

Airwave Study repeat health assessment

You were one of the 50 000 police officer/staff who took part in the Airwave Study between 2004 and 2015. This is one of the largest studies conducted in the police worldwide. We would like to thank you for taking part and take this opportunity to offer you a repeat health assessment. This is being offered to everyone who is part of the study. Clinics will be set up according to response in different geographical distribution to help us maximise our resources. The repeat assessment will help us compare the results obtained at baseline with any changes that might have taken place over time since we first assessed you at one of our clinics around the country. Scientists will be able to study the progress and cause of common prevalent health problems. You will also benefit from receiving a confidential feedback letter with the results.

Who is conducting the health check-up?

Imperial College is carrying out this research and to deliver it around the country the assessment will be performed by health care professionals who will be trained and monitored by Imperial College London. All the data collected will be transferred to the network of secure servers in Imperial College where all Airwave Study data are currently stored.

Do I have to take part?

Participation is entirely voluntary; there is no obligation to take part. If you give consent for long term storage of, your samples they will be included in the Airwave Research Tissue Bank.

The Tissue Bank samples and data will only be used for research after review. The Airwave Study Access Committee (which has representation from the Police Federation) will review each application and make sure that it meets the terms of consent of the donors and passes a scientific evaluation. All samples or data given to third party researchers will always be anonymised and you will never be personally identifiable. For more information on how the access and ethics procedures will work please go to our website: www.police-health.org.uk

What happens at the clinic?

When you arrive for your appointment, a health care professional (HCP) will explain the health screen to you and answer any questions or concerns you may have. They will then ask for your written consent to take part. All clauses in the consent form are mandatory except no 8 which is optional.

The clinical procedure involves the HCP recording various details about you, taking measurements and blood samples. At the clinic you will be asked to complete a computer-based questionnaire about your general health. We will also ask you to carry out a computer-based cognitive test.

In summary this is what happens at the clinic:

- *Personal details (name, address, GP address etc.);*
- *Any current or prior medical conditions, medications you are taking, and questions about lifestyle;*
- *Blood pressure, height, weight, waist and hip size;*
- *Body composition (proportion and distribution of fat in your body);*
- *An electrocardiogram (ECG) and pulse wave velocity (PWV) measurement.*

- *Possibly spirometry (lung function test). This is still work in progress.*
- *Heel ultrasound and grip strength*
- *Urine, blood and/or saliva sample;*
- *A computer-based questionnaire about your general health.*
- *Perform a computer-based cognitive test.*

Full details of the purpose of each test and the significance of the results are explained in the booklet *A Guide to Understanding Your Results*. It provides background on each of the measurements in non-technical language. A copy can be downloaded from our website under the Resource section. Other than providing the blood sample, all measurements are non-invasive.

What happens to my blood, urine and saliva samples?

Samples of blood, urine and saliva collected from each participant are placed into different tube types to allow a wide range of analysis to be carried out at the laboratory. Some of the blood tubes are spun in a centrifuge to allow immediate separation of the blood into its constituent parts.

At the end of each day, the samples are transported to our laboratory for detailed analysis. Once analysis has been completed, the remaining samples are placed in freezers for long term storage. All of your samples will be stored in barcoded tubes. The database that allows a barcode to be linked to identify participants is held at a separate, secure location, which cannot be accessed remotely.

What happens if an invention is made using my sample?

If an invention results from the research undertaken with your samples (for example, if we or another research group develop a new blood test or better medicines) you will not receive any compensation or payment. Imperial College may work in partnership with the private sector (e.g. the pharmaceutical or biotech industry) to develop any invention for the benefit of patients. Part of the profits earned from inventions will come back to Imperial College.

Can I withdraw from the study?

Yes, you can withdraw from the study at any time without giving reasons. You will have to inform the study team of your wish by phone or email or letter (details on the back of this leaflet). We will then send you a *Withdrawal from Study Form* which has to be signed by you and sent back to the research team at Imperial College.

Who will have access to my samples and data?

Imperial College and other research institutions both academic and commercial may carry out research using the data and samples provided by the Study, including genetic analysis to identify genes that may predispose people to disease. You will never be personally identified to any researcher outside the Airwave Health Monitoring Study team. The results of any research that is published, whether by Imperial College or anyone else, will never identify you.

Neither the Home Office nor your employer will be able to access your samples or data.

From time to time we will inform you of other research studies that you might be interested in participating in. Only if you give consent we will share your contact details with other researchers who would then contact you with information about such studies. There is no obligation to take part in such studies.

Confidentiality and privacy

There are no circumstances, short of a court order, where we will discuss any of the information we hold about you with the Home Office or your police force.

Imperial College London is the sponsor for the Airwave Health Monitoring Study based in the United Kingdom. We will be using information from you and your medical records in order to undertake this study and will act as the data controller for this study. This means that we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly.

Imperial College London will keep identifiable information about you for:

- 30 years after the study has finished in relation to data subject consent forms.
- 30 years after the study has completed in relation to primary research data.

Your usual statutory rights to access, change or move your information are limited, because of exceptions applicable to some types of research, and also because we need to manage your information in specific, lawful ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate.

You can find out more about how we use your information by contacting the Airwave research team at airwave@imperial.ac.uk.

Imperial College London will collect information about you for this research study from NHS Digital, ONS, NHS Scotland and NHS Wales. We will share your name, address, gender and date of birth with these organisations in order to obtain your NHS Number, CHI Number (Scotland), medical records and death certificates, which are regarded as a special category of information. This may include access to your medical notes and other health-related records now and in the future, even if you can no longer make decisions for yourself, or after your death.

Where you have consented, we may access your police personnel records in order to verify when you were employed by the police service, when you left service, and any periods when you were absent from work because of ill-health. We may also have access to data that records your usage of the Airwave system. We will use this information to investigate the possible health effects related to use of Airwave.

When you agree to take part in a research study, the information about your health and care may be provided to researchers running other research studies in this organisation and in other organisations. These organisations may be universities, NHS organisations or companies involved in health and care research in this country or abroad. Your information will only be used by organisations and researchers to conduct research in accordance with the UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research at <https://www.hra.nhs.uk/planning-and-improving-research/policies-standards-legislation/uk-policy-framework-health-social-care-research/>.

Your information may be used for research in any aspect of health or care, and may be combined with information about you from other sources held by researchers, the NHS or government.

Where this information could identify you, the information will be held securely with strict arrangements about who can access the information. The information will only be used for the purpose of health and care research, or to contact you about future opportunities to participate in research. It will not be used to make decisions about future services available to you, such as insurance.

CONTACT US

If you wish to raise a complaint on how we have handled your personal data or if you want to find out more about how we use your information, please contact Imperial College London's Data Protection Officer via email at dpo@imperial.ac.uk, via telephone on 020 7594 3502 and via post at Imperial College London, Data Protection Officer, Faculty Building Level 4, London SW7 2AZ.

If you are not satisfied with our response or believe we are processing your personal data in a way that is not lawful you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO does recommend that you seek to resolve matters with the data controller (us) first before involving the regulator.

Can I claim compensation if I am harmed during the screen?

Imperial College London holds insurance policies which apply to this Study. If you experience harm or injury as a result of taking part in this Study, you will be eligible to claim compensation without having to prove that Imperial College is at fault. This does not affect your legal rights to seek compensation.

If you are harmed due to someone's negligence, then you may have grounds for a legal action. Regardless of this, if you wish to complain, or have any concerns about any aspect of the way you have been treated during the course of this Study then you should immediately inform the Investigator. The normal National Health Service complaint mechanisms are also available to you. If you are still not satisfied with the response, you may contact the Imperial College Clinical Research Office.

Contact for further information

If you have any questions, you can contact a member of the study team at:

The Airwave Health Monitoring Study
Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics
Faculty of Medicine, School of Public Health
Imperial College
Norfolk Place,
London W2 1PG

You can also email us at Airwave@imperial.ac.uk, or visit our website at <http://www.police-health.org.uk>. We look forward to discussing any questions or concerns you may have.