



# Information to the Participant

**Project name: "The opening of Karolinska Institutet's Campus in the autumn of 2020: evaluation and promotion of awareness of COVID-19"**

This project aims to evaluate the opening of Karolinska Institutet's Campus in the autumn of 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. In this document, you will find information about the project and what it means to participate.

## **What is the study about, and why do you want me to participate?**

This study will investigate whether the return to campus affects or does not affect the spread of SARS-CoV-2 (which causes COVID-19) among students and teachers at Karolinska Institutet. We want to understand how specific conditions and behaviour of students and teachers can affect the spreading of SARS-CoV-2. The main aim is to develop an evidence-based action plan to minimize the spread of infection. All students and course teachers who study and teach at Karolinska Institutet Campus Flemingsberg and Solna, are offered to participate in the study.

The body responsible for the project is Karolinska Institutet. With your participation, you provide valuable data for knowledge discovery regarding the spreading of COVID-19 disease.

Your participation is entirely voluntary.

## **How is the study conducted?**

Once you consent to participate in the study, you will regularly answer a questionnaire via a mobile app with questions regarding your travel pattern, SARS-CoV-2 testing, teaching and symptoms/health conditions.

As part of the project, we also request access to archived samples from the participants who have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. These samples will be sequenced for Coronavirus to be able to map any spread of infection. No sampling will be done within the study.

## **Possible consequences or risks of participating in the study**

Your data will be collected in a shell-protected and coded database within Karolinska Institutet to minimize the risk of misuse or data leaking. Only qualified and authorised study researchers will have access to data via strong access control and authentication. The primary personal information managed by the project is your KI email which will be coded for use in the data management and research workflow.

## **What happens to my information?**

The project will collect the information you provide via the App survey. The questions are designed to bring factual evidence on whether reopening the KI campus affects the spread of SARS-CoV-2 or not. The collected data is related to travel pattern to and from the university, use of protection, symptoms and the like. The data collected during this research study will be processed by researchers at Karolinska Institutet. Your information is confidential, and only authorised researchers will

access it. The reporting or publication of the results will be done with aggregated and anonymised data. It will not be possible to identify individual participants.

The study follows current legislations following the EU Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The authority responsible for personal data is Karolinska Institutet, 171 77 Stockholm.

You have the right to request in writing what information that is registered about you. You are entitled to receive such data extraction once a year free of charge. If it turns out that something is not correct about your data, the incorrect information must be corrected. You can also request restricting the processing of your personal data.

For extraction, modification or restriction of your data, contact the study responsible (Joakim Dillner, email: joakim.dillner@ki.se, phone: 0724682460).

In the case that you have views on the handling of data, contact Karolinska Institutet's data protection representative (Mats Gustavsson, email: dataskyddsbud@ki.se, phone: 08-52486473)

In the event of further complaints, you can contact the Datainspektionen (The Swedish Data Protection Authority, which is the supervisory authority, email: datainspektionen@datainspektionen.se, phone: 08-657 61 00)

## **What happens to my samples?**

The study will only use your samples if you have explicitly given your consent. Samples will be sequenced and then returned to the original biobank. The samples will be sequenced in Sweden and on behalf of Karolinska Institutet. In case of need for not yet planned additional research, the Swedish Ethical Review Authority will decide whether you should be consulted again.

## **How do I get information about the results of the study?**

The results of the study will be sent out via the mobile application, published on Karolinska Institutet's website, in scientific journals and presented in connection with scientific meetings. Only statistics will be presented, and no individual will be identified.

## **Insurance and compensation**

No compensation is paid in the study as it will not entail any extra costs for you. The study does not affect the insurance coverage you already have as a student.

## **Participation is voluntary**

Your participation is voluntary, and you can choose to cancel your participation at any time. In the case that you decide not to participate or want to cancel your participation, you do not have to state why, nor will it affect your education.

If you wish to cancel your participation, please contact the person responsible for the study (see below).

## **Responsible for the study**

The main body responsible for the study is Karolinska Institutet.

Contact person: Joakim Dillner

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