

Plain Language Statement

**Title of research project:** Clinical Psychologists’ Views of Telephone-Based Therapies for Children and Adolescents during COVID-19

**Researcher**: Silviya Kovacheva

**Supervisor**: Dr Nicola Scott

**Course**: Psychological Studies (MSc)

You are being invited to take part in a research project.

Before you decide to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the information on this page carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like further information. You will find the contact details at the end of this sheet. We encourage you to take time to decide whether or not you would like to take part in this study.

We hope that this sheet will answer any questions you have about the research. We appreciate you taking the time to familiarise yourself with the study and consider the option of participating in it. Thank you for reading this.

**1. What is the purpose of the study?**

The purpose of this study is to learn about clinicians’ views of delivering telephone-based therapies to children and adolescents during the COVID-19 pandemic. To understand these views, we would like to interview practitioners who currently partake or have partaken in this practice. We are interested in learning more about 1) the impact of COVID-19 on transitioning from face-to-face therapies to telephone-based therapies on both patients and clinicians, 2) advantages and disadvantages associated with this mode of therapy delivery, 3) potential tools that could support the delivery of telephone-based therapies in the future, and 4) areas for improvement the NHS and private mental health clinics could enhance to better support clinicians.

**2. Why have I been chosen?**

You are being asked to take part because the participants we would like to recruit are chartered clinical psychologists working with children and adolescents.

**3. Do I have to take part?**

You do not have to take part in this study. We are keen to support you in your decision and provide guidance if necessary. If upon reading this information sheet you still have questions, we encourage you to reach out to us via the contact details stated at the end of the sheet. If after you have started to take part you change your mind, please let me know and we will not use any information you have provided as part of the dissertation. You are welcome to contact me on the email provided at the end of this sheet should you wish to withdraw your information at any stage during and after the interview.

**4. What will happen to me if I take part?**

We sincerely hope that you will find taking part in this research a worthwhile activity that will provide an opportunity for you to reflect on your experiences. We consider your views extremely valuable. If you would like to take part, you will be asked to sign a consent form. You are free to withdraw from this study at any time up until the analysis has begun, even if you have signed the consent form. We will ensure your own welfare and comfort throughout the video-interview using Zoom, which is GDPR compliant. You are free to end the interview at any time and you will be able to take breaks as necessary. You are also free to stop the interview at any point without giving any reason why. The interview will take approximately 45 to 60 minutes. The interview on Zoom will be recorded and securely stored on the university’s OneDrive. This will allow for the subsequent type-up of the transcripts.

The study will use interviews to accumulate an understanding of the topic area. The interview will use broad and open-ended questions that will aim to reflect your own personal experiences and views.

**5. Will the information that I give you in this study be kept confidential?**

We will keep all the data we collect about each participant in a locked file that is password-protected on my computer. No personal information about you will be revealed as part of this research. In the write-up of the dissertation, your identity will not be mentioned. Instead, a pseudonym will be used to remove specific inferences. All personal data will be destroyed on 13th August 2021 when the dissertation is submitted.

However, it must be noted that due to the small sample size, confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. Nevertheless, it is our highest priority to ensure we vigorously protect your identity throughout the whole project. To do this, the following steps will be employed to maintain your confidentiality:

* Changing your name, the name of other people, places or organisations you mention during the interview;
* All transcribed interviews will be securely stored for up to ten years in a secure repository and will be made accessible to future researchers only or used in future publications that comply with protecting your personal information;
* All personal data will be destroyed after the project is completed, all paper formats will be shredded and discarded and all electronic files will be deleted using a secure data eraser.

**6. What will happen to the results of this study**

We will analyse the data we collect from participants and present this in the dissertation as part of the Psychological Studies (MSc) course. All participants will receive a written summary of the findings and we will also present the information to colleagues. You may request a copy of the dissertation as well. Once the dissertation grade is released, we will destroy all personal identifiable data at the end of the project. Findings for this study may also be published in an academic journal or presented at a conference. Anonymised data may also be shared or archived to be used in another study.

**7. Who has reviewed the study?**

This study has been reviewed and agreed by the School of Education Ethics Forum, University of Glasgow.

**8. Who can I contact for further Information?**

If you have any questions regarding this study, please contact:

 Silviya Kovacheva at 2608748K@student.glasgow.ac.uk ,

Dr Nicola Scott at Nicola.scott.2@glasgow.ac.uk

or the Ethics officer for the School of Education, Dr Barbara Read at Barbara.read@glasgow.ac.uk

Thank you for reading this.

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