**Title of Study: Exploration of personality traits, camouflaging and suicidality within women diagnosed with anxiety.**

**Invitation and Brief Summary**

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide whether or not you wish to take part it is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please read this information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part. If you do decide to take part, you will be asked to sign a consent form. However, you are free to withdraw at any time, without giving any reason and without any penalty or loss of benefits.

**What is the purpose of the research?**

This research study is being undertaken as part of the requirements of completion of the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology at Newcastle University. The research hopes to learn more about women with a diagnosis of an anxiety disorder. In addition, the study hopes to learn more about factors that may contribute to suicidal ideation in this population.

**What does taking part involve?**

In addition to questionnaires already completed in the first phase, the second phase would involve a virtual interview with the Principal Investigator for up to 1 hour, at a mutually convenient time. You will be asked questions that further explore your questionnaire responses and your experiences. Questionnaire data will be linked through your unique identifier code provided in the first phase of this study. If you provide your details this does not guarantee you will be contacted for the second phase as this will be a limited group of around 10 participants. Therefore, if you do not get contacted by the end of July 2022 your involvement in the study will have ended upon completion of the first phase of the study.

**What information will be collected and who will have access to the information collected?**

To opt-in for this study phase, you would need to enter your name and email address that allows the research team to contact you. This would be linked to your data from the first study phase using your unique identifier code if you are contacted to take part, however during analysis and write-up you will be anonymised through a pseudonym. Only the research team will have access to your name and email address, and this will be for the purpose of contacting you to arrange an interview. In the event that you are not contacted, your identifiable data will be destroyed, and your anonymous data collected in the first phase will remain unless you request this to be removed through use of your unique identifier code.

The interview will ask questions that explores suicidal thoughts. This information will be anonymised by the research team during analysis and write-up, however if information is shared that is of concern to the interviewer confidentiality may need to be breached to maintain your safety. This would be discussed with you by the interviewer.

Anonymised quotes would be available to readers of the research paper upon completion of the study write-up.

Virtual interviews will be recorded and transcribed, this data will be kept on encrypted and secured devices in line with GDPR. Data will be kept for no more than 5 years after the submission of the research paper.

Individuals at Newcastle University may look at your research data to check the accuracy of the research study.

**Why have I been invited to take part?**

You will have completed the first phase of the study and have expressed interest in taking part in an interview to supplement the questionnaires completed. Expressing your interest does not guarantee invitation to participate in the second phase due to the small sample required.

**What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

You will receive a £10 e-voucher as compensation for your time.

**What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?**

Discussions surrounding mental health and suicide may be distressing.

**What procedures are in place if injury were to occur?**

You will be invited to take part in a positive mood activity and signposted to supportive resources once you have completed the study, or if you choose to stop the interview for any reason. If information is shared with the interviewer that suggests current risk to self or others, the interviewer will stop the interview and conduct a risk assessment with you. This is to ensure your safety. The interviewer may then signpost you to support which you can access. However, if there is imminent risk to self or others identified, the interviewer may need to breach confidentiality, for example to telephone 111, police or crisis services.

**Who is the sponsor and data controller for this research?**

Newcastle University is the sponsor for this study based in the United Kingdom. Newcastle University will be using information from you in order to undertake this study and will act as the data controller for this study. This means that Newcastle University is responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

The lawful basis for carrying out this study under GDPR is Task in the Public Interest, (Article 6,1e) as research is cited as part of the University’s duties.

As stated above, data can be removed upon expression of wish to withdraw through use of your unique identifier code which you will be prompted to generate.

You can find out more about how Newcastle University uses your information by contacting their Data Protection Officer [rec-man@ncl.ac.uk].

**Who is funding this research?**

The research is funded by Newcastle University.

**Has this study received ethical approval?**

This study has received ethical approval from Newcastle University's Ethics Committee (16956/2021).

**Who should I contact for further information relating to the research?**

Principal Investigator: Victoria Walker, [v.walker2@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:v.walker2@newcastle.ac.uk)

**Who should I contact in order to file a complaint?**

Principal Investigator: Victoria Walker, [v.walker2@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:v.walker2@newcastle.ac.uk)

Research Supervisor: Dr Fiona Gullon-Scott, [Fiona.gullon-scott@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:Fiona.gullon-scott@newcastle.ac.uk)

If you wish to raise a complaint on how your personal data is handled, you can contact the Data Protection Officer who will investigate the matter: [rec-man@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:rec-man@ncl.ac.uk)

If you are not satisfied with their response you can complain to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO): <https://ico.org.uk/>