

Participant Information Sheet
Assessing Mechanisms for Delivery of COVID-19 Vaccines to University Students
Version 4 24th May 2021



UniCoVac Participant Information Sheet
Assessing Mechanisms for Delivery of COVID-19 Vaccines to University Students

Thank you for your interest in this research study. Before you decide to participate it is important that you understand why the research is being carried out and what is involved.

1. Purpose of study. This study aims to understand the experiences, knowledge and attitudes of university students to COVID-19 vaccines and whether there are differences between student sub-groups (i.e. UK and international students; and different ethnic minorities). The study will also explore how experiences during the pandemic have influenced attitudes to these vaccines. This information will be utilised for development of recommendations for student-focussed vaccine campaigns.

2. What is involved if I take part? The study involves completion of an online questionnaire that will take approximately 15 minutes to complete. The questionnaire asks about a range of demographics (e.g. degree course, nationality, ethnicity, etc), COVID-19 vaccines, other vaccines and your experiences during the UK national lockdown (including exposure to COVID-19). You will also be asked if you want to participate in 1:1 online interviews where experiences during the epidemic will be explored in more detail. Once you have completed the questionnaire you will have the option to enter into a prize draw to win one of five £200 voucher/cash prizes.

3. Will information obtained in the study be confidential? Questionnaires will be anonymous and labelled with only a unique identifier code. Where personal identifiers are provided (i.e. for participation in interviews or the prize draw), this information will be removed from the questionnaires immediately upon completion. This anonymised information may be shared with other researchers, published in scientific journals and deposited in public databases. All personal identifiers (including names and email addresses of participants) will be kept in a separate password-protected file that will only be accessible to researchers involved in this study and stored in a secure University of Leicester database.

4. Retention of information. Personal identifiers (names and email addresses of participants) will be retained for a maximum of six months after the end of the study.

5. What if there is a problem? If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, you should ask to speak to the researchers who will do their best to answer your questions. The lead researcher is Prof. Chris Bayliss (Department of Genetics and Genome Biology, University of Leicester) who can be contacted via email at unicovac@le.ac.uk or by phone on 0116 2523465. If you remain unhappy and wish to make a formal complaint, you should contact the head of the University of Leicester, Research Ethics Committee, c/o University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH, E-mail: (ethics@le.ac.uk).