Participant Information Sheet – Interview (available in large print, braille or translated if required)

Project Title: Living with the Impact of Intimate Partner Violence: A Cross-Case Analysis of the Experiences and Support Needs of Older Women.

Researcher: Margaret Conroy

I would like to invite you to take part in a research study. Before you decide you need to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve for you. Please take time to read the following information carefully.

What is the purpose of the study?

This study aims to look at the experiences of older women who have been in an abusive relationship with a partner alongside there being health and social care needs. It will also be looking closely at how the different professionals and voluntary agencies support older women in this situation.

Why have I been asked to participate?

You have been asked to consider participating as you have either lived in an abusive relationship or are still in an abusive relationship with a partner and we would like to hear your story.

Do I have to take part?

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary and you are under no obligation to participate. If you do not wish to participate, you do not have to give a reason as to why.

Can I withdraw from the study at any time?

You can withdraw from the study without having to give a reason, at any point before, during, and for up to one week after participation after which withdrawal will not be possible because the data will have been collected and analysis started.

What will taking part involve for me?

This part of the study would involve you participating in a one-off meeting with me for about an hour (or more if you would like more time). I would like you to tell me your story about what it

has been like living in a difficult/abusive relationship. The meeting can take place either at your home, if this is feasible and safe, or at another place that is convenient for you. Any transport costs will be re-imbursed and refreshments provided. The meeting will need to be audio-recorded so that I am able to listen carefully to your story.

The researcher would also like to access your health and social care records and to sit in and observe any meetings that may be scheduled in relation to your care and support. This is so that I am able to look at how you have been supported through the abuse. You can say no to either of these and still participate in the study. This information will all be anonymised.

The research will be written up into a final report, called a thesis and a summary of the findings may be presented at local events for older people, and/or published in journals used by a variety of interested professionals.

How will the information that I have given be protected and stored?

All information collected will be stored according to Lancaster University data protection guidelines. The researcher's supervisors will need to hold your initials and address details, for the duration of the interview only, after which they will be destroyed. This is part of Lancaster University's Lone Working Policy.

For further information about how Lancaster University processes personal data for research purposes and your data rights please visit one of the webpages below:
www.lancaster.ac.uk/research/data-protection.
www.hra.nhs.uk/patientdataandresearch

What happens to my research data after the study?

Researchers must make sure they write the reports about the study in a way that no-one can work out that you took part in the study.

Once they have finished the study, the research team will keep the research data for several years, in case they need to check it. You can ask about who will keep it, whether it includes your name, and how long they will keep it. Unlike some forms of data, your data will not be deposited into any other organisations databank as it is considered particularly sensitive, even though all personal identifiable data will have been removed.

The organisation running the research will only keep a coded copy of your research data, without your name included. This is kept so the results can be checked.

Any information that could show who you are will be held safely with strict limits on who can access it.

You may also have the choice for the hospital or researchers to keep your contact details and some of your health information, so they can invite you to take part in future clinical trials or other studies. Your data will not be used to sell you anything. It will not be given to other organisations or companies except for research.

Will the use of my data meet GDPR rules?

GDPR stands for the General Data Protection Regulation. In the UK we follow the GDPR rules and have a law called the Data Protection Act. All research using patient data must follow UK laws and rules.

Universities, NHS organisations and companies may use patient data to do research to make health and care better.

When companies do research to develop new treatments, they need to be able to prove that they need to use patient data for the research, and that they need to do the research to develop new treatments. In legal terms this means that they have a 'legitimate interest' in using patient data.

Universities and the NHS are funded from taxes and they are expected to do research as part of their job. They still need to be able to prove that they need to use patient data for the research. In legal terms this means that they use patient data as part of 'a task in the public interest'.

If they could do the research without using patient data they would not be allowed to get your data.

Researchers must show that their research takes account of the views of patients and ordinary members of the public. They must also show how they protect the privacy of the people who take part. An NHS research ethics committee checks this before the research starts.

If what is said in the interview makes me think that you, or someone else, is at significant risk of harm, I will have to break confidentiality and speak to my supervisors about this. The disclosure will need to be reported to the authorities as per the Adults Safeguarding Policy and you will be signposted to the appropriate support services.

Are there any risks?

There is the possibility that telling your story may initiate upsetting feelings for you. If this should this happen, I can pause the interview at any time or postpone the interview if necessary. There is a list of contact details attached where local, specialist support can be sought.
You also have the option of having a nominated support with you throughout the interview. This can be a family member, friend or supporting professional of your choosing.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

You may not derive any benefit from participating in this study. However, you may find it beneficial in some way as you have had an opportunity to reflect upon your experiences with someone independent of your support network.

Where can I obtain further information about the study if I need it?

If you have any questions about the study, please contact the main researcher in the first instance:

Margaret Conroy Email: m.conroy@lancaster.ac.uk

Or the r**esearcher's supervisors:**

Professor Corinne May-Chahal Email: c.may-chahal@lancaster.ac.uk

Dr Hannah Morgan Email: h.morgan@lancaster.ac.uk

Complaints:
If you wish to make a complaint or raise concerns about any aspect of this study and do not want to speak to the researcher, you can contact:

Professor Imogen Tyler - Email: i.tyler@lancaster.ac.uk
If you wish to speak to someone outside of the Doctorate Programme, you may also contact:

Professor Roger Pickup - Email r.pickup@lancaster.ac.uk

If you are not happy with their response or believe they are processing your data in a way that is not right or lawful, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) (www.ico.org.uk or 0303 123 1113).

This study has been reviewed and approved by the NHS Health Research Authority Ethics Committee. It is being sponsored by the University of Lancaster and being funded by the ESRC (Economic and Social Research Council).

Thank you for considering participating in this research.

Additional Support Needs for Participation

Participant No:

Delete as appropriate. If yes – please provide details.

(Note – If the interview takes place on a separate day to signing of the consent form, support needs will need to be reviewed again prior to the interview.)

- ❑ Assisted transport Y/N
- ❑ Sitter required Y/N
- ❑ Interpreter needed Y/N (If yes – which language?)
- ❑ Deaf - British sign language/English interpreter needed Y/N
- ❑ More time for the interview due to communication difficulties. Y/N

Participant No:

- ❑ Any other support needs?

- ❑ Personal source of support Y/N

  Name and contact details:

  Relationship:

- ❑ Would you like to receive a summary of the study findings? Y/N

  Format:

- ❑ Would you like to be notified of any presentations about the study. Y/N