

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY?

Locally recurrent rectal cancer, meaning cancer which returns close to the origin site, affects approximately 10% of people following treatment of rectal cancer. The extent of the burden that locally recurrent rectal cancer has on people's overall quality of life is poorly reported.

There are many questionnaires that are used to assess quality of life, however, these questionnaires have not been validated for this specific group of patients. Validation means checking that the questionnaire is relevant to specific patient groups.

The **LRRC-QoL** is a questionnaire that has been designed specifically to measure quality of life in patients with locally recurrent rectal cancer. The **LRRC-QoL** was developed in patients from the UK and Australia. This study aims to validate the **LRRC-QoL** for use in the United States of America and other countries internationally.

WHAT WOULD TAKING PART INVOLVE?

You have received this participation pack, containing:

- This information leaflet,
- Two copies of the **LRRC-QoL** questionnaire:
 - One copy to complete and return to your medical team.
 - One copy to keep and complete during a telephone interview with a researcher.
- Three other questionnaires concerning quality of life to complete and return to your medical team.
- A demographics form to complete and return to your medical team.

If you choose to participate, it will involve completing the **LRRC-QoL** questionnaire during a telephone interview with a researcher from the United Kingdom.

The aim of the interview is to give us a better understanding of how you interpret the questions in the **LRRC-QoL** questionnaire.

Completing and returning the additional questionnaires will allow us to better understand the impact of locally recurrent rectal cancer on your quality of life.

Completing the questionnaire and discussing this in the interview will involve reflecting upon your experience of locally recurrent rectal cancer. Should you find this at all distressing please inform us and the interview will be stopped.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF TAKING PART?

There are no personal benefits to taking part. However, this study will deliver wider benefits in that it will provide information regarding quality of life in patients being treated for locally recurrent rectal cancer in many centers internationally. It will also allow the **LRRC-QoL** to be used in future international research.

WILL MY PARTICIPATION BE CONFIDENTIAL?

Only your medical team and the research team will be informed of your participation in the study.

Your information will remain confidential. The only time that your details may be disclosed is if the researcher is concerned that you pose a danger to yourself (for example if you are thinking of harming yourself) or others and we

may need to inform appropriate authorities.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE?

If you would like to participate in the study, please complete the consent form and questionnaires provided to you. Following this, we will contact you via telephone to arrange a convenient time for the interview.

The interview will be audio-recorded and transcribed (writing down what has been said during the interview). Your name will be removed from the research data and replaced with an anonymous identifier.

The responses you provide to the questionnaires and information provided by your medical team concerning your treatment and pattern of locally recurrent rectal cancer, will be stored in a database using an anonymous identifier. This database will be stored at the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom where the research team are based.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY DATA?

Your name and telephone number will be stored on an encrypted file server at the University of Leeds solely to enable us to contact you for the purposes of this study. This information will be destroyed following the interview.

Audio-recordings of the interviews will be destroyed once they have been transcribed. The transcripts and the database will be held securely on an encrypted file server at the University of Leeds with strict limits on who can access it.

The database of questionnaire responses will also be held securely on an encrypted file server at the University of Leeds with strict limits on who can access it. All of the computers storing patient data must meet special security arrangements.

This research is in the public interest, which means our results will be used to improve the health of patients in the future. Because of this, if you agree to take part in the study, we will be able to use information about you, including

sensitive information about your health. If you would like more information regarding this, please see:

<https://ctru.leeds.ac.uk/privacy/>

WHAT IF I NO LONGER WANT TO PARTICIPATE?

Participating in the study is voluntary, you can decide to stop participating (withdraw your consent) at any time, including during the interview.

You do not need to explain why you would like to stop participating. Withdrawing from the study will not affect your treatment for locally recurrent rectal cancer

WHO IS ORGANISING AND FUNDING THIS STUDY?

Funding for this study has been provided by Bowel and Cancer Research and by the Pelican Cancer Foundation.

The study is being coordinated by a research team based at the Clinical Trials Research Unit at the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom.

<https://ctru.leeds.ac.uk/>