

Biomedical Fieldworker _____

Ref: N13977/ _____

Health and lifestyles of people aged 50 and over

Dear _____

Stage 1: Interview complete

Thank you for participating in the first stage of **ELSA – 50+ Health & Life**. We hope you enjoyed your interview and are looking forward to taking part in the next stage of the survey – the health visit.

Stage 2: Health visit

The health visit is very simple and straightforward, it involves a few quick questions, measurements and samples. The biomedical fieldworker will ask you for your consent at every opportunity and you can say yes or no to each one.

This visit collects important information on how people's health changes over time and also allows comparisons to be made with the health of people in other countries.

Our biomedical fieldworker has already tried calling at your address but unfortunately has not been able to see you. They will call again soon. All our biomedical fieldworkers carry a photo identity card. If you prefer to suggest a time when you would be available please call National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) on freephone **0800 652 4574**.

Thank you for your help.

Yours Sincerely,



Martin Wood
Head of Longitudinal Research
NatCen Social Research



Professor Andrew Steptoe
Institute of Epidemiology and Health Care
University College London



➤ **When will the health visit be?**

We realise that you may be busy, so we'll organise the health visit at a time that suits you including during the week, at weekends and in the evening. Just call NatCen on Freephone **0800 652 4574** (Monday to Friday: 9am to 5pm) to arrange a time for the biomedical fieldworker to visit.

➤ **What will the health visit be about?**

The biomedical fieldworker visit includes a range of questions about your health and then a number of measurements and samples. The biomedical fieldworker will ask for your permission for each of the measurements and samples and you can say yes or no to each one. For some of the samples, you can choose to have your results sent to you afterwards.

➤ **My GP already has my information. Can't you get this from them?**

No. The health visit is the only way to capture all the information and measures at a single point in time, in the exact way the research requires it, and then link this to the interview that you have taken part in recently, giving us a full picture of your health.

➤ **How do you safeguard my privacy?**

We will treat your information in the strictest confidence under UK GDPR data protection legislation. Your answers are put with those collected from people across England and the survey findings are used for research that benefits society. You will not be identifiable from the published results. You can read more about the ELSA privacy policy here: <https://www.elsa-project.ac.uk/privacy-notice>.

➤ **Where can I find out more?**

If you'd like to know more, see the health visit leaflet that was left by your interviewer, call us free on **0800 652 4574** or visit our website www.natcen.ac.uk/elsa50plus. Your biomedical fieldworker will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

