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**Centre for Oral Health Research**

School of Dental Sciences

Framlington Place

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE2 4BW

[date]

Dear Care Home Resident,

I am writing to invite you to participate in a research study at Newcastle University. We are looking to recruit a number of a number of dentists, care home residents and family members of older people living in care homes from the North East of England. The research would involve you being interviewed and your views recorded. We hope that this research will improve our understanding dentistry for older people living in care and lead to future improvements in the services provided.

We expect the interview will take approximately 1 hour of your time. We will arrange the interview at a time and location that is convenient to you. At the end of the study, you will also be invited to attend a workshop lasting 1 day.

On the back of this letter I have included key information about this research study. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact me at the address above, by telephone on 0191 2227471 or by tearing off the slip below and asking the care home to return it to me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Wishes

***Dr Rebecca Wassall***

***Clinical Lecturer / StR in Special Care Dentistry***

**More information about the research study and what will happen if you take part:**

**What is the purpose of the study?**

Managing dental disease in older people living in care homes can be very challenging. This research is needed to enhance future dental services for this group of people.

**Why have I been invited?**

We are looking to recruit a wide range older people living in care homes. We are interested to understand your views and experiences.

**Do I have to take part?**

It is up to you to decide to join the study. I am happy to give you more information to help you decide.

**What is the commitment if I take part?**

You will be interviewed for about one hour by the researcher (Dr Rebecca Wassall). At the end of the study, you will also be invited to attend a workshop lasting 1 day.

**Expenses and payments:**

I am happy to interview you at a time and location that is convenient for you. I can reimburse your travel expenses on the production of a receipt.

**What will I need to do?**

If you agree to participate you will be asked to sign a consent form. The interview will take place over one hour. You will be encouraged to talk about views and experiences of dental care for the older people living in care homes. I will occasionally ask specific questions.

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

Apart from the knowing that you have been part of the research there would be no other direct benefit to yourself. However, your views are important. Research is needed to enhance future dental services for older people living in care homes.

**Will my participation in the study be kept confidential?**

Yes. All the data from your participation in this study will be kept confidential.

Everything you say is confidential unless you tell us something that indicates you or someone else is at risk of harm. We would discuss this with you before telling anyone else