**Title of Study: Exploration of personality traits 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.

**What does taking part involve?**

Taking part in the first phase of the study will involve answering a series of questionnaires that will ask you about anxiety and other experiences, including statements that could be associated with suicidal thoughts. This should only take around 30 minutes. Each questionnaire will have its own instructions on how to respond.

At the end of the questionnaires, you will be invited to leave your name and email address if you wish to give consent to be contacted for the second phase of the study, which would involve a virtual interview with the researcher. This is entirely optional. There will be a further information sheet for the second phase should you be interested in taking part in it.

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

Demographic information such as your sex, sexuality, gender identity, age, race and ethnicity will be collected. You will also be asked to provide your anxiety diagnosis. No personally identifiable information will be collected. Individual-level data will only be accessed by the research team, with data grouped for write-up of the project which would then be viewable outside of the research team, such as proportions of responses for particular items and summaries of data.

The questionnaires will ask about your experiences of anxiety, and of statements that could be associated with suicidal thoughts. Answers provided will not be personally identifiable and accessed only by the research team in the same way as demographic data.

Information gathered from the study will be stored on encrypted drives and devices in line with GDPR.

You will be prompted to generate a unique identifier code upon completion of the study, which if in the case of you wishing to withdraw your data, you can provide this code to the researcher for your data to be removed.

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

You have been invited to take part because you identify as a woman and have had a diagnosis of an anxiety disorder.

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

There are no direct benefits of taking part to potential participants, but participation may benefit others in the future, as a consequence of discovery through research.

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

The study will ask you to consider statements that are associated with mental health and suicidality. This could cause you distress.

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

The research team do not envisage any physical injury to occur as a result of taking part. If you are to experience distress as a result of taking part, you can leave the study at any point through the highlighted link within the questionnaires. This will provide you an option to take part in a positive mood activity should you wish and provide signposting to resources and services that can support you should you require it.

**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 XX Committee on XX/XX/XXXX.

**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/>