

Improving the maternity care for pregnant women and people with a higher weight*



Would you consider being part of the Research Collective for this research project?

What is this study about?

This study is being set up to find ways improve and enhance care of higher weight women and people who access UK maternity care. My name is Jenny Cunningham, I'm PhD student and a midwife, and this study is part of a PhD qualification I am undertaking at Kingston University. I know from previous research that women with a higher weight experience stigma during maternity care. I would like to find ways to improve experiences of maternity care for women and pregnant people of higher weight.

What is the role of the Research Collective?

I am using an approach called Critical Participatory Action Research (CPAR). This involves forming a group which I am calling a 'Research Collective'. I want to form this group as I know that those affected by research are best placed to design and deliver it.

For this study, the collective will be made up of people with a higher weight who have used maternity services and they will guide and develop the design and running of the study. No prior research knowledge or experience are necessary.

I hope to include the views of a diverse range of people in this study which will mean that the study can be designed to make the biggest possible impact in improving care for women.

The Research Collective members will not be interviewed for the study but will help to decide how the study is conducted.

How much time will this involve?

The Research Collective will meet 6 times during the life of the project, which will last about 2 years and 3 months. The meetings will be via an online platform as members of the collective may live across the UK and it will be difficult to meet in on place.

Members of the collective can decide themselves how much they want to be involved in the study.

*Raised Body Mass Index = ≥ 30 kg/m²

Will there be any payment?

There will be a £20 shopping voucher as a thank you for attending your first two meetings. I will apply for funding for future meetings and hope to be able to provide vouchers for every meeting you attend.

Thank you for reading this information sheet. Please get in touch if you want to be involved.

You can contact me via email, Twitter or Instagram:



Jenny Cunningham

<https://tinyurl.com/2p84y6d7>

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My Kingston University supervisor is Dr Melania Calestani. You are also welcome to contact her instead on M.Calestani@kingston.ac.uk