designed to help you consider any goals you might have and how to check your progress over time.

### **What will I have to do?**

The study will involve you familiarising yourself with materials above and where possible using these resources. We will ask you to recruit a new patient, or a patient with a new episode or presenting complaint to use the resources and then provide them with an osteopathic consultation using the resources where appropriate and applicable. After the consultation we will ask you to complete a short online questionnaire about the shared decision making process during the consultation (taking about 5 to 10 minutes) and finally we ask that you take part in an online focus group with other osteopaths who have also tried using the resources above, this will take around one hour.

The focus group will take the form of an informal discussion about the resources, your experience (challenges and benefits) and the impact on your interaction with the patient.

### **What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?**

The risks of participating in this study are the same as that for a normal consultation, very low. The consultation is focused on your patient and their needs, the patient may disclose more information than normal and this level of disclosure may be difficult to manage. However, you would manage this as part of your normal practice, discuss the information and facilitate a conversation to help the patient make a decision appropriate to their needs and circumstances.

### **What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

The aim of the resources are to promote and facilitate better shared decision making to ensure that patient needs are heard and taken into account so that the care each patient receives is appropriate and tailored to their circumstances and needs. We therefore hope the patient experience will be enhanced but we need to check this. The evaluation of these shared decision making resources will enable us to understand how the materials are accessed, received and used and ultimately this will help osteopaths optimise patient decision making about their care.

### **Will my taking part in the study remain confidential?**

All the clinical information shared between your patient and yourself will remain confidential as in normal practice. Any information you give to the study team will remain confidential to the study team. When you join the study you will be given a unique identification number and all of the information you give us will be associated with this number. Your name will not be used. This will protect your identity. Only the study team will know which person is associated with which number.

**What will happen to the information (data) collected about me and from me?**

All of the information (data) you give us will be studied and analysed by group, so individuals will not be identifiable. All data will be stored securely at the University College of Osteopathy and will be destroyed after 6 years.

**What will happen to the results from the study?**

The data from the evaluation will be shared with you after the completion of the study if you wish to receive a summary of our findings.

**What if I have a complaint or if there is a problem?**

If you are unhappy in any way during your time in the study you can either discuss this with a member of the study team, a person independent of the study team or the GOsC.

If you require further information please contact the Study team manager:

Professor Dawn Carnes

University College Osteopathy

273 Borough High St, London

Email: dawn.carnes@uco.ac.uk

Telephone: 00 44 (0) 20 7085 5330

If however you would like to contact someone independent from the running of the study please contact:

Steven Vogel University College Osteopathy Sponsor Representative

273 Borough High St, London

Email: steven.vogel@uco.ac.uk

Telephone: 00 44 (0) 20 7085 5330

Or you can contact the GOsC directly ([www.osteopathy.org.uk](http://www.osteopathy.org.uk))

Rachel Heatley, Senior Research and Policy Officer

Email: rheatley@osteopathy.org.uk

Phone: 00 44 (0) 20 3836 7839

*Thank you for taking the time to read the information sheet.*