

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

--Health and Social Care and Community Organisations--

Key information about this research:

Research study name: Supporting help-seeking in farmers to prevent self-harm and suicide: a multi-method study.

Chief Investigator: Professor Carolyn Chew-Graham.

Research is funded by: National Institute for Health and care Research

Research contact details: Email: t.e.fisher1@Keele.ac.uk Telephone: 01782 731794

Document reading time: approximately 15 minutes

REC Reference Number: 1026

We invite you to consider taking part in our research: **The FARM-SP Study**. This research is led by Keele University and conducted in collaboration with University of Birmingham and the London School of Economics. Participation is voluntary. Before you decide whether to take part or not, please read this information sheet to find out what this research is about, what taking part involves, and how we will use your data.

If you have any questions about this research or would like to take part, please contact a member of our research team by email (t.e.fisher1@Keele.ac.uk) or telephone 01782 731 794.

What is the FARM-SP study about?

We want to know about stress, distress, anxiety and depression among those working in the farming community. We also want to know about mental health help-seeking in these occupations, but also any barriers or reasons why farmers may seek mental health-support. Current research evidence is lacking about this potentially important area of mental healthcare for people with within farming occupations. As a part of this research, we would like to interview a broad range of people that work Healthcare settings [including vets] (i.e. veterinarians and veterinary practice staff, social care practitioners, and community organisations who work with people with lived experience of self-harm and suicide) to better understand their perspectives of mental health, self-harm, suicide and help-seeking in farming communities.

As part of this research, we are also interviewing people who work in farming communities as well as those who are leaders in suicide and mental health research and policy to understand their perspectives on mental health and help-seeking in farming communities. As well as attend farming events to observe how these communities work together to better support mental health for farmers. Together, these interviews will us to plan the next steps of our research to design further opportunities for support and intervention.

Why have you been invited?

You have received this information because you have been identified as working healthcare setting (including veterinary care), or are working with farming communities within the UK.

Do you have to take part?

No, taking part in this research is entirely voluntary. It is up to you to decide if you want to participate in this research. If you have any questions about this research, please contact a member of our research team to discuss these: t.e.fisher1@Keele.ac.uk. Or ring a member of the team on 01782 731794.

How do you take part?

If you would like to take part, please contact a member of the research team (details below) and they will answer any questions you may have and arrange a time for an interview to take place.

What will happen to you during the interview?

We anticipate that interviews will take place online via Microsoft Teams – you will not need a Microsoft account to access Microsoft Teams. Equivalent online calling providers will be considered for ease of access (e.g. Zoom, Google Meets). Alternatively, we can conduct interviews over the telephone.

Ahead of the interview, you will be asked to complete a consent form. At the start of the interview, the trained researcher will ask for some information about you such as age, sex, ethnicity, your role, and where in the UK this is located. You will then be asked about your work, your understanding of self-harm and suicide within farming communities, and how this may relate to your current practice but also any current barriers or opportunities for mental health support in these communities. With your permission, we would like to record your interview for transcription purposes. The original recording will be deleted once the interview transcript has been checked for accuracy. All information that you provide will be kept confidential. We may report information that you provide in our research outputs (e.g. publications, website materials), but not to the extent that you will be identifiable.

The interview is expected to last approximately 45 minutes.

What will happen if you want to stop participating in this research?

You can stop taking part at any time, without giving a reason. Please inform the researcher and they will stop the interview to talk to you about your decision. Refer to the section on 'How will information about you be used?'.

What are the possible disadvantages / advantages to taking part?

We do not anticipate there being any disadvantages to taking part. However, some of the topics we discuss may be distressing. We appreciate that you may need to take time out of your day to participate. In recognition of this, you will be offered with a £25 e-voucher after the interview has been completed. Hearing your experiences and views on this topic will provide valuable insight that will help inform our research now and in the future.

How will information about you be used?

All data collected as part of this research will be managed in accordance with relevant UK Data Protection Law and in-line with Keele University standard operating procedures. We will need to use your data to complete this research study, this includes: your name, age, sex, employment role, contact details and any personal opinions that you share about the research topic. Access to your contact details will be restricted to only those team members with responsibility for arranging your interview. All data will be held by the research sponsor (Keele University). The sponsor may conduct an audit of the research files to make sure that the research is being conducted in line with policy and procedures.

The recording of your interview (an electronic audio file) will be transferred securely to an external company (The Transcription Company Ltd) to be transcribed. This company has a confidentiality agreement in place with Keele University to ensure your information is kept confidential. The transcript of your interview will be 'cleaned' prior to storage to remove personally identifiable information, such as, your name, age, place of work, names of colleagues. The transcript will then be stored electronically on a secure network with a unique code number instead of your name. The cleaned version will be shared with the wider research team, which involves researchers from universities of Birmingham, and University College London.

Research data will be retained for a minimum of 10 years. When it is no longer required, the data will be disposed of securely (e.g. electronic media and paper records / images) destroyed. Any outputs (e.g. reports, papers) produced using data that you have provided will be reported in such a way so as protect your identity from others.

What are your choices about how your information is used?

After completing your interview, you will have up to 2 weeks to request to withdraw yourself and your data from the research. Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. We will always have in place appropriate safeguards to protect your personal data. If you agree to take part in this study, you will have the option for your data to be used in future research – this data will not include information that makes you identifiable.

Where can you find out more about how your information is used?

You can find out more about how we use your information:

- Read our leaflet available from our website:
<https://www.keele.ac.uk/privacynotices/privacynotice-researchparticipants/>
- Ask a member of the research team
 - By sending an email to t.e.fisher1@keele.ac.uk or
 - By ringing us on [01782 731794].
- Alternatively, contact the University's Data Protection Officer at dpo@keele.ac.uk.

What if there is a problem?

If you have a query, concern or complaint about any aspect of this study, you should contact the research team in the first instance. Alternatively, you may wish to speak to someone outside of the research team.

To speak to the research study co-lead:

Professor Carolyn Chew-Graham
Chief Investigator for FARM SP study
School of Medicine
Keele University
Staffordshire
c.a.chew-graham@keele.ac.uk

For complaints or to speak someone outside of the research team:

Head of Project Assurance
Directorate of Engagement and Partnerships
IC2 Building
Keele University, ST5 5NH
research.governance@keele.ac.uk

If you have any questions or concerns about taking part in research, you can also contact the NHS England Customer Contact Centre on Tel: 0300 3112233 or email: england.contactus@nhs.net.

Who is funding the research?

This research is being funded by the National Institute for Health Research School for Primary Care Research (Grant reference MH079).

Has this research been reviewed?

This research has been reviewed by an independent panel of experts during the funding application process. This study has since been given favourable ethical opinion by the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Research Ethics Committee at Keele University (Reference: 1026)

Will findings from this research be made available to you?

Yes. A summary of findings will be made publicly available on our website as soon as this is practically possible.

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/health/fmhsresearchthemes/mentalhealthandwellbeing/farm-sp/>

Thank you for taking the time to read this FARM-SP participant information sheet. If you have any questions about this research, or would like to take part, please contact the research team Email: [t.e.fisher1 @Keele.ac.uk](mailto:t.e.fisher1@keele.ac.uk) Telephone: 01782 731794

Name and Contact Details of Researcher(s):

Principal Investigator: Professor Carolyn Chew-Graham

Professor of General Practice Research

School of Medicine

Keele University, ST5 5BG

c.a.chew-graham@keele.ac.uk

Tel: 01782 734 717

Chief Investigator: Dr Tamsin Fisher

Research Associate

School of Medicine

Keele University, ST5 5BG

t.e.fisher1@keele.ac.uk

01782 731794

REC Reference Number: 1026