

Imperial College London

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Airwave Health Monitoring Programme

Dear participant,

This is an important letter inviting you to take part in the Airwave Health Monitoring Programme. The goal of the Programme is to investigate any possible health effects associated with Airwave, the Police Communications System.

For further details, please refer to the information leaflet provided with this letter. Updated information is also available on our website at: <u>http://www.police-health.org.uk.</u>

On the following pages, you will find the Imperial College Health Monitoring Questionnaire. The questionnaire allows us to monitor your health in the long-term. **Please complete this questionnaire even if you do not currently use Airwave. Your participation is vital.**

You also have the opportunity to receive a **free and confidential health screen**, the results of which will come directly to you, and **only you.**

Please fill in your contact and personal details at the end of the questionnaire as accurately as possible. Without these details we will not be able to keep track of your health in future. All information collected will be kept strictly confidential. Under no circumstances will the Home Office or Police Force have access to any of your individual data or samples.

The questionnaire begins on the next page. Please read all questions carefully. Most questions can be answered by putting a cross in the box next to the answer that applies to you, like this:

 X^1 Yes 2^2 No

Sometimes you have to write a number in a box, for example:



Please try to complete all questions that apply to you. Where you need to skip a question, we have clearly indicated which question or section to go to next. Please make no other marks on the questionnaire e.g. do not cross through questions or pages just because they do not apply to you, as this affects the scanning process.

All information will be kept in strict confidence.

Thank you for your participation.

Professor Paul Elliott Principal Investigator Airwave Health Monitoring Programme

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 Section 1: Questions on your use of the Airwave radio system. This section includes operations/ control room and direct mode users. If you don't use Airwave, please tick the "No" box in question 1 and go to question 8. 1. Do you use the Airwave radio system? 1 Yes: go to question 2 2 No: go to question 8 2. Which year did you first start using Airwave radios?
 Yes: go to question 2 No: go to question 8 2. Which year did you first start using Airwave radios?
 3. While using or shortly after using your Airwave radio in transmit (PTT) or mobile phone (PSTN) mode do you experience any symptoms?
\square^1 No, I do not experience any symptoms \square^7 Deafness/partial hearing loss
\square^2 Headache \square^8 Burning sensation in ear
³ Dizziness ⁹ Tinnitus/ringing sound in ear
\square^4 Numbness in hands \square^{10} Any other symptom (please specify:
⁵ Nausea
⁶ Warming sensation on face

4. Please provide information on the usual location of your Airwave radio when you are using it in either **Press-to-talk (PTT)/transmit or mobile phone (PSTN) mode.**

Note: Please do not skip any row. There must be <u>one tick</u> in the transmit mode column and <u>one tick</u> in the mobile phone mode column <u>for each row (a, b, c, d, e, f, g)</u>.

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Approximate amount of time used in this position:							
Location of Airwave radio:	Tran	smit (PTT) n	node	Mobile phone (PSTN) mode			
	A lot of the time	Some of the time	None of the time	A lot of the time	Some of the time	None of the time	
a) Personal radio with earpiece/microphone		 ²	3		 ²	3	
b) Personal radio without earpiece/microphone	1	 ²	3	1	2	3	
c) Desk mounted radio including operation/control room use	 1	 ²	3		 ²		
d) Motorcycle mounted radio	1	2	3		2	3	
e) Car mounted radio		2	3		2	3	
f) Body mounted radio (covert users)		2	3		2	3	
g) Other (please specify:)	1	2	3		2	3	

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5. Usually while using Airwave Radio what is the position of your handset?
\square^{1} Right side of head \square^{2} Left side of head \square^{3} Both sides equally \square^{4} Not Applicable
6. Please provide:
a. The start date of the last full shift when you used an Airwave radio:
(dd/mm/yyyy)
b. The start time and end time (using the 24-hour clock) of this shift.
Start time of shift (Hr Hr : Min Min) End time of shift
Start time of shift End time of shift
c. Please give an estimate of your <u>outgoing calls</u> (even if this is minimal) using your Airwave radio in transmit (PTT) or mobile phone (PSTN) mode <u>over this shift:</u>
Approximate duration of Radio calls Approximate number of Radio calls
Personal radio
Pooled Radio*
Vehicle mounted radio (minutes)
Desk mounted radio including operation/ control room use (minutes)
Body mounted radio (covert users) (minutes)
Radio use in direct mode (minutes)
*A (common) radio handset that is used by you and your colleagues.
7. What <i>proportion of your total radio use</i> is with a pooled radio? <i>(Please cross one box)</i> None All
0% 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100%
8. Have you ever worked in an operations/control room?

Yes: go to question 9

No: go to question 10

9. Since joining the Police Force what *proportion of your total working time* has been in an operations/control room. (*Please cross one box*)

None 0%	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	All 100%
10 . Did	l you ev	er use th	ne old a	inalogue i	radio sys	stem?				

¹ Yes: go to question 1	1	Yes:	go	to	question	11
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11. For how many years did you use the analogue radio?
12. Are you still using the analogue radio? Image: the state of the
13. Usually, how many hours per week do you work? <i>Exclude overtime</i> Hours /week
14. How many hours per week of overtime (if any) do you work? <i>Enter 00 if none</i> Hours
Section 2: Questions about personal or any other mobile phone use (not including the use of your Airwave radio).
15. Do you use a mobile phone? ¹ Yes ² No: <i>go to question 20</i>
16. When did you start using a mobile phone?
17. Not counting SMS text messaging, please estimate the total duration of phone calls you made and received on your mobile phone(s) in the last 24 hours .
Minutes
Question 18 a), b) and c) are about your mobile phone use with hands-free equipment or a headset:
18a. Do you use hands-free equipment or a headset with your mobile phone(s)?
$\square^{1} \text{ Yes} \qquad \square^{2} \text{ No: } \textbf{go to question 19}$
b. When did you first start using hands-free equipment or a headset?
(Year)
c. Please estimate the proportion of time you usually spend using hands-free equipment or a headset while talking on your mobile phone(s). <i>(Please cross one box)</i>
None All 0% 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100%

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19. While using, or shortly after using your mobile phone(s), do you experience any symptoms?						
 No, I do not experience Headache Dizziness Numbness in hands Nausea Warming sensation on factors 		 Deafness/partial hearing Burning sensation in ear Tinnitus/ringing sound in Any other symptom (plear) 	ear			
Section 3: Questions about your general health.						
20. Have you ever experienced loss of sight or impairment of vision in one eye, accompanied by pain around the eye caused by eye movement (opticus neuritis) ?						
	2 No:					
when you were first diagnose	d. (Please cross box(es)	y of the following conditions? Also, and write year of diagnosis whe	re appropriate)			
Condition	Year of diagnosis	Condition	Year of diagnosis			
 ¹ High blood pressure ² Angina 		¹² Asthma				
Heart attack (MI)		(eczema, hay fever, rhinitis)				
Other heart conditions Please specify:		¹⁵ Cataract				
		Glaucoma or high eye pressure				
Stroke/Transient Ischaemic Attack		¹⁷ Cancer (please specify type)				
6 Depression						
⁷ Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/ME		¹⁸ Arthritis				
⁸ Deafness/partial hearing loss		¹⁹ Parkinson's disease				
⁹ Migraine		²⁰ Chronic liver disease				
¹⁰ Epilepsy		²¹ Thyroid related disorders				
COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary	Disease)					

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22 . How many days of sickness leave have you taken in the past year ?
23. How many times have you consulted your GP in the past year for any health problem ? (<i>Enter Number</i>)
Section 4: Questions on lifestyle factors
 24. Do you currently smoke cigarettes? 1 Yes: go to question 25 2 No: go to question 26 3 I have never smoked: please go to question 29
 25. a. About how many cigarettes per day do you smoke? Cigarettes per day When did you first start smoking? (Year)
 26. If you are not a cigarette smoker now, <i>did you ever smoke</i> 5 or more cigarettes a day? ¹ Yes: <i>please complete questions 27 and 28</i>
 2 No: go to question 29 27. How many cigarettes a day did you usually smoke?
 28. How long ago did you quit smoking?
 Years ago 29. How many people smoke in the household where you live? (<i>Please include yourself if you smoke</i>)
30. At home, about how many hours per week are you exposed to other people's tobacco smoke?
Hours

31. Outside of your home, about how many hours per week are you exposed to other people's tobacco smoke?

	Hours
32. Do you	currently drink alcohol?
1	Yes: go to questions 33
2	No: go to question 38
33. How ofte	en do you have a drink containing alcohol?
	Monthly or less
2	Two to four times a month
3	Two or three times a week
4	Four or five times a week
5	Daily or almost daily

34. In the last seven days how many **drinks** have you had of each of the following? Please remember that a drink poured at home could be equivalent to 2 or 3 pub measures. (*One drink = half a pint of beer, a small glass of wine, or one measure of spirits*). *If none, please indicate 00.*

a. Red wine Glasses	
b. White wine/Champagne	
c. Beer or Cider (include Bitter, Lager, Stout, Ale, Guinness)	
d. Spirits/Liqueurs (Include Whisky, Gin, Rum, Vodka, Brandy)	
e. Fortified wine (includes Sherry, Port, and Vermouth)	
How often do you have six or more drinks on one occasion?	
¹ Monthly or less	
Two to four times a month	
\square^3 Two or three times a week	

- 3 Two or three times a week
- ⁴ Four or five times a week
- □⁵ Daily or almost daily
- 36. In the last five years have you changed your drinking habits?
 - ¹ Yes
 - ² No (go to question 41)

35.

37. If yes, compared to your current habits, do yo	u drink:
¹ More nowadays	
\square^2 Less nowadays (go to question 40)	
For Non-Drinkers and Past drinkers	
or Non-Drinkers and Past drinkers	
88. Did you ever drink alcohol?	
Yes: Please complete questions 39	and 40
² No: <i>Please go to question 41</i>	
89. If you ever drank alcohol, when did you stop?	
Years ago	
IO. Why did you reduce/stop drinking alcohol? (cr	oss one box)
¹ Financial reasons	Reduction in stress at home
² Doctor's advice/ ill health	□ □_5 Change of jobs
[—] Change of lifestyle	\square^6 Other reasons (<i>please specify below</i>):
Are there any other issues, which we haven't r	aised that you think might be important:

If you are interested in having a free Health Screen with <u>comprehensive and</u> <u>confidential feedback</u> please tick the box below: Please <u>fill in your contact information below and the consent section on page 11</u>. Without these details, we will not be able to monitor your health in the future via medical registers. All information provided will be kept strictly confidential.

42. Title:
43. First Name:
44. Surname:
45. Date of Birth:
46. Age in years:
47. Gender
48. Home address: Street Number & Name
Address Line 2
Town/City
Postcode
49. Home telephone number:
50. Mobile Phone number:
51. Email address:
52. Other Email address:
53. National Insurance (NI) Number:
54. NHS number (if known)

When people leave the Police Force, it often becomes difficult to contact them. In order to help us keep in touch with you, we would appreciate it if you would provide the name and address of <u>TWO people</u> who are likely to know where you will be in the future. They should <u>not</u> be resident at the above address.

55. Title:	56. First Name	
57. Surname		
58. Relationship (e.g. parent, sibling, friend):		
59. Telephone number:		
60. Home Address:	Street number & Name:	
	Address line 2:	
	Town/city:	
	Postcode:	
61. Title:	62. First Name:	
63. Surname:		
64. Relationship (e.g. parent, sibling, friend):		
65. Telephone number:		
66. Home Address:	Street number & Name:	
	Address line 2:	
	Town/city:	
	Postcode:	

Consent All questionnaire answers will be kept strictly confidential and stored securely on a private computer network at Imperial College London. Under no circumstances will the Home Office or Police Force have access to any of your individual data or samples.

In order to carry out this Programme, we need your consent to allow us to:

• Access your medical files, including GP and hospital records as well as data on cancer and mortality held on National Registers. The information held by the NHS and records maintained by the General Register Office will be used to check your future health.

• Access data contained in your Police personnel files to confirm home contact details, identify job function(s), educational history, ethnicity, change of Police Force, national insurance number, retirement and sickness absence.

• Link your Airwave call data (if you use Airwave now or in the future) to your health records.

We need to confirm your contact details to obtain your NHS number from the NHS Tracing Service and to make sure your health screening results are sent to the correct address. Job function(s), educational history and ethnicity are required to control for occupational or socio-economic factors. We also need to know if you leave or transfer to another Force so that we can correctly link you to your use of Airwave. National insurance number may be necessary to keep in contact with you in the future. Information on sickness absence and early retirement are vital since these data may be related to whether or not you use Airwave.

Please sign below to indicate your consent.

Sign here:	Print your name here:	
Date:	(dd/mm/yyyy)	
Current collar number:		
Year of joining Police Force:		
Force name :		
Division/Depar	tment:	
If you have had any other Collar Number in this or other Police Forces during the last 3 years , please state below:		
1. Collar Numb	per:	
Force name:		
Division/Depar	tment:	
2. Collar Numb	er	
Force name:		
Division/Depar	tment:	

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATION