

Patient Experience Research Centre

Public Involvement Newsletter

Welcome to the April issue of the Imperial College, London Patient Experience Research Centre Public Involvement Newsletter.

In this issue we share upcoming opportunities to get involved in health research, as well as upcoming events which you might be interested in joining.

Upcoming opportunities



Do you have lived experience of obesity and/or fertility problems or treatment?

Researchers at Imperial College London and Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust are looking for **men who live, work or study in North West London** to partner with them to help shape **research exploring weight and fertility**.

Who can apply?

Men who:

- are aged 17 years or older.
- Lives, works, studies or receive healthcare in North West London (i.e. Brent, Ealing, Kensington & Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow or Westminster); and
- have current or previous experience of obesity and/or fertility problems and/or treatment
- have community connections in NWL (e.g., charities, support groups, residents' groups, walking groups or church communities)

What's involved?

- Up to 30 hours of your time for 1 year from April 2023
- Share your views with researchers & health professionals
- Attend meetings and/or provide your feedback via email/phone

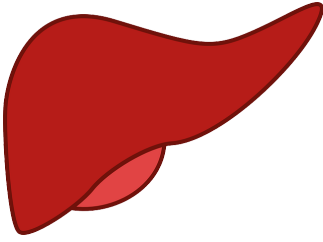
Why get involved?

- Share your valuable lived experience of obesity and/or fertility problems and/or treatment
- Get paid £25/hour plus expenses
- Receive training & develop skills

How do I apply for this opportunity?

To apply, please click the button below. The deadline to apply is **14th April 2023**

Find out more & apply



Join our non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) research network

We are creating a network of NAFLD patients who can advise Imperial researchers & clinicians about how to improve NAFLD healthcare and how to shape NAFLD research

What is involved?

Join us on the 20th April 2023 from 6 – 7pm for an online information session where you will hear more about our NAFLD research and learn more about the development of this network

Who can get involved?

Anyone:

- 17 years or older living with NAFLD
- living, working, studying or receiving care in North-West London (i.e. Brent, Ealing, Kensington & Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow or Westminster)

Why get involved?

- Learn more about the latest research into NAFLD
- Future NAFLD Network activities will be paid @ £25 per hour, plus a £5 contribution to Wifi/data expenses per virtual meeting or travel expenses to F2F meetings
- Support & training provided

Deadline to register:

Please register your interest by **18th April 2023**

For any queries please contact publicinvolvement@imperial.ac.uk

Find out more & register



Do you have lived experience of bronchiectasis, cystic fibrosis or pulmonary fibrosis?

Researchers at Imperial College, London & Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust are looking for people **with experience of bronchiectasis, cystic fibrosis or pulmonary fibrosis** to partner with them to improve research in these areas.

Who can apply?

Anyone who is:

- 17 years or older; and
- Lives, works, studies or receive healthcare in North West London (i.e. Brent, Ealing, Kensington & Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow or Westminster); and
- Has current experience (as a patient, carer or family member) of bronchiectasis, cystic fibrosis or pulmonary fibrosis

- Have community connections in NWL (e.g. charities, support groups, residents groups, walking groups or church communities)

What's involved?

- Up to 30 hrs of your time across 12 months
- Share your views with researchers & health professionals
- Attend meetings, and/or provide your feedback via email/phone

Why get involved?

- Share your valuable lived experience
- Get paid £25/hour plus expenses
- Receive training & develop skills

How do I express my interest?

To apply, please click the button below. The deadline to apply is **14th April 2023**.

[Find out more & apply](#)



Do you know a sixth form student interested in science and medicine?

The National Heart and Lung Institute together with the British Heart Foundation's Centre of Research Excellence at Imperial College London and the Scleroderma & Raynaud's UK is offering the 3rd Annual 'Science in Medicine School Team Prize' to engage future scientific leaders with science in medicine.

They are inviting sixth form students to compete in teams for a financial prize in one of the three contests on offer - "Heart and Circulatory Disease", - "Lung Disease" or "Scleroderma and Raynaud's".

First, second and third prizes of £3000, £2000 and £1000 will be awarded in each contest to winning schools for supporting science-related activities. Short-listed team members will also have the opportunity for an online mentoring session with an Imperial academic.

The Challenge

Design a digital Poster, which illustrates a strategy for combining hard sciences with biomedicine to reduce the number of disabilities and deaths caused by lung or heart and circulatory diseases. The judges will be looking for forward vision based upon realistic trends in science and engineering, rather than summaries of existing care pathways.

Teams

- A team should have no more than six members.
- The age(s) and year(s) of study of students is open.
- Teams should ideally be composed of members with complementary skills, for example with strengths in biology, mathematics, computing, design and communication.
- Each educational organisation can only submit one digital Poster to each of the three contests, and so may wish to hold an internal selection.
- The competition is restricted to Teams from the United Kingdom.

For more information please click the button below.

Deadline for submission: 30th June 2023

[Find out more](#)



Have you taken part in a clinical trial?

We are recruiting one Community Partner with personal experience as a participant on a clinical trial to join a Trial Steering Committee for a COVID clinical trial and provide a public perspective.

You will attend monthly meetings on Microsoft Teams lasting no longer than one hour.

What is a Trial Steering Committee (TSC)?

The TSC monitors the progress of the trial. For example you might:

- provide a public perspective on trial recruitment,
- champion the rights, safety and wellbeing of the study participants.

Who are we looking for?

An individual:

- aged between 18 – 30,
- must have experience as a participant on a clinical trial (i.e. as a member of the public and not a professional or medical student).

Will I get anything for taking part?

- You will be paid £25/hour for your time and a £5 contribution to WiFi/data expenses per online meeting.
- Training & support provided as needed.

How do I express my interest?

To apply, please click the button below. The deadline to apply is **5th May 2023**.

[Find out more & apply](#)



Get involved in research exploring urine infections and antimicrobial resistance

Antimicrobial resistance occurs when the bacteria or viruses which cause infections no longer respond to typical treatment through medicines such as antibiotics.

Researchers at Imperial College London are exploring this within urinary infections.

For most people antibiotics will be used to treat a urinary infection, but for some people these do not work and can cause recurrent infections.

The researchers are looking to speak with people who have experience of having a urine infection to inform their research.

To find out more and to get involved, please email Alison Shutt (lead researcher) a.shutt21@imperial.ac.uk



Join the newly re-launched VOICE Global community

VOICE is an online platform which brings together members of the public, patients and carers who want to influence and inform UK health research and innovation.

Imperial joined VOICE in January 2019, with the ambition to improve the way we involve patients and members of the public in our research. The public are at the heart of what we do, so ensuring your involvement, engagement and participation in research is a key priority for us.

On the VOICE platform you will find opportunities for involvement, engagement and participation as well as upcoming events relating to health and social care.

To keep updated with the latest VOICE opportunities and help to influence and inform our research, [sign up today at voice-global.org](https://www.voice-global.org)

Upcoming events



Joint, Bones & Muscles (Musculoskeletal) Research Meeting Wednesday 26th April (5 – 7pm; in-person (White City) & online)

Hear about the latest research into joint replacements, rehabilitation and surgery and share your views.

Spaces are limited so will be reviewed and you will receive a confirmation in advance of the event.

[Find out more and register your interest](#)

Understanding and treating complications in pregnancy Friday 28th April (12.00 - 13.00; online)

In this online session two leading experts will discuss and answer questions on their research into complications during pregnancy

[Find out more and register to attend](#)

White City Community Campus Tours

Ongoing (running on the second Wednesday of every month at 1pm; tea & coffee from 12.30pm)

Tours include a visit to one of the White City research teams, The Invention Rooms (our community engagement and Makerspace) and to Scale Space (our new space for innovative business). The tour lasts 1 hour and follows an accessible step-free route.

[Click here to find out more and register for your free place in May](#)

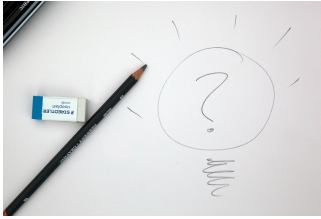
Great Exhibition Road Festival

17th & 18th June 2023 (In-person; Great Exhibition Road, South Kensington)

Come along to the Great Exhibition Road Festival for an annual celebration of science and the arts with free events for all ages.

[Click here to find out more](#)

Other updates



Catch up on our latest blogs

Our PERC blog showcases public involvement and engagement activity across Imperial College London. You can click the links below to take you to each of our recent blogs:

[People's Research Cafe Blog Series: Bringing together experts in public involvement, researchers, public partners, and the public to improve early-stage research projects](#)

Keitumetse-Kabelo Murray, Patient and Public Involvement Manager, ; [Kimberley Foley](#), Research Associate; Barrie Newton, Public contributor, [Applied Research Collaborative NWL](#)

[People's Research Cafe Blog Series: Understanding the role of gut hormones on appetite and eating behaviour](#)

Dr Raghav Bhargava, Clinical Research Fellow, PsychoNeuroEndocrinology Research Group

[People's Research Cafe Blog Series: A great day on Great Exhibition Road!](#)

Naoko Jones, Programme Manager, [NIHR London In Vitro Diagnostics Co-operative](#)



Want to learn more about public involvement in research?

Sign up to our online course on [Public Involvement in Research](#) on Coursera. The course is aimed at researchers but is also suitable for patients and the public to complete.

The course is set over four weeks (although you can go at your own pace) and introduces the concepts of public involvement and co-production in health research as well as discussing in more detail the role of public involvement across the research cycle.

[Find out more](#)

Visualising Long COVID

Over the past year, we have been inviting people to share what ongoing symptoms after COVID-19 feel like in their own words as part of our defining Long COVID Challenge.

We have received over 100 responses which capture the depth and breadth of symptoms experienced. One of our aims of this challenge was to use these responses to raise awareness of the symptoms of Long COVID, and their impact, in a way that is accessible, engaging, and impactful. As such, we have been working closely with [Monique Jackson](#) to develop illustrations which visually capture the range and impact of Long COVID symptoms. The poster includes descriptions of fatigue, joint pain, headaches, breathlessness, insomnia, brain fog and heart palpitations.

We previously shared a version of this poster in a newsletter late last year, but we are now pleased to say that this



Download the posters



Keep up-to-date with our COVID-19 and Long COVID Research

There is now a national, and global, commitment to enhance our scientific understanding of Long COVID, as well as improve the care, support and treatment available to those affected. Imperial College London is one of the groups that have been awarded funding from UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) to research Long COVID.

To keep up to date with our ongoing research, you can:

- Join the [‘REACT: COVID-19 Community Network’](#) on the [VOICE-global.org platform](https://voice-global.org/platform), an online platform for public involvement and engagement in health research. As part of this group you will receive updates on any new findings from REACT/REACT-Long COVID, as well invites to public engagement and involvement activities

Contact us:
publicinvolvement@imperial.ac.uk

Our mailing address is:
 Patient Experience Research Centre
 St Marys Campus
 Norfolk Place
 London, W2 1PG

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