

The Ethox Centre

Nuffield Department of Population Health

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RESEARCH PROJECT INVITATION LETTER UK Clinicians' Experiences with NIPT

Dear Prospective Participant,

I would like to invite you to take part in a research project exploring the experiences of healthcare professionals who offer and counsel women about non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT). I am a doctoral student from the Ethox Centre, University of Oxford. This study has received support from the Nuffield Department of Population Health and has been approved by the Central University Research Ethics Committee.

The aim of my study is to understand what healthcare professionals think about the offer of NIPT to pregnant women, the experiences of providing NIPT in practice, and what sorts of professional and/or ethical obligations clinicians think exist in the offer of NIPT. I am interested in capturing the personal experiences of professionals, like yourself, who work with NIPT in a clinical setting.

By exploring these kinds of practical issues and problems, the hope is that this study might influence public policy and clinical practice. It could lead to future decisions about how to modify policy or determine whether additional training for clinicians should be provided with regards to NIPT. Therefore, your thoughts or concerns may feed into policy debate and help to improve practice guidelines.

The study involves the use of standard social scientific methods. I will carry out in-depth, face-to-face interviews with healthcare professionals from private and public NHS clinics across the UK. Each interview will last about 30-45 minutes.

If you want to discuss the research, have any questions, or if you would be happy to participate in this study please contact me by phone: 07444 513832; or by email: peter.young@ethox.ox.ac.uk.

Thank you for taking the time to help with this request.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Peter Young
DPhil Candidate in Population Health