

CENTRE FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH IN NEUROPSYCHIATRY



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CONTROL GROUP INFORMATION SHEET FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Centre is based at Graylands Hospital, and it conducts a number of research projects that involve examining how the human brain works - for example, how we remember and attend to different types of information. As part of this research we are recruiting volunteers to help us by acting as “control” participants - this allows us to make comparisons of their performance with the performance of people who have difficulties in processing information (ie patients).

You have already undergone a brief telephone screening interview. We require two more types of information from you:

- You will be asked to attend a clinical interview (45 minutes) with a member of the research team at the Centre to obtain information about your behaviour and personality characteristics.
- You will also be given a short reading task (10 minutes)
- What about blood, urine tests?

If you wish to continue with the screening as above, we will ask you to complete the enclosed consent form. You need to understand that your consent means that all authorised researchers at CCRN can view your personal details in order to consider you for participation in their projects now or for new projects in the future. The information collected in the screening process needs to be stored (confidentially) on a computer database. This allows us to contact you at a later date to participate in a particular study. Access to contact details is restricted to authorised personnel at the Centre.

Your inclusion in any particular project is based on a number of factors, which are derived from the above screening process. Studies require participants to be matched to patient characteristics such as age, gender, years of education, and so on. In some cases, you may not be matched on these characteristics immediately or even for some months. We will contact you periodically to advise you of our progress.

You may withdraw your consent to participate in the screening process at any time, and if you do so the information collected will be destroyed.

We would like to emphasize that your participation is completely voluntary and that the information provided by you is treated in the **strictest confidence**. This information will be stored with an ID number only. Names and contact details are stored separately from all other information that you have provided.

We need a large number of volunteers so that we can compare their results to those obtained from the many patients who have information processing difficulties. Your valuable contribution makes this possible. The results of the projects conducted by the Centre for Clinical Research may help to better understand the causes of these difficulties in our community.

