



“Protecting our Nation’s Hearing and Vision”: The UK National Eye Health and Hearing Study (UKNEHS).

Join us on Monday 28th October from 6-8pm at Unit 3, Pyramid Shopping Centre (next door to the Parish office), to hear first hand about this exciting study which went live this Autumn.

Professor Rupert Bourne, who is leading this national study, will discuss the study in more detail and you will have the opportunity to ask questions to the team and find out more about preventable sight and hearing loss.

What is this study?

It is an NHS study, approved by the Research Ethics Committee and is the first community-based study of its kind in the UK.

The pilot study is taking place across 15 randomly chosen community sites for people aged 50+ in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough from September this year and results from this pilot will be used to inform a multi-million pound national study.

We will be recruiting 50 people from Bretton, who will be randomly chosen by their household’s address.

Why are we doing this study?

We need high quality, up-to-date data on hearing loss and eye health, so that we can understand how to improve and deliver services more efficiently and effectively and also plan future services and improve outcomes for the UK population. In population studies like this, it is just as important to understand how many people have normal vision and hearing, so everyone who is invited is encouraged to take part even if they believe they have no concerns. Other studies, such as the Australian National Eye Health study found that 1 in 5 people examined were unaware of a potential vision-impairing eye health issue.

How the study will work

If your household is randomly selected then anyone over 50 in your household will receive a text message from their GP offering the opportunity to take part in the study and a digital link to register interest.

A small team including health professionals and volunteers will also visit each household to explain the study in more detail and offer a brief vision and hearing screening measurement at your home.

An online and telephone contact centre will then book participants in to visit Unit 3, Pyramid Shopping Centre, week commencing Monday 25th November. There, participants will have more in-depth screening with specialist staff involving state-of-the-art equipment and will be asked questions about their general health needs and access to services, taking approximately an hour. Each participant will receive £20 to thank them for taking part and will receive a report. Staff will be able to remove impacted ear wax at the time of the appointment.

If participants are found to have a new vision or hearing problem, they will be referred, via the appropriate local pathway, to receive treatment.

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