**Volunteer Information Sheet**

**Investigation of human cognitive function with scalp-recorded brain electrical activity**

Healthy people between the ages of 18 and 35 are invited to take part in a research programme that investigates mental functions such as attention and memory. The research aims to uncover new information about how these functions work and how they are organised in the brain.

If you agree to participate you will be invited to attend our laboratory at a mutually convenient time. We ask that you drink little or no alcohol on the night before you attend. By complying with these requests, you will help us get the maximum benefit from your participation in our research.

On arrival at the laboratory you will be fitted with a cap containing a number of small electrodes which rest against your scalp, and which allow your brain electrical activity (EEG) to be recorded. A small number of additional electrodes will also be attached. The procedure of fitting the cap may give rise, at most, to a brief period of mild discomfort.You will then be asked to perform one or more psychological tasks while EEG recordings are made. You will be in continuous contact with the investigator and will be given regular rest breaks. The specific task(s) you are asked to do will differ depending on the exact study you are part of, but will involve doing things like listening to sounds or watching videos and judging how pleasant they are; deciding which of a series of videos and sounds was presented in an earlier part of the study, and so on. A test session will last no more than 3.5 hours in total, after which the electrode cap and electrodes will be removed**.** Following the removal of the cap, there will be indentations in your skin underlying the cap electrodes which disappear within an hour or two. In a small minority of people, there may also be smaller areas of skin marking which can take up to a few days to go away.

You will receive an honorarium of £6 per hour. You do not have to take part in this study if you do not want to. If you decide to take part, you may withdraw at any time without having to give a reason. All proposals for research using human subjects are reviewed by an ethics committee before they can proceed.

**Data Protection Act, 1998:** This Act requires that the reasons and methods for the above research must be explained to you. In consenting to participate in the study, you are stating that you have no objection to personal data relating to yourself (as defined by the Data Protection Act, 1998), being used for this research. The personal information that you give will be used for the above study only and it will not be used for any other purpose. Your personal information will be kept for up to seven years, and then will be confidentially destroyed. You have a legal right to view your personal information stored with us. Please check http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/university/governance/policies-regs/data-protection.aspx for more information with regard to this request.

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