



Birmingham Centre for
Observational and
Prospective Studies

19 April 2021

Dear CovidSurg-Cancer Head & Neck Collaborator

Many thanks for your fantastic contribution to the COVIDSurg-Cancer H&N project in 2020. Your centre contributed data for patients treated between March-May 2020 and there is now a unique opportunity to assess the longer-term impact of COVID-19 on those patients.

COVID-19 has presented unique challenges and areas of interest in the management and pathway of cancer patients. The COVIDSurg-Cancer H&N patient cohort offer the opportunity to explore those patients who may have had surgery delayed, altered or compromised as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and to assess the long-term implications of this for function and survival.

The COVIDSurg-Cancer H&N Follow Up Study WILL OPEN (June 2021).

This study will assess the functional and survival outcomes for the patients who were treated in your centre in early 2020 and those of colleagues around the world, at two time points (June 2021 and June 2022).

This study has received funding from the British Association of Head & Neck Oncologists (BAHNO) and will be coordinated by the Birmingham Centre for Observational and Prospective Studies (BiCOPS) at the University of Birmingham.

Key features:

- You do not need to identify any new patients - we are only interested in patients that you captured during the 3-month COVIDSurg-Cancer identification window (typically March-May 2020).
- We will ask for follow-up data for the COVID-Surg H&N cohort in June 2021 and again in June 2022

Your efforts and those of colleagues in your centre will be recognised with PubMed-indexed collaborative authorship on resulting output.

Next steps:

1. Please confirm your participation by completing this [REDCap acknowledgement](https://redcap.link/covidsurgfu):
<https://redcap.link/covidsurgfu>
We'll be in touch once you have completed this sign-up form.
2. Please ensure that you maintain your local records linking Medical Record Numbers with REDCap IDs. This is for all patients you entered into COVIDSurg-Cancer in March-June 2020. This allows you or a colleague to look back at records and update results annually. You may wish to save this on a password protected hospital computer.
3. Review your ethical/audit/institutional review board approval with your hospital to ensure there is sufficient approvals to cover the extended follow-up to 2 years.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us on hncovidsurgfu@contacts.bham.ac.uk. You can also find out more on the COVIDSurg [H&N website](#) (<https://bit.ly/3egsj9G>) and twitter [@BiCOPS](#).