

WATCh Project: Wheelchair outcomes Assessment Tool for Children

Improving Wheelchair Services for Children and Young People through Patient Centred Outcomes Measures.

Information sheet for young people 16 - 18 years old

Your views and experiences are important to us!

We are writing to ask if you would like to be involved in a research project. We want to understand what young wheelchair users want when they get a new wheelchair.

Before you decide, it is important to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read this information sheet carefully and discuss it with friends and relatives. If you have any questions or you would like more information, please contact us.

Why are we doing this research?

The research team want to help to develop wheelchair services that meet the needs of the children and young people using them. Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Telford and Wrekin CCG are responsible for making sure that local NHS wheelchair services meet the needs of children and young people with mobility impairments. We want to help these services to make the best possible impact on your life.

We aim to develop a way of measuring 'Patient centred outcomes' for wheelchair services, which are about putting patients, families and carers at the heart of deciding which goals are most valuable. These will be used in partnership with health professionals when deciding what is best. To do this, we want to speak to young wheelchair users to better understand what is important to them when they use NHS wheelchair services.

Why have I been chosen?

We know that you require a wheelchair to help you get around. We aim to recruit 30 children and young people with mobility impairments using the service and their parent(s). Even if you are waiting for your first wheelchair, your views are still important to us.

Do I have to take part?

No, it's completely your choice. It's OK if you don't want to take part.

If you do decide to take part, you are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason. This will not affect the standard of care you receive.

What will I have to do?

We want to hear about your experience of wheelchair services, what you would like to get out of your wheelchair and how the wheelchair service can support this.

The questionnaire sent with this leaflet asks about your experiences of using a wheelchair and wheelchair services. Please complete the questionnaire and send it back to us using the stamped addressed envelope provided.

If you have said that you are happy to be interviewed, your contact details will be passed onto the research team at Bangor University, who will arrange this. You can either take part in a one-to-one interview or a focus group with other young people. The sessions will last about an hour. With your permission, we will record what you say.

We would like to interview everyone involved in this project, but it is ok if you would just like to complete the questionnaire.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of taking part?

There are no immediate advantages of taking part, but with your help we hope to improve NHS wheelchair services for children and young people. After completing the interview we will give you a **£10 high-street voucher** as a thank you. We don't see any disadvantages of taking part.

What will happen to the information I give?

All information will be kept private and confidential. We will not use your name for any quotes that we use in the reports we write. We will not pass on information to anyone else, unless you tell us something that makes us seriously concerned about the safety of a child or vulnerable adult.

I would like to take part! What's next?

Great! Please return the completed questionnaire(s) in the stamped addressed envelope. If you consent to be interviewed, we will contact you to arrange this.

Where can I get more information?

If you want to know more about the project you can phone us, write to us or e-mail us using the contact details overleaf. We will be more than happy to answer any questions you have.

Address:

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If you have any concerns about this project and would like to speak to someone outside of the research team, please contact:

Dr Sion Williams

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