

## **Have your say on improving hospital discharge summaries.**

Would you like to have your say in improving how hospitals communicate with care homes?

We are looking for care home residents and their relatives in England to support a research project aimed at improving how hospitals communicate with care homes through discharge summaries. These summaries explain a patient's medicine and care needs after leaving the hospital, and we want to make them clearer and more useful.

You will have a chance to share your thoughts by joining a steering committee meeting.

### **About You**

- We are looking to meet residents who live in a non-nursing residential care home in England
- You can be joined and supported by a friend or family member throughout the research

### **About the Project**

This is a 3-year PhD research project that aims to make discharge summaries clearer, so hospitals and care homes can work better together and provide better care for residents. A steering committee is a group that gives advice and shares ideas to help guide a project. You will be joined on the steering committee by care workers, members of the hospital team and those working in medical education and policy. This research will focus on making hospital discharge summaries easier to understand, using a "health literacy" approach. Health literacy means being able to use reading, writing and numeracy skills in health-related situations.

The research has four parts:

1. Understanding the health literacy skills of the social care workforce
2. Understanding different views on discharge summaries from both hospital teams and social care professionals
3. Creating guidance for writing hospital discharge summaries
4. Exploring how AI (artificial intelligence) can help write discharge summaries

The project is being hosted by the Vivaldi Network at University College London funded by the National Institute of Health and Care Research. It will be led by doctoral candidate Dr Calisha Allen.

### **The resident and relative role:**

The role includes:

- Contribute to a steering committee. The project will be over three years, and you will have the option to take part in one or multiple meetings as you prefer.
- Reading papers before steering committee meetings. This will include research related papers.
- The option to join preparation meetings before each steering committee, online
- Giving some extra help to the researcher by answering questions between meetings, by phone call or email

We are committed to making the opportunity as inclusive as possible and are open to different ways in which you might be able to take part. This may be through residents joining the main

meetings online, sharing your thoughts with a friend or relative who would represent you online or meeting with the researcher in-person at your care home to share your thoughts.

### **Benefits**

- Residents will be paid £25–£75 for each meeting depending on the meeting length, through vouchers.
- Where residents are being supported by friends or family in the meetings, they will also be paid the same for their time
- Microsoft package for the resident and relative (if needed)
- Reasonable small technical accessories to join online meetings if needed (e.g. webcam)

### **How to apply:**

If this experience has been shared with you by your care home manager please let them know you would be interested in your care home taking part.

Otherwise, please send an email to [rmhical@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:rmhical@ucl.ac.uk) by 9am on 14/07/2025.

Email subject heading: Bridges Steering Committee: Resident YOUR NAME

In your email please include:

- The local authority/council area your care home is in

If you have any questions and would like to chat before sending an expression of interest, please email Dr Calisha Allen [rmhical@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:rmhical@ucl.ac.uk) who will be happy to discuss.