

DISCO 
Diagnosing Care Home **UTI**

**SIMPLIFIED PARTICIPANT
INFORMATION SHEET**

**We would like to invite you to take part
in our research study called
DISCO UTI.**

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part.

Before you decide, it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you.

Please take time to read this information and discuss it with others if you want to.

Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

What is the study about?

- We want to get better at spotting urinary tract infections (UTIs) in people who live in care homes.
- A UTI is when you get bacteria in the urine. This can cause pain or burning when you wee. UTIs can make you sick if you don't get antibiotic treatment.
- Unfortunately, UTIs don't always cause clear symptoms for people who live in care homes. Urine tests that we have at the moment are not very helpful. This makes it hard for doctors to know whether someone has a UTI.
- However, it is important to know who has a UTI. This means that they can get antibiotic treatment and get better.
- It is also important to know who doesn't have a UTI. This is because getting antibiotic treatment when you don't need it can make future infections to harder to treat.
- Our study is looking at some new ways at spotting a UTI. We don't know yet whether these will work.

What will happen if I take part?

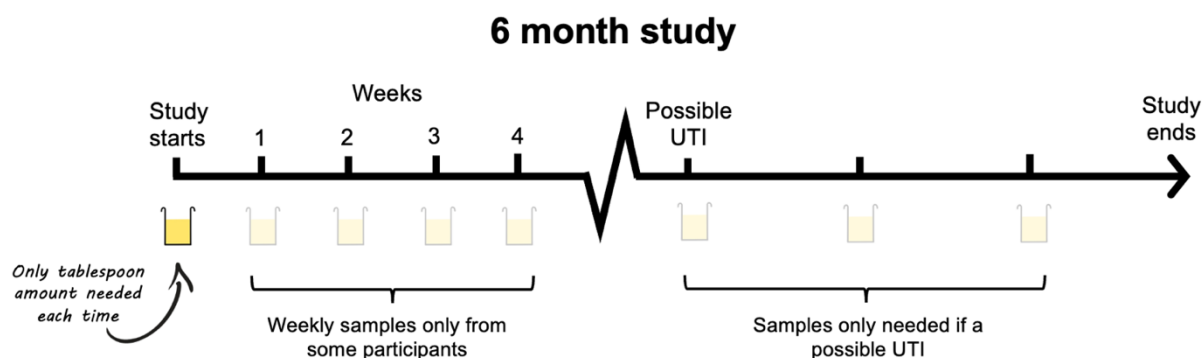
- A researcher will speak to you to check you understand what is involved and that you are suitable for the study.
- The researcher will ask you and your care home workers some questions. These will be about your health and whether you need any help with things like washing, dressing or eating.
- You will be asked to provide a small sample of your urine.
- Some people taking part in the study will be asked to give another sample of urine once a week for the next 4 weeks.
- You will be visited by the researcher each time your care home suspects you may have a UTI over the next 6 months. You will be asked to provide another urine sample if this happens.
- If you are happy to, we can put up a poster in your room to remind the care home staff to contact the research team.

- The researcher will check up on you 2 and 4 weeks later to see how you are getting on, and ask for more urine samples if this is possible.
- We will collect information about your medicines and illnesses from your care home record.
- You will be asked at the end of the study whether you would like to speak to a researcher about your experiences of being involved.

How much urine do I need to provide?

- Each time we ask for a urine sample you will only need to provide 15ml - around 1 tablespoon.
- The researcher or care home worker can support you to collect the sample if you need.

- Many participants may only need to provide one sample at the beginning of the study.



Who will get the results of the research tests?

- Neither you nor your GP will get the results of the research tests because we don't know how good they will be at spotting a UTI.
- Your GP will provide you care as usual. Your GP may want to request urine tests as well – if this happens they will take priority over the research tests.

What happens if I forget I am taking part in the study?

- Some illnesses, including UTI, can make older people confused or forgetful. If this happens to you, you may not remember that you are taking part in the study.
- If you do become confused, we would like you to continue to take part. We will try to check this with a family member or friend if it happens.
- When you are better we will remind you that you are taking part in the study, and will check that you wish to continue.

Will I be able to feed back about my experience of taking part in the study?

- We will be inviting some participants to take part in an interview to talk about their experiences of the study.
- The interview will be audio-recorded.
- We will send the recording securely to a company to write up the interview.
- We might quote things that you say in publications about the study, but you will not be able to be identified.

What are the benefits of taking part?

- There will be no direct benefit to you and there are no payments for taking part.
- However, this research will hopefully help others like you in the future.

What are the downsides of taking part?

- The study will take some of your time to answer questions and provide urine samples. We hope that this won't be too inconvenient.

What will happen to the information about me?

- Any information that we collect about you will be kept safe. Your name will not go on any reports, presentations or publications.
- We will share some information with approved partners who are developing some of the research tests we are using. You will not be able to be identified.

Will anyone else know I am doing this study?

- We will tell your GP that you are taking part in this study. If you want us to, we will also tell your next of kin / close relative or friend.

What if there is a problem?

- If you have a concern about this study at any time, you can speak to the researchers who will do their best to answer your questions.
- You could also ask your care home or family member/friend to do this on your behalf.

Thank you for taking the time to think about taking part in this study.

If you want more detailed information, a longer information sheet is available.