

1. How much work is involved?

People making predictions are asked to consider eight 'red flags' for poor recruitment, which we identified in our previous work (<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-019-3287-6>). We also need some basic information about the trial (e.g. the clinical trial registry registration number) so that we can keep track of predictions linked to particular trials and we also collect some basic information about the person making the prediction (email address, whether based in a trials unit, years of experience).

We estimate that registering for ESP2 and making one prediction will take around 15 minutes in total. Subsequent predictions should take no more than 10 minutes. We will email people twice for updates on actual recruitment per prediction, once 6 months after the site initiation training to which the prediction applies and again 6 months after that. That's all the data collection we will do.

2. When do you want us to make our predictions?

As soon after site initiation training as possible.

Ideally this would be immediately after but if it takes a day or so to get online and make the prediction that's fine. We don't want retrospective predictions though, in other words, a prediction based on site initiation training that happened more than, say, 1 month ago.

3. Can commercial trials be included?

Yes.

4. Is the project global?

Yes, we aim to involve people from around the world.

5. Does the website work on a mobile phone or a tablet?

Yes, the site is responsive to the device you are using so that you can make predictions while on the move.

6. I haven't got a verification email back from you?

Check your email spam folder because the ESP2 emails might be there. If you haven't had a verification email from us after a couple of days, get in touch by emailing esp2@abdn.ac.uk and we'll check it out for you.

7. I've lost my participant ID

Not a problem, there are two possible solutions

1) your participant ID was in the ESP2 registration email, search for that email; 2)

email us at esp2@abdn.ac.uk and we will find it for you.

8. Will information be confidential?

Yes. We will not present information about trials, sites or people making predictions. We expect to offer collaborators the opportunity to be acknowledged in a future publication (i.e. under 'Acknowledgements and by way of thanks) but will not include names in those Acknowledgements unless a collaborator says he or she wants it.

9. Does Trial Forge want to put any restrictions on the timing of publications from the main trial, or want any form of acknowledgement or authorship?

No. There are no restrictions on when you can publish anything from your trial and there's no need to acknowledge us or offer authorship on anything coming out of trials linked to ESP2.