

Parent/Guardian of

<Patient's Name>

<Address>

<Address>

<Address>

<Address>



<Date>

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Would you like to know which moisturiser is best for treating your child's eczema?

Our surgery is supporting a research study called BEE (Best Emollient for Eczema). This is independent research being carried out by experts at the Universities of Bristol, Nottingham and Southampton. I am writing on their behalf to invite you and <Child's name> to take part.

As you probably know, eczema is very common and causes dry, itchy skin. Regular use of a moisturiser is recommended, but there are many different types and it is not clear if one is better than another. The BEE study is comparing four types of commonly used moisturiser to try to answer this question. This will improve our understanding of these treatments and the care of other children with eczema in the future.

Researchers are looking for children with eczema between six months and 12 years of age to take part. I am contacting you because our records indicate that <Child's name> has eczema and is in this age range. Please read the enclosed information to learn more about the study and what taking part might involve.

You are under no obligation to join in this study and if you did, you could stop using the study moisturiser or withdraw from the study at any time. Care of your child at the surgery would be the same.

If you would like to take part or would like more information, please complete the *Reply to invitation* form AND the *About my child's eczema* questionnaire. Completing these forms does not commit you to taking part. After you have sent this back, a researcher will be in touch to discuss what's involved and to check your eligibility for the study.

If you do not want to participate in the study, please do let the researchers know by completing the bottom section of the *Reply to invitation* form (this is anonymous) and return it to the research team.

If you have any questions about the research, please contact <Researcher> at the University of <Name> by telephone (<Number>) or email (bee-study@bristol.ac.uk). Thank you for giving the invitation to take part some thought.

Yours sincerely,

Dr <GP Name>

Best Emollient for Eczema (BEE) Study

~ 1. Reply to invitation form ~

1.1	<p><input type="checkbox"/>₁ Yes – I would be interested in my child taking part or would like to find out more.</p> <p>That's great, please let the research team know by filling out this form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online: <a href="http://www.<websitename>.ac.uk">www.<websitename>.ac.uk; or by• Post: fill out all of your details in the space below, along with the <i>About my child's eczema</i> questionnaire and send this back using the enclosed freepost envelope (no stamp required): <p>Parent/carer's name: _____</p> <p>Child's name: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____ <i>Best telephone number to call you on</i></p> <p>Email: _____ <i>Your email address</i></p>
1.2	<p><input type="checkbox"/>₀ No – I am not interested in my child taking part.</p> <p>That's fine, we appreciate you taking the time to think about it. If you could please tell us why you are not interested, that would be a great help in itself. You can either do this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online: <a href="http://www.<websitename>.ac.uk">www.<websitename>.ac.uk; or by• Post: tick all the reasons that apply and return this form in the freepost envelope: <p><input type="checkbox"/>₁ My child no longer has eczema</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>₂ I/my child does not like one or more types of moisturiser in this study</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>₃ My child is sensitive to the ingredients in one or more types of moisturiser in this study</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>₄ We do not want to commit to using one type of moisturiser for 16 weeks</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>₅ We would not want to stop using our current moisturiser, which is: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>₆ Too busy</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>₇ I am not interested in this research</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>₈ Some other reason (please specify below):</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>

Please turn over →

Entered by _ _ _

on _ _ / _ _ / _ _

2. About my child's eczema

Please tick one response for each of the seven questions below about your child's eczema. If your child is old enough to understand the questions, then please fill in the questionnaire together. Please leave blank any questions you feel unable to answer.

Date you are completing this form (DD/MM/YY): ____ / ____ / ____

2.1) Over the last week, on how many days has your child's skin been itchy because of their eczema?

₀ ₁ ₂ ₃ ₄
No days 1-2 days 3-4 days 5-6 days Every day

2.2) Over the last week, on how many nights has your child's sleep been disturbed because of their eczema?

₀ ₁ ₂ ₃ ₄
No days 1-2 days 3-4 days 5-6 days Every day

2.3) Over the last week, on how many days has your child's skin been bleeding because of their eczema?

₀ ₁ ₂ ₃ ₄
No days 1-2 days 3-4 days 5-6 days Every day

2.4) Over the last week, on how many days has your child's skin been weeping or oozing clear fluid because of their eczema?

₀ ₁ ₂ ₃ ₄
No days 1-2 days 3-4 days 5-6 days Every day

2.5) Over the last week, on how many days has your child's skin been cracked because of their eczema?

₀ ₁ ₂ ₃ ₄
No days 1-2 days 3-4 days 5-6 days Every day

2.6) Over the last week, on how many days has your child's skin been flaking off because of their eczema?

₀ ₁ ₂ ₃ ₄
No days 1-2 days 3-4 days 5-6 days Every day

2.7) Over the last week, on how many days has your child's skin felt dry or rough because of their eczema?

₀ ₁ ₂ ₃ ₄
No days 1-2 days 3-4 days 5-6 days Every day

Many thanks for your time! Please return in FREEPOST ENVELOPE provided