

Subject Information Sheet

Blood Pressure Recording

You have been asked to take part in a research project. Before you decide to take part you will want to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take your time to read the following information. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like further information. Your participation is entirely voluntary and you may withdraw your consent at any time without an explanation.

What is the purpose of the study?

The purpose of this research is to make a recording of the measurement of your blood pressure. We will use this recording to produce a device for testing the accuracy of automatic blood pressure measurement devices.

What will be involved if I agree to take part in the study?

If you agree to take part in the study we will ask you to sign a consent form after you have read this information sheet.

Your blood pressure will be measured the way it normally is when you visit your GP or hospital clinic. A blood pressure cuff will be placed around your arm. This will be inflated and a stethoscope will be used so the doctor or nurse can listen to the flow of your blood as the cuff is slowly deflated. Your blood pressure will be noted by two separate staff using one stethoscope with two sets of ear pieces. Also, a computer will be connected to the sphygmomanometer to record the air pressure in the cuff and the sounds your blood makes as it pumps through your artery. The measurement will be repeated with a short pause between each recording.

If there is time in the clinic and you are willing, we would also like to record your ECG by placing 3 standard electrodes on your arms and record your pulse by placing a sensor in contact with one of your fingers.

What are the benefits and the risks?

More accurate automated measurement of blood pressure would help greatly in the treatment of patients with high blood pressure.

There are no known risks. It is a standard non-invasive technique.

Confidentiality

Your recordings will be stored by a study registration number only. All the information will be kept strictly confidential.

Do I have to take part?

No. Participation is entirely voluntary. It is your choice to participate and your doctor will not be critical of your decision.

Indemnity

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Trust is responsible for the indemnity.

Contact person

If any problems arise at any stage in your participation in the study, you are able to contact:

Miss Susan King, Medical Physics Department tel: (0191) 233 6161 ext 26668

or

Prof. Alan Murray, Medical Physics Department tel: (0191) 233 6161 ext 26808