

Participant Information Leaflet

We invite you to take part in an online survey as part of a research study to determine the most important research questions on how we plan, do and share the results of rapid reviews. Before you decide if you would like to take part, it is important to understand why this research is being done and what it would involve for you. This Participant Information Leaflet will explain the aim and purpose of the research, what taking part will involve, the voluntary nature of the study and the right to withdraw at any time. Please take the time to read this information carefully and feel free to contact the research team if you have any questions. Contact details are included towards the end of this Participant Information Leaflet.

Title of study;

Priority III- A Rapid Review Priority Setting Partnership

Aim and purpose of this research;

The overall aim of this research study is to determine the most important research questions on how on how we bring together and summarise information from lots of different research studies, using an approach called a 'rapid review'.

A **rapid review** is a type of evidence synthesis that brings together and summarises information from lots of different research studies to produce evidence for people such as the public, researchers, policy makers and funders in a systematic, resource-efficient manner. This is done by speeding up the ways we plan, do and/or share the results of conventional structured (systematic) reviews, by simplifying or omitting a variety of methods that should be clearly defined by the authors.

- Evidence synthesis uses specific, rigorous methods to bring together information from multiple studies that have looked at the same topic and provide an account of all that is known about the topic.
- A systematic review is a type of evidence synthesis that brings together information from multiple studies to help answer a clear question. It uses systematic and specific methods to identify, select and quality assess included studies, followed by the collection and analysis of information. Statistical methods (meta-analysis) may or may not be used to analyse and summarise the results of the included studies.

We would like to improve how *rapid reviews* are done. To do so, we need to determine where the current gaps in our knowledge about rapid reviews are, and what are the most important questions to be answered about how they are done. The rapid reviews that we refer to in this study are done in relation to healthcare.

In the context of this project we define **healthcare** in general terms as being related to the treatment, control or prevention of disease, illness, injury or disability, and the care or aftercare of a person with these needs (whether or not the tasks involved have to be carried out by a health professional.

We are looking to recruit patient and public representatives, reviewers, researchers, clinicians, policymakers and funders who are willing to share their views with us.

Are there any benefits or risks to me taking part?

The views and opinions that you provide through the online survey will be used to improve how we do rapid reviews. This, in turn, will help inform better health care decisions. There are no risks to taking part.

How do I know if I am eligible?

You are eligible to take part in this online survey if you are over 18 years of age and are one of the following stakeholder groups; patient and public representatives, reviewers, researchers, clinicians, policymakers and funders who are, or have been involved directly in, or stand to benefit from, the design, conduct and reporting of evidence syntheses, systematic reviews or rapid reviews. Due to the unavailability of translation services, you must also have a competent level of fluency in English to take part in the study.

What does taking part involve?

Participation will involve taking part in an online survey. We will provide you with four open-ended questions related to how we plan, do and share the results of rapid reviews. We will ask you to answer as many or as few questions as you like.

All answers will be treated confidentially.

If you would prefer to give us your answers on paper, please contact us using the details provided at the end of the Participant Information Leaflet, and we will send you a paper copy of the survey.

By taking part in this survey, you are agreeing to allow us to anonymously publish the research ideas that you help us to identify. Anonymised means that your personal information will be removed, and it will not be possible to link you as an individual to any of the ideas generated.

Voluntary participation

Participation is entirely voluntary, and you have the right to withdraw from the study at any time. If you decide not to participate in this study, or if you withdraw, there will be no negative consequences, and you will not be expected to give any reason for your decision.

Confidentiality

Your identity will remain confidential. All data from the survey will be stored securely in the National University of Ireland, Galway under the stewardship of the research team and destroyed after 7 years as per GDPR and the National University of Ireland, Galway policies and procedures.

What will happen to the findings of this study?

Once this survey has closed, we will be asking some participants to help us to put the information submitted in the survey into an order of importance. This is done in a second survey which will take about 10-15 mins to complete. You can get involved in this part of the process if you wish by providing your email address in the registration page of this survey. The result will be a Top 10 list of priorities for future research into the way people plan, do and share rapid reviews. These results will also be submitted to peer-reviewed research journals for publication.

Compensation

This study is covered by standard institutional indemnity insurance. Nothing in this document restricts or curtails your rights.

Funding

This study has been funded by the Health Research Board (HRB) and the Health and Social Care, Research and Development (HSC R&D) Division of the Public Health Agency (PHA) of Northern Ireland, within Evidence Synthesis Ireland.

Has this study received ethical approval?

Yes, this study has received approval from the following research ethics committee;

National University of Ireland, Galway Research Ethics Committee Research Office Room 212 Research and Innovation Centre NUI Galway

Tel: 353 91 495312

Is there someone available to answer any questions that I may have about taking part?

Yes. You can get more information about the study, your participation in the study and your rights by contacting the research team. Contact details are as follows;

E-mail: claire.beecher@nuigalway.ie

Thank you for taking the time to read this information. We hope you will consider taking part. The survey is now open, and it will close on Wednesday, 4th November 2020.





