



## ***Venous Leg Ulcers Focus Groups***

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We are currently developing a new research study that is looking at the best ways to treat venous leg ulcers. To do this we are interested in the opinions of venous leg ulcer patients their friends and families on our proposed research. We plan to run 3-5 online focus groups (via Microsoft Teams) so that we can understand your views. For those who do not have access to the internet we will be running a different process. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Layla or Fran (contact details at the end of this information sheet).

Please find more details of what is involved below.

### ***Who are we looking for?***

Any members of the public who either currently has or have previously been treated for venous leg ulcers along with their friends and family.

### ***What is a venous leg ulcer?***

A venous leg ulcer is a longstanding wound on the leg or foot. These ulcers may either not heal or take a long time to heal and are usually caused by your leg veins not working very well.

### ***What is the point of the focus groups?***

We are currently developing a new research study which we hope will improve the treatment of venous leg ulcers. However, to ensure that this research is as good as it could be we need your help to ensure that the research is as beneficial as possible for patients.

During each focus group we will discuss the proposed research and the groups views on it. As research that reflects the needs and views of the patients and the public are more likely to produce results that can be used to improve health and social care.

### ***Who are the researchers?***

There are over 30 researchers involved in this research project from across the country. The research team is led by Professor Alun Davies & Miss Sarah Onida, both Vascular surgeons with an interest in venous leg ulcers who are based at Imperial College. The facilitation of the focus groups will be co-ordinated by Dr Tom Withers, an expert in patient involvement in research, based at the University of Birmingham.

### ***What is the time commitment?***

Each focus group will last 2-3 hours and there will be a total of 3-5 focus groups. Ideally it would be great if you were able to attend all of them. However, if you are only able to attend one or some that would be great to.

*How to get involved and questions*

If you would like to get involved or have any questions please contact Layla Bolton, [l.bolton-saghaoui@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:l.bolton-saghaoui@imperial.ac.uk) (0203 3117335) or Fran Heatley [f.heatley@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:f.heatley@imperial.ac.uk) (07960856923)

*Many thanks for contributing to the development of this research we really do appreciate your involvement to help us improve the quality of the study!*

***THANK YOU***