

PHarmAWARENESS  
STUDENT SURVEY

PASS

PAPER VERSION PACK

THIS PACK CONTAINS:

- PARTICIPANT  
INFORMATION SHEET
- CONSENT FORM
- FULL SURVEY

PLEASE COMPLETE THE CONSENT  
FORM (SEE REVERSE) AND  
SURVEY IN FULL.

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

---

### Background information

---

There have been a wide variety of studies examining the exposure of medical students (both at the preclinical and clinical level) to the pharmaceutical industry during their undergraduate degrees [1]. These examples, however, have been conducted primarily in the United States or European countries including France and Germany [1-3]. Only one small scale study, conducted in 2005, has thus far examined the exposure of UK medical students to the pharmaceutical industry and the attitudes these students have towards such exposure [4].

The PharmAwareness Student Survey (PASS), will be the first large scale study surveying UK medical students about their exposure to, and attitudes towards, the pharmaceutical industry. We welcome any current UK medical student to participate by completing our short survey. By doing so, you will be contributing to a project that will inform our advocacy efforts in the future. More detailed instructions about how to participate the project can be found below.

This study aims to:

- ascertain the proportion of UK medical students who have encountered promotional material from the pharmaceutical industry
- survey students on their view of the appropriateness of such exposure both as a medical student and future doctor

Ethics approval for this study has been granted by University of Leicester.

To participate in this study you should meet the following inclusion criteria:

- You should be a currently registered student at a UK-based medical school
- You may be at any stage of your medical degree including if you are undertaking an intercalated degree
- It is **NOT** necessary to have interacted with any of aspect pharmaceutical industry to be able to participate

-----  
Instructions for participants  
-----

- 1) This study is entirely voluntary and there is no compensation offered for taking part
- 2) Participation in this study consists of completing a single survey consisting of 30 items (5 demographic questions, 25 core questions)
- 3) The survey is split into 3 sections:
  - a) The first section collects demographic information from participants
  - b) The second section asks whether you have ever been exposed to aspects of the pharmaceutical industry and the nature of that exposure
  - c) The third section asks for your opinions on the appropriateness of medical students being exposed to the pharmaceutical industry
- 4) You should answer all questions on the survey
- 5) If you do not wish to answer a question you should indicate using either the option available in the multiple choice question or by writing "I do not wish to disclose" in the open white space answer boxes
- 6) The survey should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete
- 7) You should complete this study only once. You are asked to enter your university email address to verify both that you are a currently registered university student and that you haven't already completed the survey
- 8) The responses you submit will be kept completely anonymous and will not be passed onto any organisation at any time during the data collection, analysis or follow-up
- 9) The survey can be completed through a web browser or on paper
- 10) For those completing the online version of the survey:
  - a) The online version of the survey can be accessed at the following link and is completed when you click "submit" after Item 30
  - b) At any time you may discontinue your participation from the study simply by closing the web browser you are completing the survey in. Your responses will not be recorded in that instance and you are free to complete the survey at a later time should you wish to take part
  - c) If you complete the survey and wish to have your responses withdrawn from those analysed, please contact the study organiser using the contact details below
- 11) For those completing the paper copy of the survey:
  - a) A paper copy of the online survey can be accessed at [www.PASSstudy1.co.uk](http://www.PASSstudy1.co.uk) and once completed, should be sent via

post addressed “FAO: PASS Study, Flat 9, 6 Queensgate, Inverness, IV1 1DA” Alternatively, completed surveys can be scanned and emailed to [PASSstudy2016@gmail.com](mailto:PASSstudy2016@gmail.com)

- b) If you submit a paper copy and wish to withdraw your answers you may do so at any time by contacting the study organisers using the below details
  - c) Once the responses from your paper copy are entered into the database, the paper version will be destroyed
- 12) If you have any questions relating to the study design or purpose you may do so either prior to or following completion of the survey by emailing [PASSstudy2016@gmail.com](mailto:PASSstudy2016@gmail.com)
- 13) If you consent to being involved in the study, please fill out the consent form below prior to starting the survey

-----  
Study Organisers/Contact Details  
-----

Lead Investigator:

Dr Nathan Cantley  
Academic Foundation Year 1 Doctor  
and member  
of PharmAware-UK National Steering  
Committee.  
Email: [nathan.cantley@nhs.net](mailto:nathan.cantley@nhs.net)  
Mobile: +447933074908

Project Supervisor:

Dr Merav Kliner  
Consultant in Public Health, Chair  
of PharmAware-UK  
Email: [meravkliner@nhs.net](mailto:meravkliner@nhs.net)  
Mobile Number: +447966619468

-----  
References  
-----

1. Austad KE, Avorn J, Kesselheim AS "Medical Students' Exposure to and Attitudes about the Pharmaceutical Industry: A Systematic Review." PLoS Med 2011;8(5): e1001037
2. Soyk C, Pfefferkorn B, McBride P, Rieselbach R. "Medical student exposure to and attitudes about pharmaceutical companies" WMJ. 2010 Jun;109(3):142-8
3. Etain B, Guittet L, Weiss N, Gajdos V, Katsahian S "Attitudes of medical students towards conflict of interest: a national survey in France" PLoS One. 2014 Mar 26;9(3):e92858
4. Stanley AG, Jackson D, Barnett DB, "The teaching of drug development to medical students: collaboration between the pharmaceutical industry and medical school" Br J Clin Pharmacol 2005;59(4):464–474

# CONSENT FORM

FOR YOUR SURVEY RESPONSE TO BE ACCEPTED, IT MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE FOLLOWING CONSENT FORM COMPLETED.

<b>Please tick the following boxes once you have read the participant information sheet to indicate your consent to participate in the study</b>	<b>Tick in each box below</b>
I confirm I have read and understand the background information and participant instructions presented above.	
I understand that participation in this study is completely voluntary.	
I understand that I can withdraw my answers at any time during or after I have participated in this study.	
I consent for the data collected from me to be used for future research projects and/or with a view to archiving data and making it available and reusable by other researchers.	
I confirm this is my only submission of the survey to the study.	
I confirm that I am a current medical student at a UK medical school or am undertaking an intercalated degree at the time of completing this survey.	
I agree to take part in the above study.	
<b>Please state your university email address as confirmation of your status as a current university student enrolled in a medical degree</b>  <hr/>	

Section 1 - Demographic Information	Indicate your answer with a tick or cross
<b>Q1. Which sex do you identify as?</b>	
Female	
Male	
Other non-binary identity	
Do not wish to disclose	
<b>Q2. Which university are you completing your medical degree at?</b>	
Aberdeen (University of), School of Medicine	
Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary, University of London	
Birmingham (University of), School of Medicine	
Brighton and Sussex Medical School	
Bristol (University of), Faculty of Medicine	
Cambridge (University of), School of Clinical Medicine	
Cardiff University, School of Medicine	
Dundee (University of), Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing	
Edinburgh (The University of), College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine	
Exeter (University of), Medical School	
Glasgow (University of), College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences	
Hull York Medical School	

Imperial College School of Medicine, London	
Keele University, School of Medicine	
King's College London School of Medicine (at Guy's, King's College and St Thomas' Hospital)	
Lancaster University, Faculty of Health & Medicine	
Leeds (University of), School of Medicine	
Leicester (University of), Leicester Medical School	
Liverpool (University of), Faculty of Health and Life Sciences	
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (Postgraduate Medical School)	
Manchester (University of), Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences	
Newcastle University Medical School	
Norwich Medical School, University of East Anglia	
Oxford (University of), Medical Sciences Division	
Plymouth University Peninsula Schools of Medicine and Dentistry	
Queen's University Belfast, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences	
Sheffield (The University of), School of Medicine	
Southampton (University of), School of Medicine	
St Andrews (University of), Faculty of Medical Sciences	
St George's, University of London	
Swansea University, School of Medicine	
University College London, University College Medical School	
Warwick (The University of), Warwick Medical School	
Do not wish to disclose	
<b>Q3. What year of your medical degree are you currently studying?</b>	
Year 1	
Year 2	

Year 3	
Year 4	
Year 5	
Year 6	
Currently intercalating	
Do not wish to disclose	
<b>Q4. Have you completed a university degree prior to starting medicine (i.e. are you a postgraduate medical student)?</b>	
Yes	
No	
Do not wish to disclose	
<b>Q5. Are you considered by your university to be a pre-clinical or clinical student?</b>	
Pre-clinical	
Clinical	
Do not know	
Do not wish to disclose	

## Section 2 - Nature and Degree of Exposure to the Pharmaceutical Industry

**Have you attended any of the following?**

	Yes	No	Do not wish to disclose
<b>Q6. A presentation given by a drug rep to doctors at a lunchtime teaching event in a hospital or university</b>			
<b>Q7. A small medical education event (aimed either at medical students or doctors) sponsored by a pharmaceutical company</b>			
<b>Q8. A large meeting/conference sponsored by a pharmaceutical company</b>			
<b>Q9. A one-to-one meeting between a doctor and drug rep</b>			

**Q10. Please write below any other scenario which you have attended that had some influence from the pharmaceutical industry.**

**Have you accepted any of the following things from a representative of a pharmaceutical company?**

	Yes	No	Do not wish to disclose
<b>Q11. A free lunch (either hot or cold food) sponsored by a drug rep or pharmaceutical company</b>			
<b>Q12. A dinner or evening social event sponsored by a drug rep or pharmaceutical company</b>			
	Yes	No	Do not wish to disclose
<b>Q13. A small item (for example a pen or mug) to the value of £6 or less from a drug rep or pharmaceutical company</b>			
<b>Q14. A large item (for example an electronic device or textbook) to the value of greater than £6 from a drug rep or pharmaceutical company</b>			
<b>Q15. A leaflet or brochure from a drug rep about a new intervention (be that a new drug or drug delivery device)</b>			

<p>Q16. Sponsorship from a pharmaceutical company to cover the expenses associated with either travel and/or accommodation to attend a conference/event</p>				
<p><b>Q17. Please write below any other item or thing not listed in Q11-Q16 which you have accepted</b></p>				
<p><b>Q18. Do you ever feel implicit or explicit pressure to participate in any of the scenarios identified in Q6 to Q17?</b></p>				<p>Indicate your answer with a tick or cross</p>
<p>I have felt an explicit expectation to accept an invitation to attend a meeting or a thing offered to me and there would be consequences if I didn't</p>				
<p>I feel an expectation that I should accept an invitation or thing offered to me but I feel I have free choice whether or not I do</p>				
<p>I do not feel any pressure to accept an invitation or thing offered to me</p>				
<p>Do not wish to disclose</p>				

**Q19. If you were to estimate the NUMBER of occasions where you encountered any of the scenarios detailed in Q6-Q17, what would that be?**

0	
1-5	
6-10	
11-15	
16-20	
Greater than 20	
Do not wish to disclose	

**Q20. For any event attended, or thing offered to you, was the sponsorship disclosed to you beforehand?**

Yes- on all occasions	
Yes- but only on some occasions	
No- not disclosed on any occasion	
Do not wish to disclose	

**Q21. Are you aware of any policy from your medical school which states how you should interact with the pharmaceutical industry?**

Yes	
No	
Do not wish to disclose	

### Section 3 - Attitudes regarding appropriateness of exposure to pharmaceutical industry

Please indicate on a scale of 1 to 5 your thoughts on the following statements:

	1- Strongly Disagree	2- Disagree	3- I do not have an opinion	4- Agree	5- Strongly Agree	Do not wish to disclose
<b>Q22. It is appropriate for medical students to come into contact with drug reps and the pharmaceutical industry</b>						
<b>Q23. The pharmaceutical industry has a role to play in your education as a medical student</b>						
<b>Q24. The pharmaceutical industry has a role to play in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) after you graduate</b>						
<b>Q25. Accepting a free lunch or small item like a pen or mug could impact MY OWN current or future prescribing practices</b>						

	1- Strongly Disagree	2- Disagree	3- I do not have an opinion	4- Agree	5- Strongly Agree	Do not wish to disclose
<b>Q26. Accepting a free lunch or small item like a pen or mug could impact MY PEERS' current or future prescribing practices</b>						
<b>Q27. It is appropriate for medical students to attend events sponsored by the pharmaceutical industry</b>						
<b>Q28. Drug reps and the pharmaceutical industry provide accurate and reliable information about new drugs and drug delivery devices</b>						
<b>Q29. The practice of the pharmaceutical industry sponsoring doctors' expenses or conferences does not happen anymore</b>						

**Q30. If you can, please give an explanation to any answer you gave for questions 22-29.**

==END OF SURVEY==

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING  
IN PASS.

PLEASE  
DEPOSIT IN  
PASS1 SURVEY  
BOX

OR SEND IT BY  
POST TO:  
FAO: PASS  
STUDY  
FLAT 9,  
6 QUEENSGATE,  
INVERNESS  
IV1 1DA