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**A Questionnaire of Reviewing ChatGPT's AI Chatbot Conversations for Initial Depression Screening**

**YOU WILL BE GIVEN A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION SHEET**

**Title of Study:** A Questionnaire of Reviewing ChatGPT's AI Chatbot Conversation for Initial Depression Screening

**Department:** UCL Institute of Health Informatics

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**1. Invitation paragraph**

You are invited to participate in a research project examining the use of AI chatbots for depression screening. Mental health is a critical social issue that impacts us all. Yet, barriers such as high counseling fees, the stigma of face-to-face counseling, and the complexity of depression self-assessment forms often prevent people from seeking professional psychological help. Recently, ChatGPT has emerged as a highly prevalent and reliable tool among users. This project seeks to investigate the potential of using large language models to assess mental health. We will employ survey sampling and statistical methods in this research.

Before participating, it's crucial to understand the purpose of this research and what your involvement entails. Please carefully read the information below and feel free to discuss it with others. If anything is unclear or if you need more information, don't hesitate to ask us. Take your time to decide if you would like to participate. We appreciate your time and consideration in reading this.

**2. What is the project’s purpose?**

The aim of this project is to examine the feasibility of using a Large Language Model for mental health assessments and to aid in early depression screening. Through a questionnaire survey, we intend to gauge users' experiences with the chatbot. This includes aspects like its engagement level, helpfulness, and any improvements over traditional, in-person counseling. Our goal is to assess user acceptance and the practicality of the chatbot. Furthermore, we seek to collect suggestions for future improvements to the chatbot. The project is scheduled to take place in December 2023 and January 2023.

**3. Why have I been chosen?**

If you are interested in mental health or are interested in exploring ChatGPT as a representative AI large language model, you are welcome to participate in this survey.

**4. Do I have to take part?**

Participation in this study is completely voluntary. Choosing not to participate will not result in any penalties or loss of benefits that you are otherwise entitled to. You can also stop participating at any time, without any penalties or losing any benefits you are entitled to. If you choose to participate, you will receive an information sheet to keep and will be asked to sign a consent form. You have the right to withdraw from the study at any time, without needing to provide a reason. If you decide to withdraw, we will ask you how you would like us to handle the data you have provided up to that point.

1. **What will happen to me if I take part?**
2. **Study Introduction:**

You will first receive detailed information about the study's purpose, goals, and procedures. This is to ensure that you clearly understand the study and your role in it.

1. **Access to Chat Transcripts:**

You will have access to 10 transcripts of simulated conversations between the researcher and the AI chatbot. In these, the researcher adopts various personas, from typical individuals to those with diverse mental health conditions or from minority groups facing emotional challenges. You will review these simulated interactions.

1. **Review Process:**

You are required to carefully examine two randomly selected transcripts. It is important to focus on the chatbot's responses and the conversation's flow, as your insights on these interactions are crucial for our research.

1. **Survey Completion:**

Following the transcript review, you will fill out a survey comprising:

1. 3 demographic questions to understand our participant group's diversity.
2. 13 Likert scale questions evaluating your views on the AI chatbot’s performance, comprehension, and potential in mental health settings.
3. 3 open-ended questions for detailed feedback or any concerns or observations you may have.
4. **Data Privacy:**

Any identifiable information, such as names or contact details, will be removed or anonymized in our records. This means your responses cannot be traced back to you. Your completed feedback surveys will be securely stored on a certified researcher's computer. This computer is equipped with up-to-date security measures, including encryption and password protection, to prevent unauthorized access. Only a small, authorized team of researchers will have access to the raw data. Each team member has been trained in data protection and confidentiality protocols to ensure your information is handled with the utmost care. The information collected will be used exclusively for research purposes. It will help us understand the effectiveness of the AI chatbot and improve mental health assessment tools. Your feedback will not be used for any commercial purposes. You have the right to inquire about the personal data we hold about you and request corrections if necessary. You can also ask for your data to be deleted from our records, in accordance with data protection laws.

1. **Time Commitment:**

The entire process, including transcript review and survey completion, should take around 30 minutes.

1. **Support and Queries:**

If you have any questions or need clarification at any point, contact information will be provided. We are committed to ensuring your comfort and understanding throughout your participation.

**6. What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?**

There are no foreseeable discomforts in this project.

**7. What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

By participating, you'll be playing a crucial role in pioneering research that aims to explore the potential of AI in the realm of mental health. Your feedback will directly influence the development and refinement of AI-driven mental health solutions, potentially benefiting countless individuals in the future. Meanwhile, we are happy to provide 5 pounds incentives per person (gift card or cash) to participants in the project.

**8. Will my taking part in this project be kept confidential?**

By participating, you will play a vital role in groundbreaking research exploring AI's potential in mental health. Your feedback will be instrumental in developing and improving AI-based mental health solutions, which could benefit many people in the future. As a token of our appreciation, we are offering an incentive of 5 pounds per participant. If you participate online, you will receive a £5 voucher via email. For those participating in person, we will provide £5 in cash.

**10. Limits to confidentiality**

• Please note that assurances on confidentiality will be strictly adhered to unless evidence of wrongdoing or potential harm is uncovered. In such cases, the University may be obliged to contact relevant statutory bodies/agencies.

• Confidentiality will be respected subject to legal constraints and professional guidelines.

• Confidentiality will be respected unless there are compelling and legitimate reasons for this to be breached. If this was the case, we would inform you of any decisions that might limit your confidentiality.

• Confidentiality may be limited and conditional and the researcher has a duty of care to report to the relevant authority’s possible harm/danger to the participant or others.

**11. What will happen to the results of the research project?**

All personal details will not be included in the research project. The researcher will screen all data collected and remove any private or confidential information.

1. **Data Protection Privacy Notice**

**Notice:**

The controller for this project will be University College London (UCL). The UCL Data Protection Officer provides oversight of UCL activities involving the processing of personal data, and can be contacted at data-protection@ucl.ac.uk.

This ‘local’ privacy notice sets out the information that applies to this particular study. Further information on how UCL uses participant information can be found in our ‘general’ privacy notice:

For participants in health and care research studies, click [here](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/legal-services/privacy/ucl-general-privacy-notice-participants-and-researchers-health-and-care-research-studies).

The information that is required to be provided to participants under data protection legislation (GDPR and DPA 2018) is provided across both the ‘local’ and ‘general’ privacy notices.

The lawful basis that will be used to process your personal data is: ‘public task’.

Your personal data will be processed so long as it is required for the research project. If we are able to anonymise or pseudonymise the personal data you provide we will undertake this and will endeavour to minimise the processing of personal data wherever possible.

If you are concerned about how your personal data is being processed, or if you would like to contact us about your rights, please contact UCL in the first instance at [data-protection@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:data-protection@ucl.ac.uk).

**You will be given a copy of this information sheet and a consent form. For any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.**

**Thank you for reading this information sheet and for considering taking part in this research study.**