

## Participant Information Sheet

**Project Title: Understanding Perceptions of Medical Students on Physician Associates (PAs) in Medical Education**

**Invitation Paragraph:** We would like to invite you to take part in my/our research project. All valid entrants will have their university emails added into a raffle for a £100 amazon voucher. Before you decide whether to participate, we would like you to understand why the research is being conducted and what it would involve for you. Talk to others about the study if you wish. Please ask me/us questions if anything is unclear. Questionnaire will be conducted on google forms. The deadline for questionnaire completion is 16/05/25.

**Purpose of the Project:** This research aims to explore medical students' perceptions of Physician Associates (PAs) in the medical education context. The study seeks to understand the familiarity with these terms, perceptions of their roles, and potential impacts on training opportunities.

**Why Have I Been Invited to Participate?** You are invited to participate based on your status as a medical student. We aim to gather insights from a diverse group of medical students to understand varying perspectives. The number of participants in the project will depend on the response rate.

**Do I Have to Take Part?** Participation in this research is entirely voluntary. It is up to you to decide whether you wish to participate. We will describe the study, go through this information sheet with you, and answer any questions you might have. You are free to request to withdraw at any time without providing a reason. To Withdraw please contact [james.flynn2@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:james.flynn2@wales.nhs.uk) and your data will be removed from the study. However please be aware that after the conclusion of the data-gathering period and raffle, all identifiable data will be destroyed and as such it will not be possible to withdraw data from anonymised results.

**What Will Happen to Me If I Take Part and What Will I Have to Do?** You will be asked to complete a questionnaire regarding your familiarity and perceptions of PAs in the medical field. The process is expected to take approximately 5 minutes. By participating, your university email will be added into a raffle for a £100 amazon voucher, this will be conducted by allocating every email a number and using a random number generator to provide a winning number within the allocated number range. This will be conducted upon the end of the data collection period, within the dates of 16/01/25 to 16/05/25, the winning participant will be emailed the result alongside with the £100 amazon voucher. Your participation may contribute to a deeper understanding of medical students' perspectives on these roles.

**Possible Disadvantages and Risks:** There are no anticipated risks associated with participating in this study. It involves completing a questionnaire, and efforts will be made to ensure the process is comfortable for participants.

**Possible Benefits of Taking Part:** Participation may contribute to the advancement of knowledge in medical education. The insights gained may benefit the medical education community. Individual benefits are the potential to win a £100 amazon voucher into which participants will be entered into.

**Confidentiality:** All information collected will be kept strictly confidential. Data will be anonymized and stored securely on NHS wales file store. Identifiable data will be stored on a password-protected folder and destroyed after the completion of the research project and raffle. Anonymized data will be maintained to allow post-publication scrutiny.

**Results of the Research Project:** Results will be analysed and formatted with the intention to publish the findings. Participants will not be identified in any report or publication without their explicit consent.

**Organizing and Funding:** This research is organized by James Flynn as part of a medical research project. There is no funding incentive behind it.

**Ethical Review:** This study is being supervised by Rob Flather, CTF, additionally it has been reviewed by the Faculty of Health Sciences Research Ethics Committee alongside Health and Care Research Wales to ensure ethical considerations are met.

**Contact Information:** If you have further questions, please contact James Flynn at james.flynn2@wales.nhs.uk.

**Questionnaire Link:**

<https://forms.gle/87A1bJhjfAos2q6r8>