

## **PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET**

The role of hospital managers in the development and implementation of strategies that support a sustainable and universal health coverage in Europe.

You are being invited to take part in a research study. 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 me/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.

### **Research Description**

This study constitutes the final examination in the obtention of a Master of Science in Management from Brunel University London.

European countries generally developed a health system that promotes the access to basic health services to all their citizens. However, the 2008 financial crisis involved a deep re-organisation of social spending across European governments. Healthcare representing a central expenditure, various changes in policies and regulations were enforced to reduce the budget allocated to health services. Consequently, academics argued that the universal health coverage (UHC) in Europe is at threats, and that the field of management is necessary to re-design healthcare processes.

Through the analysis of interviews of managers from different European countries, this paper aims at exploring strategies and policies that are developed and enforced by managers in public hospitals to provide essential health services to their community and by extension, to promote it on a country scale.

### **Why have I been invited to participate?**

You have been invited to participate to this study because you fulfil the inclusion criteria set up for this research. This means that your current work occupation provides you with significant managerial influence over your institution's processes.

### **Do I have to take part?**

As participation is entirely voluntary, 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 consent form. If you decide to take part, you are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason.

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

If you decide to take part in this study, you will soon be contacted by the researcher conducting this project to discuss most suitable date and time for a Skype interview. Afterwards, an interview lasting 30-45min will be recorded. The most relevant elements will be extracted for analysis. Anonymity will be strictly enforced throughout all the process, and all extracted data will be deleted after the end of the research.

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

To ensure a high level of quality during the interview, the participant needs to have access to a computer that enables video conferencing, thanks to a high-quality internet network. Since this interview will be recorded only once, it is left to the participants' discretion to find the most suitable environment for this task.

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

The questions elaborated for this study have been designed to explore your professional experience. However, as personal matters can be brought up to complement answers, some of them could give you mild discomfort. In the occurrence of any psychological distress, the interview can be resumed unilaterally at your discretion.

### **What if something goes wrong?**

If you are harmed by taking part in this research project, there are no special compensation arrangements. If you are harmed due to someone's negligence, then you may have grounds for a legal action, but you may have to pay for it. Any complaint must be addressed to the Chair of the CBASS Research Ethics Committee, David Gallear, who can be contacted via [Cbassethics@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:Cbassethics@brunel.ac.uk).

### **Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?**

All information which is collected about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential. Any information about you which leaves the University will have your name and address removed so that you cannot be identified from it.

### **What will happen to the results of the research study?**

This research study is a final year's essay and has therefore not been designed to be published in any journal. If you wish to receive a copy of the results, you may contact the researcher Cyril Branet ([1838357@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:1838357@brunel.ac.uk)).

### **Who is organising and funding the research?**

This research is fully supervised by Brunel University London staff and has received no sponsorship.

### **What are the indemnity arrangements?**

Participation in this study is very unlikely to affect your status in regard to your health insurance. If applicable, Brunel provides appropriate insurance cover for research which has received ethical approval.

### **Who has reviewed the study?**

This study has been reviewed by the Dr Claire Donovan and accepted by the Brunel Research Ethics Committee.

Brunel University is committed to compliance with the Universities UK Research Integrity Concordat. You are entitled to expect the highest level of integrity from our researchers during the course of their research.

### **Contact for further information and complaints**

You may contact the main researcher Cyril Branet ([1838357@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:1838357@brunel.ac.uk)) or the direct supervisor Dr Claire Donovan ([claire.donovan@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:claire.donovan@brunel.ac.uk)).

You will be given a copy of the information sheet and a signed consent form to keep.