

## Opportunity to be involved in research

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### ***What is public involvement in research?***

Public involvement in research is research done ‘with’ or ‘by’ members of the public rather than ‘to’, ‘about’ or ‘for’ them (NIHR INVOLVE).

NIHR INVOLVE have produced some information for people what want to get involved in research. You can find our more here:

<https://www.invo.org.uk/find-out-more/what-is-public-involvement-in-research-2/>

### ***Opportunity for involvement***

We are inviting you to consider your involvement in a project on **Social Prescribing**.

Further information about the opportunity is provided below. If you would like to be involved, please contact Dr Jenny Harlock, Senior Research Fellow, University of Warwick, by 30/10/2019.

Proposed study title	Social prescribing: a realist evaluation of what works for whom in what circumstances
Type of project	<p>Social prescribing is a way of linking patients with emotional, social, or practical needs to sources of support in the community. GPs can refer patients to a Link Worker who can work with them on an individual basis to identify activities, groups or services that might benefit them.</p> <p>This project, which is based at the University of Warwick, will look at how social prescribing can help people at risk of social isolation and people with long-term physical and mental health conditions to better manage their health and wellbeing.</p> <p>The project will involve looking in depth at 4 case studies of social prescribing schemes and evaluating them, using a realist approach, to understand how they can support patients. The case studies will involve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <u>Longitudinal interviews with patients</u> about their experiences of social prescribing schemes, what worked and what didn't</li> <li>2) <u>Working with voluntary and community organisations</u> to understand how schemes are delivered, their experiences of delivering schemes, and identify any challenges in delivering the schemes</li> <li>3) <u>Interviews with Link Workers</u> to understand more about the referral process for patients</li> </ol> <p>A mapping exercise of social prescribing schemes nationally will also be carried out to understand how primary health care services are already using social prescribing schemes to support patients.</p>
Aim of project	The project will <i>evaluate</i> social prescribing programmes in terms of how they help patients to maintain their social engagement and manage their health and wellbeing. The project will find out what works/what doesn't work about social prescribing, and identify what the challenges are in delivering schemes. This evaluation will help people who plan and design health services in the future make sure that social prescribing is used in the best way to support patients and carers and that they get the best experience of care.

Involvement Opportunity	<p>We have already involved a public contributor in developing our project ideas. They have lived experience of managing long-term conditions.</p> <p>We would like to do some more work with members of the public to develop our ideas for the project.</p> <p>We want to have a discussion with 4-6 people from a range of backgrounds about what aspects of social prescribing are most important to them and whether the way we plan to do our research project is appropriate.</p>
How we will choose people	<p>We are looking for people from a range of backgrounds to be involved in this discussion. In particular, we will be hoping to involve some people who have first-hand experience of social prescribing schemes, as well as some people who haven't. We are interested in the views of both patients and carers.</p> <p>Dr Jenny Harlock (Senior Research Fellow, University of Warwick) and Dr Magdalena Skrybant (PPIE Lead, Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) West Midlands) will review responses from people who want to be involved and select people to ensure we have a balance of voices in the discussion.</p>
Commitment involved	<p>The discussion will take place on <b>20/11/2019</b> at the University of Warwick from <b>14:00 – 16:00</b> (2 hours). Light refreshments will be provided.</p> <p>The discussion will be facilitated by Dr Jenny Harlock and Dr Magdalena Skrybant.</p> <p>No preparation is required: we are interested in hearing your views about how social prescribing schemes can support people.</p> <p>If the project is successful, there will be opportunities for further involvement in the project.</p>
Expenses/Honoraria	<p>We will offer an honoraria of £40.00 to all people that attend. All reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed in full.</p>
Further information	<p>Please contact us to find out more about this opportunity.</p> <p>Name: Dr Jenny Harlock Telephone: 02476 574387 Email: <a href="mailto:jenny.harlock@warwick.ac.uk">jenny.harlock@warwick.ac.uk</a></p>

**If you are interested in this study, we look forward to hearing from you.**

### ***Statement on Diversity and Inclusion***

We adopt the [NIHR Statement on Diversity and Inclusion](#):

The promotion of diversity and inclusion is the responsibility of all members of our community. It is expected that we will all contribute to ensuring that INVOLVE continues to be a safe, welcoming and productive environment, where there is equality of opportunity, fostered in an environment of mutual respect and dignity.

The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance and respect. It means understanding that each individual is unique, recognising and appreciating our differences and commonalities.

We understand that simply having diversity in our work force is not enough; we must create an inclusive environment for all across the research system.

We value the uniqueness and talents, beliefs, backgrounds, capabilities and ways of working of all individuals, joined in a common endeavour, to create a culture of belonging.