COVID-19 Infection Survey – STUDY SUMMARY

In this study, we are trying to find out how many people are still getting the coronavirus infection as people start going back to school and work. We also want to find out how many people might have had coronavirus in the past without realising it.

We hope that lots of people from about 150,000 homes all over the country will take part over a year. This is so we can see what happens to the virus over this time. The study is important because the information we get will help us and the government work out how to manage coronavirus better.

Why have I been asked to take part?

Someone in your home recently took part in a study run by the Office for National Statistics. When they finished that study, they agreed that they could be contacted about possibly taking part in future studies.

For this study, we are asking everyone in your home aged 2 years or older if they would like to take part. We are not just testing people who have signs of having the virus, like fever or cough, because we know that sometimes people can get the virus without symptoms.

Do I have to take part?

No, taking part in this study is entirely your choice. You are free to change your mind at any time. Everyone in your home can make a different choice to take part or not.

What will happen if I decide to take part?

A study worker will come to your home. They will chat to you and everyone else there to find out who is happy to join the study. They will show those who are 12 years or older how to take nose and throat swabs that we will test for the virus. The swab is a soft sponge on a stick and doesn't hurt. Parents or carers can help those not yet 12 years old do this. The study worker will ask you some short questions. [If invited for swab only – DELETE for blood] The study worker will not enter your home, and will stay at least 2m away from you at all times. [If invited for blood – DELETE for swab only] We would also like to take about a teaspoon of blood from anyone who is 16 years or older. You do not have to agree to this.

They will also ask you whether you would mind having more visits just like this one in the future. This is to see how the number of people still getting infected with coronavirus changes over the next few months. You could agree to

- A: no further visits
- B: further visits every week for one month (5 visits in total)
- C: further visits every week for one month, and then every month through the year after your first study visit (16 visits in total)

You do not have to agree to any more visits after the first one.

At the moment swab test results are being sent back to your GP, if you have one. We are setting up a system to text results directly to you, if you want us to. [If invited for blood – DELETE for swab only] The blood test we are using is very new and is in the process of being approved by regulatory authorities. Once it is approved we will send results back to you or your GP, just like the swab test results.

The results are already being shared so that everyone knows what we are finding (https://www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/results) – we aren't waiting until the end of the study for everyone to learn from it. None of this information identifies you or your family.

If you are interested, please read full details in the information sheet and call study contact.