

INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS

Ethical Clearance Reference Number: HR/DP-22/23-33915



SURE recovery phase two: An app for people in recovery from alcohol and other drug problems

You have been invited to contribute to research which is being conducted in the Addictions Department at King's College London. This information sheet will provide you with further information about the research, why it is being done, and what your participation will involve. Please take the time to read this information. You can contact me (Professor Joanne Neale) if anything is not clear or if you would like further information.

What is the purpose of the research?

The purpose of the research is to increase our understanding of substance use and the processes of recovery. We want to understand how people are using the SURE Recovery app, recovery, sleep problems and knowledge of overdose management based on the data entered into the app.

Our analyses should help us identify better ways of supporting people in recovery and of providing services that meet their need.

Why have I been invited to take part?

You are being invited to participate because you have expressed interest in the SURE Recovery app by downloading the app and creating an account and are aged 16 years or older.

What will happen if I take part?

If you choose to participate in the research, your answers to any questions in the app will be recorded and used in our analyses. You will firstly be asked for some general information including your email address, age, sex and the country where you live. You can then use all the different features of the app as and when you choose and can complete questionnaires whenever you decide. The questions included will be about substance use, recovery, sleep in recovery, overdose and naloxone. There is also an optional monthly question related to recovery which you can answer if you choose to. You do not have to answer any questions you don't want to, and you should not provide details of any criminal activity. If you are outside of the UK, some of the questions you are asked may lead to an illegal disclosure. Please note, we will not take any action because of illegal disclosures, and you will not be identifiable in any research outputs.

Do I have to take part?

Participation is completely voluntary. You should only take part if you want to. Choosing not to take part will not disadvantage you in any way. You will still be able to access all features of the app for free even if you choose not to take part. Once you have read this information sheet, you can contact us if you have any questions that will help you make a decision about taking part. If you decide to take part, you will be asked to give your consent in the app on the next screen.

What are the possible risks of taking part?

We do not foresee any risk to you, if you choose to take part. Some of the questions relate to sensitive topics, such as your substance use, but you are free to stop completing the questions at any time. You can just close the app if you do not want to continue.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

We do not provide any incentives for helping us with our research. However, taking part will help us to further understand substance use, and potentially improve services in the future.

Data handling and confidentiality

Your data will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2018 (GDPR). Your data will be stored securely and confidentially on computers at King's College London. We will retain identifiable contact details (email addresses) until the end of the research period (1st January 2028). We will hold anonymised research data for three years after the end of the research period (1st January 2031). Your data will only be shared with researchers employed by or collaborating with King's College London. Your data are shared with Mindwave Ventures, the app developer, via Microsoft Azure, when you use the SURE Recovery app. This is separate to this research. Please read the app privacy notice for more information.

You can find the privacy statement for the app [here](#).

Data Protection Statement

The data controller for this project will be King's College London (KCL). The University will process your personal data for the purpose of the research outlined above. The legal basis for processing your personal data for research purposes under GDPR is a 'task in the public interest'. You can provide your consent for the use of your personal data in this research by consenting in the app.

Based on the information you provide we are unlikely to be able to personally identify you from the dataset and therefore you will not be able to access the information we hold once you have completed the questions in the app. You should only provide your consent to take part in this study if you agree to this restriction.

What if I change my mind about taking part?

You are free to stop participating in the research at any time. If at any time you decide you no longer want to take part, please email surerecoveryapp@gmail.com. You can find this information at any time in account settings in the app. If you choose to withdraw from the research, we will retain the data we already have as it may not be possible to identify which data belong to you (and, therefore, we cannot remove this from the dataset).

How is the research being funded?

This research is being funded by the charity Action on Addiction and The NIHR Biomedical Research Centre.

What will happen to the results of the research?

The data collected will be analysed by researchers and statisticians at King's College London and potentially written up for publication. Anonymised key findings will also be shared with interested audiences, including service users, people working in the addiction field, and researchers. It will not be possible to identify any individual in any publication or presentation.

Who should I contact for further information?

If you have any questions or require more information about this study, please contact me using the following contact details: joanne.neale@kcl.ac.uk, 07849860934.

Joanne Neale
Addictions Sciences Building
4 Windsor Walk
Denmark Hill
London
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What if I have further questions, or if something goes wrong?

If this research has harmed you in any way, or if you wish to make a complaint about the conduct of the research, you can contact King's College London using the details below for further advice and information:

The Chair, Health Faculties RESC (Purple), rec@kcl.ac.uk

Thank you for reading this information sheet and for considering taking part in this research.