

# Independent Inquiry into the issues raised by Paterson

We recently published the terms of reference for the Inquiry, and are grateful to those who came forward to share their views on the scope of this work. The next stage is to listen to evidence from former patients of Ian Paterson, representatives of former patients and relatives of deceased patients, to inform our lines of enquiry for other witnesses and, ultimately, the findings and recommendations we will make to the Government.

We would like to invite you to an evidence session so that you can share your evidence and personal experience, in private, with two members of the Inquiry team. We will begin the evidence sessions week commencing 7 May in Birmingham and continue during May, June and July. Generally these will be held morning and afternoon on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We expect that each session will last no more than 1.5 hours.

If you would like to attend an evidence session with us, please contact the Inquiry team as follows:

- Inquiry phone line - 0207 972 1295 (please leave a message and a member of the team will call you back as soon as possible)
- Inquiry email - [enquiries@patersoninquiry.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@patersoninquiry.org.uk)
- PO Box 879, LS1 9RZ

We will then make contact as soon as possible in to arrange an evidence session. Expenses may be available to assist with attending an evidence session and we can discuss this with you.

If you would like to share your experience as evidence to the Inquiry, but you are unable to attend an evidence session, please get in touch with us and we can discuss alternative arrangements.

We very much hope that you will be willing to share your experience with us, which will help to make a difference to patients and their families in the future.

## How we will handle the information you provide to the Inquiry - Data Protection and Privacy Information

- Purpose of processing: We will be processing personal information and sensitive personal information (particularly about patients' health) for the purpose of fulfilling the terms of reference of the independent inquiry, published on our website at [www.patersoninquiry.org.uk/terms-of-reference/](http://www.patersoninquiry.org.uk/terms-of-reference/).
- Security and sharing: All personal and sensitive personal information that you share with us will be appropriately protected, and will only be shared with those who need to see it for the purposes of fulfilling the Inquiry's terms of

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reference. This may include a relevant employer, professional or quality regulator, or the police, if you provide evidence to us that indicates a criminal or disciplinary offence by someone.

- Anonymised extracts of your evidence may be included in the findings of the Inquiry's public report. An Annex to that report is likely to include an anonymised summary account of the evidence you provide to the Inquiry about your experience, unless you request otherwise.
- Retention: Within eight weeks of the Inquiry having fulfilled its terms of reference and issued its report, all other documents created during the course of the Inquiry to record details of your experience will be destroyed; as will any original document provided by you (or another person) to the Inquiry, unless you have requested its return.
- Further information: Before the evidence sessions commence, we will publish more details about our information handling and privacy policy on our website: [www.patersoninquiry.org.uk](http://www.patersoninquiry.org.uk)