



Participant Information Leaflet

Exploring pharmacists' views of and attitudes towards prescribing in Ireland – a cross-sectional study.

Site	School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Trinity College Dublin
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Study Organiser/ Sponsor	Trinity College Dublin
Data Controllers	Trinity College Dublin
Data Protection Officer	Data Protection Officer Secretary's Office Trinity College Dublin Dublin 2

You are being invited to take part in a survey. The study is being conducted online by 5th year pharmacy students under the supervision of Cristín Ryan.



Before you decide whether you wish to take part, please read this information sheet carefully. Contact Cristín Ryan with any questions you may have. Do not feel rushed or under pressure to make a quick decision. You should understand the risks and benefits of taking part in this study so that you can make a decision that is right for you.

This leaflet has five main parts:

Part 1 – The Study

Part 2 – Data Protection

Part 3 – Costs, Funding and Approval

Part 4 – Future Research

Part 5 – Further Information



Part 1 – The Study

Why is this study being done?

We are doing this study to help us understand what pharmacists think of pharmacist prescribing. It involves answering questions about your views of pharmacist prescribing. Data from the study will help us to understand pharmacists' readiness to prescribe, education and training needs and how pharmacist prescribing should be best implemented into the Irish healthcare system.

Why have I been invited to take part?

You have been invited to take part if you are registered as a pharmacist with the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland and provide consent to participate. We would like to know your views of and attitudes towards prescribing, including your readiness to prescribe and the approach to prescribing that you think would best suit your current practice.

Do I have to take part? Can I withdraw?

You do not have to take part in this study, it is entirely voluntary. If you decide to take part, there will be no adverse consequences. You can change your mind and opt-out at any time. If you decide not to take part or to opt-out, it won't affect your current or future research participation or practice. If you decide to opt-out, you can do this by not completing the survey.

What happens if I change my mind?

You can change your mind about taking part at any time. You can decide not to complete the survey, or you might also like to contact Cristín Ryan (cristin.ryan@tcd.ie) to let her know. However, this is not essential. Your future care or participation in other researcher studies will not be affected by a decision to withdraw.

No personal data will be gathered, and we will not be able to link survey responses with any individual. We will therefore not be able to destroy a part-completed survey if you started to complete to but then changed your mind. We will not be able to destroy fully completed surveys either if you happen to change your mind after completing it.

How will the study be carried out?



The study will involve the online completion of a survey. If you decide to take part, it can be accessed through a link. The survey will be available for completion over a four-week period from 24/04/2024-22/05/2024. We will not know if you have already completed the survey, and if you have, you will be asked not to complete it again.

What will happen to me if I decide to take part?

If you decide to take part in this study, click on the link, and this will bring you to the questions in the survey. You will be asked to tick a box noting your consent for completing the survey, and there will also be instructions to guide you in how to complete the survey. The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

What will happen to my data?

Data will be analysed and used to inform further studies and the implementation of pharmacist prescribing into healthcare in Ireland. Results from the study will be published in academic journals and may also be presented at national and international conferences.

Data storage and backup will comply with the data protection rules in health research, as follows:

- Email addresses will not be stored.
- If any personal identifiers are provided while completing the survey, these will be removed, and de-identified to maintain anonymity and confidentiality.
- All electronic computerised data throughout the study will be stored in a limited access OneDrive folder through Trinity College Dublin and encrypted password-protected laptop/computer.
- All data will be stored until the end of the study. It will be stored in an encrypted Trinity College Dublin server for five years post-study completion before being permanently deleted.
- Access to the data will be limited to the research team: Sophie Barrins, Sarah Bateman, Alexander Craven, Laura Johnson, Clodagh Moxham, Rebecca Regan, and Prof. Cristín Ryan (the academic supervisor).
- Prof. Cristín Ryan (the academic supervisor) will be responsible for ensuring data security.

Are there any benefits to taking part in this research?

The information you provide us will be used to help us understand pharmacists' views of and attitudes towards pharmacist prescribing the Irish healthcare system. By participating in the study, participants can provide their opinions on different prescribing models, training requirements, scope of practice, challenges expected, and help ameliorate barriers for its



implementation in the future.

Are there any risks to me or others if I take part?

There are no recognised risks for participants of this study. Questions will be general for pharmacists and responses will be anonymous. Responses will have no impact on your ability to practice. You will have an opt-out option at every question on the questionnaire to cease participation.

Will I be told the outcome of the study? Will I be told the results of any tests or investigations performed as part of this study that relate to me?

The results of the study will be reported in medical/scientific journals and disclosed at medical/scientific conferences. No information which reveals your identity will be disclosed.

Part 2 – Data Protection

Data Controller	Trinity College Dublin
Data Protection Officer	Data Protection Officer Secretary's Office Trinity College Dublin Dublin 2 Ireland Email: dataprotection@tcd.ie Website: www.tcd.ie/privacy



What is the lawful basis to use my personal data?

By law, ¹ we can use your personal information for scientific research² (in the public interest³). We will also ask for your explicit consent to use your data as a requirement of the Irish Health Research Regulations.

What are my rights?

You are entitled to:

- The right to access to your data and receive a copy of it
- The right to restrict or object to processing of your data
- The right to object to any further processing of the information we hold about you (except where it is de-identified)
- The right to have inaccurate information about you corrected or deleted
- The right to receive your data in a portable format and to have it transferred to another data controller
- The right to request deletion of your data

By law you can exercise the following rights in relation to your personal data unless the request would make it impossible or very difficult to conduct the research. You can exercise these rights by contacting the Trinity College Data Protection Officer, Secretary's Office, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin 2, Ireland. Email: dataprotection@tcd.ie. Website: www.tcd.ie/privacy.



Part 3 – Costs, Funding and Approval

Has this study been approved by a research ethics committee?

Yes, this study has been approved by the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Ethics Committee. Approval was granted on [17/04/2024, 2024-01-02].

Who is organising and funding this study? Will the results be used for commercial purposes?

The research is being undertaken by a team of researchers in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Trinity College Dublin, including MPharm students, guided by an academic supervisor. This research is not being funded by any organization. The researchers are not being paid for recruiting participants for this study. The results will not be used for commercial purposes.

Is there any payment for taking part? Will it cost me anything if I agree to take part?

No, we are not paying participants to take part in the study.

Part 4 – Future Research

Will my personal data and/or biological material be used in future studies?

Your data will not be used in future studies. No information which reveals your identity will be disclosed. Data will be destroyed and permanently deleted five years after study completion.

Part 5 – Further Information

Who should I contact for information or complaints?

If you have any concerns or questions, you can contact:

- Academic supervisor: Prof Cristín Ryan; cristin.ryan@tcd.ie



- Data Protection Officer, Trinity College Dublin: Data Protection Officer, Secretary's Office, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin 2, Ireland. Email: dataprotection@tcd.ie. Website: www.tcd.ie/privacy.

Under GDPR, if you are not satisfied with how your data is being processed, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Office of the Data Protection Commission, 21 Fitzwilliam Square South, Dublin 2, Ireland. Website: www.dataprotection.ie.

Will I be contacted again?

If you would like to take part in this study, you will be asked to confirm consent at the beginning of the survey. You will be given a copy of this information leaflet. No personal information will be recorded in the process of this study, so you will not be contacted after completing the survey.