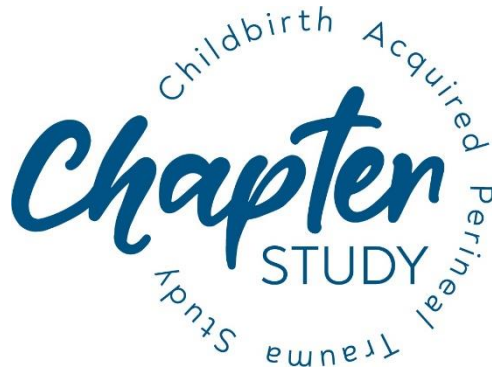


Do you have lived experience of an episiotomy or perineal tear during childbirth within the last 5 years?



The Chapter Study at the University of Birmingham is bringing together women, the public, doctors and academics to improve the care of women following childbirth related perineal trauma (CRPT)

We are recruiting – join our project Public Advisory Group

We are looking for people who have experienced CRPT themselves, or are the partners of someone who has had CRPT, to join the Public Advisory Group (PAG) of the Chapter Study. The PAG will meet 4 times a year. Ideally the first introductory meeting will be face to face and will take place in the spring of 2022 in Birmingham. After that meetings are likely to be via zoom or a mix of zoom and in person.

If you cannot take part in the PAG you might be interested in being part of a focus group, and you can contact us about this on the same contact details below.

Training and support will be given to members of the PAG and expenses will be covered. Women attending a focus group or telephone interview will receive vouchers.

For more information contact the Chapter Study Project Manager-
Rita Perry, Chapter@contacts.bham.ac.uk / 0121 415 9106

Opportunity to be involved in research

What is public involvement in research?

Public involvement in research is research done ‘with’ or ‘by’ members of the public rather than ‘to’, ‘about’ or ‘for’ them (NIHR).


Opportunity for involvement

We are inviting you to consider your involvement in a project about how to improve the care of women following childbirth related perineal trauma.

Further information about the opportunity is provided below. If you would like to be involved, please contact Rita Perry.

Study title	Childbirth acquired perineal trauma study – “The Chapter Study”
Opportunity for Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We want to recruit 8-12 members of the public to join our team. The people we recruit will form our Public Advisory Group (PAG). • Our Public Advisory Group will be invited to contribute to all stages of our research project. This will include attending meetings to help design the project and providing feedback on a range of materials, e.g. the content of information sheets about the project. • There will be additional opportunities for some members of the group to represent the Public Advisory Group on the Chapter Study Working Groups, Project Management Group and the Programme Steering Committee. • The project will last 4 years. • We are also looking for people to join focus groups later in the study
Aim of involvement	<p>We want to work in partnership with women who have lived experience of childbirth related perineal trauma (CRPT), and other people involved in their care, so that the management of CRPT can be improved. Members of the public who join the PAG will ensure the needs and priorities of women who experience CRPT are central to all decisions and that the study is designed in ways that are acceptable to women from both ethically and practically.</p> <p>The Chapter Study is made up for 4 different ‘work packages’ and the Public Advisory Group will be involved throughout the research in a number of different ways -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping to ensure the research methods are acceptable to women participating in the study, e.g. helping to review and develop project documentation so that women feel supported and comfortable and confident to make contributions to our research

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be involved in workshops with women to draw out their experience of CRPT to help guide us in the use of tools, future care pathways and future research • Help to evaluate our findings, e.g. by highlighting the findings that resonate with them which will inform the development of assessment tools and care pathways • Help to explore ways of sharing the research so that women are empowered to use this knowledge to make decisions that are right for them about their care. • Finally to capture the impact of and report on the public involvement of the study with the aim of informing good practice and effective public involvement in research.
<p>Involvement Opportunity</p>	<p>Involvement will vary across the duration of the project depending on the individual work packages but in summary members will be involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing the Chapter Study protocol and ethics application • Advise on the acceptability of women’s participation and how women are approached to take part in the study, e.g. posters, patient information sheet and verbal approaches • Advise on how we can make sure we involve women from vulnerable groups and harder to access communities • Advise on retention and support of participants • Co-develop and review all material for patients, e.g. information sheets, questionnaires, consent forms, interview scripts • Help review the results to identify issues that they think are most important to women and their partners • Review literature summaries • Advise on recruitment strategies • Advise on the acceptability of the development of a Wound Assessment Tool and support the development of the assessment tool • Ensure that care pathways developed are acceptable to women from diverse backgrounds • Help to identify stakeholders and networks • Develop engagement and communication materials • Engage with their own local networks, and speak at events and conferences • Help create video diaries and website materials
<p>Commitment involved</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timeframe - The Chapter project starts in spring 2022 and continues until January 2026. • Attendance at meetings - members of the Chapter Study Public Advisory Group will be expected to attend and participate in 4 meetings a year. Meetings maybe a mixture of virtual and in person. NOTE: Public members who are also members of the Study Working Groups, Project Management Group and Project Steering Committee will be required to attend additional meetings.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading materials - we may send you materials for discussion in the meetings. You will be asked to read these prior to the meeting and provide feedback. • Commenting on documentation – we may send materials for you to review and provide written feedback.
<p>Who do we think this opportunity will appeal to?</p>	<p>We welcome anyone with an interest/lived experience of childbirth related perineal trauma to contact us if they would like to be considered for this opportunity.</p> <p>We are looking for people from a range of backgrounds and with different perspectives on childbirth related perineal trauma to be involved in our Public Advisory Group. You don't need any experience for this role and full training/support will be provided.</p>
<p>Expenses/Honoraria</p>	<p>Training and support will be given to members of the PAG and expenses will be covered. Women attending a focus group or telephone interview will receive vouchers.</p>
<p>How we will select people?</p>	<p>If you would like to join our group we will ask people to complete a <u>short application form</u>. All forms will be reviewed by members of the project team. In the form we will ask for the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why you are interested in this opportunity to be involved in Chapter 2. Why you think the Chapter project is important 3. What perspectives you think you will bring to the Chapter Project (this might include your background and experience of childbirth related perineal trauma) 4. Any prior experience of being involved in research 5. What you would like to gain from involvement in the project. <p>We will select people based on their responses to the questions and an interview with the Chair of PAG.</p>
<p>Further information</p>	<p>For further information, or if you would like to be sent the Application Form, please contact Rita Perry at the Chapter study office -</p> <p>Name: Rita Perry Telephone: 0121 415 9106 Email: Chapter@contacts.bham.ac.uk</p> <p>You can also register your interest here https://redcap.link/chapterpag</p> 

Statement on Diversity and Inclusion

The Applied Research Collaboration West Midlands (ARC WM) is funded by the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR). The NIHR is committed to actively and openly supporting and promoting equality, diversity and inclusion. The NIHR approach to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion in research is set out here: <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/about-us/what-we-do/equality-diversity-and-inclusion.htm>

As part of the NIHR Infrastructure, ARC WM is committed to actively and openly supporting and promoting equality, diversity and inclusion. We always aim to be a diverse and inclusive collaboration, which includes people who are involved in our research. To achieve this, we will work to:

- Understand the causes of any inequities and barriers to diversity in NIHR training, research and delivery, and understand the interventions that work to address these
- Extend our reach to include communities where our research will make the biggest difference, and involve a broad range of patients, public and carers at every step
- Embed equality, diversity and inclusion in our culture and the way we work, so that we can attract the best people and take forward the best ideas and the best research.