

## **EXCOVATE (Exploring Twitter Users' Opinions of Covid-19 Vaccinations: Privacy Notice**

### **1. Introduction**

The Research Department of Behavioural Science and Health respects your privacy and is committed to protecting your personal data. Please read this Privacy Notice carefully – it describes why and how we collect and use personal data and provides information about your rights.

This project has been approved by the UCL Research Ethics Committee: ID number: 14687/003 and is being supervised by Dr Aradhna Kaushal ([aradhna.kaushal.14@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:aradhna.kaushal.14@ucl.ac.uk))

We keep this Privacy Notice under regular review. It was last updated on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2021.

### **2. About us**

The Research Department of Behavioural Science and Health is part of the Institute of Epidemiology and Healthcare at University College London (UCL).

### **3. Personal data that we collect about you**

Personal data, or personal information, means any information about an individual from which that person can be identified. It does not include data where the identity has been removed (anonymous data).

We plan to collect twitter data from December 2020 to July 2021, filtering tweets related to Covid-19 vaccinations. Although we will not collect usernames it is possible to identify people through an individual's Twitter ID and profile which may contain their name, geographical location and links to other personal information

### **4. How we use your personal data**

This study will aim to explore the attitudes and beliefs about the COVID-19 vaccines by analysing Twitter data using a combination of keyword, sentiment and thematic analysis and by comparing differences over time and by geographical region.

Anonymised data may be used in published reports or journals and at conferences.

### **5. Who we share your personal data with**

Your personal data will be collected and processed by members of the research team who have a legitimate need to see it for the purpose of carrying out research. We will not share your data with third parties.

### **6. Lawful basis for processing**

Data Protection Legislation requires that we meet certain conditions before we are allowed to use your data in the manner described in this notice, including having a "lawful basis" for the processing. The basis for processing is "Public task": The processing of your personal data may be necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in us.

## **7. International transfers**

We do not transfer your personal data outside the European Economic Area (EEA).

## **8. Information security**

We have put in place appropriate security measures to prevent your personal data from being accidentally lost, used or accessed in an unauthorised way, altered or disclosed. We have established procedures to deal with any suspected personal data breach and will notify you and any applicable regulator of a breach where we are legally required to do so.

## **9. Data retention**

We will only retain your personal data for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for, including for the purposes of satisfying any legal, accounting, or reporting requirements.

We will keep your personal data according to the Records Retention Schedule.

## **10. Your rights**

Under certain circumstances, you may have the following rights under data protection legislation in relation to your personal data:

- Right to request access to your personal data;
- Right to request correction of your personal data;
- Right to request erasure of your personal data;
- Right to object to processing of your personal data;
- Right to request restriction of the processing your personal data; and
- Right to request the transfer of your personal data.

If you wish to exercise any of these rights, please contact the Data Protection Officer.

## **11. Contacting us**

You can contact UCL by telephoning +44 (0)20 7679 2000 or by writing to: University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT.

Please note that UCL has appointed a Data Protection Officer. If you have any questions about this Privacy Notice, including any requests to exercise your legal rights, please contact our Data Protection Officer by emailing: [data-protection@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:data-protection@ucl.ac.uk)

## **12. Complaints**

If you wish to complain about our use of personal data, please send an email with the details of your complaint to the Data Protection Officer so that we can look into the issue and respond to you.

You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) (the UK data protection regulator). For further information on your rights and how to complain to the ICO, please refer to the ICO website.