

Participant Information Sheet

Title: How do prosthetists experience and manage psychological aspects of their work with young people and their families?

My name is Caile Gordon, and I am conducting this research as a Trainee Clinical Psychologist in the Doctorate of Clinical Psychology programme at Lancaster University, Lancaster, United Kingdom. Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet and if the at the end of reading the information you would like to take part, or would like further information, then please do not hesitated to contact me at e.c.gordon@lancaster.ac.uk

What is the study about?

The purpose of this study is to use interviews with prosthetists to better understand their experiences of managing psychological aspects of their work with young people (under the age of 17) and their families. This might include responding to emotionally charged questions or distress from young people and their families and/or managing expectations. For example, “how did you manage difficulties in relationships with clients?” or “can you think of an example of a time when you feel you had trouble managing psychological difficulties of your client?.” By improving our understanding of prosthetists’ make sense of their lived experiences in this context, it could bridge the current gap in literature and inform how colleagues such as clinical psychologists working in paediatric settings can support prosthetists and better inform service structures.

Do I have to take part?

No. It is completely up to you to decide whether you take part.

What will I be asked to do if I take part?

If you decide you would like to take part, you would be asked to participate in an interview lasting up to an hour with the lead researcher, Caile Gordon. The interview will be held online and recorded on Microsoft Teams during which you will be asked about your experiences working with young people with limb difference and their families.

Will my data be identifiable?

The information you provide for this study is confidential and all data collected will be anonymised. The interview will be typed out and made anonymous by removing identifying information including your name. A pseudonym (false name) will then be used for any direct quotations used in the write-up of the study.

The data collected for this study will be stored using a university approved secure cloud storage and only the lead researcher, Caile Gordon will have access to the identifiable data. The research supervisor, Dr Craig Murray, will have access to the anonymised transcripts to aid in analyses. All your personal data will be confidential and will be kept separately from your interview responses. Video recordings will be deleted once the project has been submitted /examined. However, electronic copies of anonymised transcripts will be made available to an online, publicly available repository if the study is subsequently published.

There are some limits to confidentiality: if what is said in the interview makes me think that you, or someone else, is at significant risk of harm, I will have to break confidentiality and speak to a member of staff about this. If possible, I will tell you if I must do this.

Anonymised versions of the interview transcripts will be uploaded to a public repository. Although every effort will be made to remove identifying information it is important to note that it is possible for you to be recognised due to the small number of registered prosthetists in the field.

What will happen to the results?

The results will be written up and reported in a research paper as part of the lead researcher's Doctor in Clinical Psychology qualification. In addition, the report may be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal, which could be accessed via the internet, if published. A copy of the final research paper or a summary of the findings will be offered to you once written to see how your input contributed to the findings, if you wish.

Are there any risks?

There are no risks anticipated with participating in this study. However, if you experience any distress following participation you are encouraged to inform the researcher and contact the resources provided at the end of this sheet.

Are there any benefits to taking part?

Although you may find participating interesting, there are no direct benefits in taking part. It is hoped that being able to share your experiences can contribute towards a better understanding of the how to support prosthetists in their roles.

Who has reviewed the project?

This study has been reviewed and approved by the Faculty of Health and Medicine Research Ethics Committee at Lancaster University.

Where can I obtain further information about the study if I need it?

If you have any questions about the study, please contact the main researcher:

Caile Gordon
Trainee Clinical Psychologist
Faculty of Health and Medicine
Lancaster University
Lancaster
LA1 4YW
e.c.gordon@lancaster.ac.uk

Complaints

If you wish to make a complaint or raise concerns about any aspect of this study and do not want to speak to the researcher, you can contact:

Dr Ian Smith
Research Director, Clinical Psychology Doctorate Programme
Faculty of Health and Medicine
Lancaster University
Lancaster
LA1 4YW
Tel: +44 (0)1524 592282
Email: i.smith@lancaster.ac.uk

If you wish to speak to someone outside of the Clinical Psychology Doctorate Programme, you may also contact:

Dr Laura Machin Tel: +44 (0)1524 594973
Chair of FHM REC Email: l.machin@lancaster.ac.uk
Faculty of Health and Medicine
(Lancaster Medical School)
Lancaster University
Lancaster
LA1 4YG

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