

Quality of life in people with pressure ulcers (bed sores)

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide whether or not to take part, we would like to explain the reason for the research and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully. 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.

Thank you for reading this.

Contact us:

Research Agency contact details

What is the purpose of the study?

Pressure ulcers (bed sores) happen to people with poor health who are unable to move about much. The Department of Health have set out to make sure that a lot less people will get pressure ulcers in the future. The University of Leeds has been involved in a large research study with people who have pressure ulcers. As part of this we have developed a new questionnaire that measures the impact of pressure ulcers on a person's quality of life. This is based on the kinds of problems people with pressure ulcers have, for example pain and discomfort, unpleasant smell and so on.

To help us understand how severe the aspects measured by the questionnaire are we need to ask people from the general population (i.e. people who do not have pressure ulcers) to answer some questions relating to scenarios described by the questionnaire. The information we get from these questions will enable us to generate scores from the questionnaire that – after completion by patients participating in clinical trials – will help determine which new pressure ulcer treatments are best value for money in the future. The research agency are a private company and are conducting the research on behalf of the University of Leeds.

What will be involved if I agree to take part in the study?

If you would like to participate in the study please contact the research agency whose telephone number and email address is at the front of this information sheet. As part of this study the researcher will ask you to complete a questionnaire about you and your health and then conduct a number of tasks based around scenarios from the pressure ulcer questionnaire. The whole process will take about 30-40 minutes.

Do I have to take part in the study?

No. It is up to you to decide if you want to take part in the study. If you think you want to take part and then change your mind you can without giving a reason.

When and where will the study take place?

The interview will be at a time that suits you and will be at your home (or at research agency premises).

Will the information obtained in the study be confidential?

Yes. It will not be possible to connect your answers in the questionnaires to the report. The questionnaires and interview responses will have a number and not a name to identify them for the researchers.

Will anyone else be told about my participation in the study?

No. We will not contact and tell anyone else about your participation.

Who is funding this study?

The research agency is being paid to conduct the work by the University of Leeds. The University of Leeds was funded to conduct the research by the Department of Health through the National Institute of Health Research.

What if I wish to complain about the way in which this study has been conducted?

If you have any complaints or concerns please contact the research agency in the first instance using the contact details on the front page. If you feel your complaint has not been satisfactorily dealt with then please contact the project co-ordinator at the University of Leeds (Karen Vinall-Collier; Email: K.A.Vinall@leeds.ac.uk; Telephone: 0113 343 0861).