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**Role Description for a Public Representative for the Cancer Prevention and Early Detection work stream of the Cancer and Nutrition National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) infrastructure collaboration**

**Role:** Public Representative for the ‘Cancer Prevention and Early Detection’ work stream.

**Person Specification:** We are looking for a member of the public with an interest in nutrition and cancer prevention to work closely with our patient representative

**Duration:** The usual term of office is 2 years, with the possibility of extension in agreement with the work stream lead.

**Working relationships:** Other members of the work stream; and possibly other work streams.

**Payment:** Travel expenses only

**Background**

**The NIHR Cancer and Nutrition Infrastructure Collaboration:** [**http://cancerandnutrition.nihr.ac.uk/**](http://cancerandnutrition.nihr.ac.uk/)

Since its establishment in 2014 this collaboration has sought to bring together the high-quality research being carried out in the field of cancer with the field of nutrition, so that each can add value to the other in the interest of patients and the public. This has involved bringing together researchers, clinicians and patients. The aim is to foster high quality research to provide the knowledge needed to improve care by providing better nutritional support for the public and for cancer patients.

**The Cancer Prevention and Early Detection work stream of the Collaboration:**

The subgroup aims to develop a research programme that focuses on the key lifestyle factors of diet and nutrition, alcohol, physical activity and obesity in the primary, secondary and tertiary prevention of cancer. The scope of work includes research into biological mechanisms, understanding behaviour change, and the impact of lifestyle exposures on cancer development.

**Role summary and responsibilities**

Public representatives are expected to contribute to the activities of the Cancer Prevention work stream by:

* Regularly attending and actively participating in meetings. The work stream convenes by telephone on average every 6-8 weeks for approximately 1 hour and meets in person a minimum of once per year in London.
* Assisting the subgroup in understanding the perspectives of the public regarding the research of the subgroup.
* Contributing to the design of new studies as well as any publications arising from the subgroup.
* Helping to develop a communication plan for the subgroups activities.
* Preparing for group meetings by reading meeting papers and raising any issues for clarification with the subgroup lead.
* Abiding by any requests for confidentiality and to declare any conflicts of interest if they arise.
* Asking for guidance and reporting any questions or concerns to the subgroup lead.
* Contributing to manuscript drafting and providing comments at all stages
* Giving feedback to the subgroup as to what could be more effective for future public representatives.

**How will you add value to the work stream and how will you be supported?**

* Your involvement will help us to deliver high quality research
* You will join a small, friendly and approachable team. You will be appointed a point of contact to answer any questions you may have about the research in confidence or at the team meetings.
* Peer support will be provided by our patient representative

**Required skills and experience**

* Must be reliable, friendly and can be trusted with confidential information.
* Good communication skills with an ability to listen to others and constructively express own view from a public perspective.
* An ability to work effectively and constructively as part of a team within a mixed group of members of the public and professionals.
* Be willing to work with the group to achieve research goals.
* To provide feedback to the group to help improve public involvement in future projects.
* Willingness to familiarise yourself with relevant research, medical and behavioural change language.
* Knowledge and understanding of the public perspective, with an ability to raise a broader range of public perspectives beyond their own personal experience.
* An understanding of the importance of and need for cancer clinical and non-clinical research.

If you are interested in participating in this work please contact Prof Annie S. Anderson

**Contact Details for further information**

Email: a.s.anderson@dundee.ac.uk by August 31st

*Disclaimer: - The successful individual will not be employed by the Cancer and Nutrition NIHR infrastructure, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust or otherwise. All expenses will be reimbursed and any honoraria will be in accordance with the NIHR Involve guidelines. It is the individual’s responsibility to ensure all earnings are declared to HMRC.*