



## Patient & Public Involvement Group (PPI)

### PIP & SCRiPT Dental Studies



#### Background

Treating tooth decay costs the NHS over £3.4 billion each year. Tooth decay can lead to patients needing increasingly invasive treatment with possibly more return visits to the dentist and greater time, anxiety and cost burden for both patient and dentist.

The University of Dundee, in collaboration with the University of Aberdeen and other UK institutions, is currently leading two research studies in dentistry. The **SCRiPT Study** is comparing two types of treatment for deep tooth decay. The **PIP Study** is comparing two treatments for nerve damage in the tooth. Both studies are funded by the National Institute of Health Research which is a research arm of the NHS.

A Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) group with members from across the UK will meet regularly during the studies and give public perspectives on aspects of both studies. Members can choose to be involved in only one study or both, whichever is preferred. We are inviting you to join the PPI group.

#### Meeting Frequency

It is hard to be precise about the number of meetings that will be needed. We estimate one or two meetings per year but are flexible as to when they will take place. The studies will continue for four years.

PPI Group members would be asked to join some study team members for meetings online. In some circumstances you may also be invited to face-to-face meetings, only if you felt comfortable with this. We may also contact you and ask your opinion between meetings.

#### Your Input

You will attend meetings and contribute your perspectives as a lay member. Before you start your involvement, we will ask if you wish to be involved in both studies or, if you prefer to be involved with just one – either option is fine. We will send information (in plain language) ahead of meetings about what will be discussed. A member of the study team will be available to discuss any papers with you, if required, ahead of the meetings. We may ask you to review and provide an input to documents. We may contact you, from time to time, to ask for your views or advice on aspects of the studies or to invite you to attend a group meeting with other PPI members. We would ask you to keep us updated with any changes to your contact details.

#### Fees & Travel Expenses

As part of your involvement in the PPI Group, we offer a payment for your time and involvement:

£12.50	Half hour or less
£25	One hour or less
£50	Approx. 2 hours
£75	Half day
£150	Full day

In addition to the fee rates, a £5 remote working cost would be included as applicable. To enable you to be paid, the Study Office would send you an 'External Expense Claim Form'. You need only fill in **Section 2** of this form and **sign/date at the bottom**. Payments will be made in accordance with University of Dundee financial regulations.

Travel expenses would be reimbursed if incurred – please retain receipts, copies of which will need to be submitted with claim forms. Should any other costs be incurred through your involvement in the group, these would be discussed with a member of the study team.

## Study Contact Details – Queries, Advice or Support during your involvement

If you have any queries about information provided or about any other aspects of the Studies during your involvement, or if you needed advice or support in your role, please contact [PIP-Study@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:PIP-Study@dundee.ac.uk) and / or [script@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:script@dundee.ac.uk) where a member of the study team will be on hand to answer any questions or provide any advice or clarification you might need.

## More Information about the PIP and SCRiPT Studies

**SCRiPT Study:** Where a tooth has deep decay, the common treatment is to remove all or most of the decay and place a filling. However, if the decay is so deep, there is a chance the tooth's nerve could be damaged and this might lead to the tooth needing root canal treatment or it might need to be removed within the following 5 years. An alternative treatment is to remove some, but not all, of the decay to reduce the chance of damage to the tooth's nerve and place a filling to stop the decay from getting worse.

The **SCRiPT Study** has been funded by the NIHR Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Programme, to investigate which of these two ways of treating a tooth with deep decay is better for keeping the tooth healthy. Patients (aged 12 and over) will be followed up for three years and the costs and benefits of the two treatments will be compared, together with patient experience of pain and progression of decay, patient preference for treatment and dentist and patient acceptability.

**PIP Study:** Where the tooth decay has spread deep into the nerve and caused serious and irreversible damage (called irreversible pulpitis), there are different treatments available. The most common treatments are to take out the tooth or use root canal treatment. Root canal treatment removes all the nerve and can be time consuming and technically demanding. A possible alternative is to remove only the inflamed part of the nerve, which is a less invasive treatment. This technique is called pulpotomy.

The **PIP Study** has been funded by the NIHR HTA to investigate which of these ways of treating pulpitis is better. Patients aged over 18 will be followed up for one year and the costs and benefits of the two treatments will be compared.

## Do you want to be involved?

Someone from the study team will be in touch with you to answer any other questions you may have, or provide any further information you might need and to ask if you would be willing to join the PPI Group – and if so, if you would wish to be involved in both studies or only one.

If you would like to contact us in the meantime, you can do so by contacting:

Hazel Braid, **SCRiPT Study** Administrator at [h.j.braid@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:h.j.braid@dundee.ac.uk) or [script@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:script@dundee.ac.uk); Tel: 01382 383817

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