

‘What are you waiting for?’

Waiting Times: Speaking of Waiting



Have you experienced waiting? Are you waiting right now? How does it feel? And *why* are you waiting?

We want to hear **your stories and experiences of waiting**.

What are we doing?

We are a team of researchers at the University of Exeter. Our study is called the Waiting Times project. We're funded by the Wellcome Trust.

We want to build up an archive of stories about **experiences of time and waiting**. These stories would be made available through our website and could be **shared and read around the world**. We want people to be able to tell their **stories of waiting**, and to be heard by a **wide audience**, who might be going through very similar experiences themselves.

We'd like to use the stories that are written in our research study about **experiences of time and waiting**, and we'd like to share them with others on our website and in exhibitions.

What is our research purpose?

Our researchers will write about these stories and experiences, and examine what these stories can teach us about waiting in healthcare.

We might use short quotations or longer extracts from the stories in research. If we do, these will be fully **anonymised and de-identified**. This means we won't just take out your name, but we'll remove all specific details about yourself and anyone else, so that no one could possibly be identified.

This research has **nothing to do with your healthcare** and **won't affect any treatment** you are having.



Why are we doing this and what will it involve?

We're really keen to hear your stories and learn about your experiences. These don't have to be polished works of art and they don't have to be any particular length or style. They could be **poems** or even **pictures**, if you're more comfortable drawing. You can tell us the stories and we can write them down for you, if you'd prefer. We have **lots of options**.

You can either send us your story by writing in the boxes on this website. Or you can email it to us (m.flexer@exeter.ac.uk) or upload via our website (WhatAreYouWaitingFor.org.uk). You can also **record a video message or take a photo or make a drawing**.

You'll be able to see the archive online at our website and we can send you electronic versions of any research publications too, if you'd be interested.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of taking part?

We hope that telling, sharing and writing the stories will be a **valuable experience**. Telling and sharing stories can be **fun**, and being **listened to** can make people feel **respected and valued**. We're sure there are loads of fascinating stories to hear. We hope you'd like to have your story included in our archive, where it can be read online by people all over the world, and touch their lives.

What is consent for? Can I submit anonymously?

We'd like you to complete the consent questions on the website. You can consent to some or all of the different options. If you want to email us your

story or video or picture, you can download a consent form and email that to us too.

We understand that some people would prefer to send us a story anonymously, without giving their name, and that is fine too. **All stories will be anonymised** anyway, and any identifying details – like a name, or a place, or a job title – will be changed or removed to make sure **no one could guess that you are the person** in the story.



What if you change your mind?

You might change your mind about sharing your story and that is completely fine. If you **get in touch**, we will take your story out of our archive and not include it in our research. We can remove the story from our archive at any time, but **if you want to be removed from the research you need to let us know by 30 April 2022**. Just contact Michael or Laura. Their details are at the end of this information sheet. However, we can only remove your story if you supply your name. If you submit anonymously, we might not be able to identify your story and remove it.

How to get in contact if you have any questions or concerns:

You can write to Laura:
Professor Laura Salisbury
Queen's Building, Queen's Drive
University of Exeter
EX4 4QH

Or you can email Michael at m.flexer@exeter.ac.uk or write to him (Dr Michael Flexer) at the same address as for Laura.



How will we use information about you?

We will need to use information from you for this research project.

This information will include only your name and contact details that you provide.

No one but Michael and Laura will be able to see your name or contact details. Your data will have a code number instead.

We will keep all information about you safe and secure.

We will write our reports in a way that no-one can work out that you took part in the study.

Where can you find out more about how your information is used?

You can find out more about how we use your information:

- at www.hra.nhs.uk/inormation-about-patients
- at www.exeter.ac.uk/dataprotection
- our leaflet available from www.hra.nhs.uk/patientdataandresearch
- by asking one of the research team (Michael or Laura)
- by ringing Michael on 0756 2907 682
- by sending an email to the University of Exeter's Data Protection Officer dataprotection@exeter.ac.uk

This research project has been approved by NHS Health Research Authority.

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