**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET: NEXT-OF-KIN IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW**

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**Study title: The Lived Experience Of Participants in an African RandomiseD controlled trial (LEOPARD)**

We would like to learn from the experience of the relatives or next-of-kin of people who were recruited into the AMBITION trial. We know that some people were confused or unconscious when they first came to the hospital and were recruited into the trial. In this situation, the next-of-kin would have been the one who made the decision to enter that person into the trial. We would like to understand more about your experience of providing consent for someone else. We would also like to learn more in general of how you think the AMBITION trial could be improved.

This study is led by Dr David Lawrence who is a PhD student at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in the United Kingdom and the lead doctor for the AMBITION trial. A member of Dr Lawrence’s team would like to interview you to learn from your experience. We want to interview people from three AMBITION sites: Gaborone, Harare and Kampala.

**What will happen today if I take part in this study?**

A researcher would like to spend at least 20 minutes and up to one hour interviewing you. The researcher is not a member of the AMBITION medical team which has been looking after you. The interview will be conducted in Setswana or English, whichever you prefer, and will take place at a location deemed suitable to you both. We will try to arrange this interview around your own personal schedule. The interview will be recorded by two digital recorders and the researcher may also take notes.

The researcher will ask you questions about your experience as the next-of-kin of a participant in the AMBITION trial. You will be invited to draw a timeline of your involvement and interaction with the trial. The researcher will ask to keep any drawings with your permission.

**What risks can I expect from the study?**

Participation in any research study may involve a loss of privacy. Information you provide about your experiences and opinions will be recorded but your name will not be used in any reports. Digital recordings will be safely stored and then destroyed once they have been written up. Direct quotes will only be included with your specific consent.

Your experience and feelings will not be directly fed back to the AMBITION medical team without your consent. If you would like the team to receive specific feedback then we will pass this on with your permission. Your involvement, or not, in this interview study will not negatively impact the care you next-of-kin receives from the AMBITION medical team.

Some people find that talking through their experience of a loved one’s illness may cause some sadness or distress. If this is the case and you would like to stop the interview then we can do this. If you feel that you need some emotional support then the team can help or will refer you to someone for support.

**Are there benefits to taking part in the study?**

There will be no direct benefit to you from participating in this study. The information you provide will help the research team understand how best to improve the study.

Some people find that talking through their experience of a loved one’s illness may help them to make sense of what has happened which can improve their understanding and emotional wellbeing.

**Do I have to consent?**

You are under no obligation to consent to this study. If you do not participate your wishes will be respected and there will be no penalty. Your involvement, or not, in this interview study will not negatively impact the care your next-of-kin receives from the AMBITION medical team.

**Can I withdraw from the study?**

You are free to withdraw your consent at any time. If you would like to stop the interview at any time please just state this and the interview will end immediately. No recording or notes will be made after this point. If in this circumstance, you would prefer for the recording and notes to be destroyed this wish will be respected.

**What are the costs of taking part in this study? Will I be paid for taking part in this study?**

The only cost to you is your time. There will be no cash reimbursement for participating. If you have travelled specially for this interview outside of your next-of-kin’s AMBITION follow-up schedule you will be given 50BWP. Refreshments will be provided.

**What will happen to the findings of this study?**

These interviews will be analysed along with interviews with other people, including patients themselves and members of the research team, to identify ways to improve the AMBITION trial for future participants. The findings will be presented as a manuscript and submitted for publication, contributing to Dr Lawrence’s PhD submission.

**Who is funding this study?**

This study is funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

**Who has reviewed this study?**

This study has been approved by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Human Research Development Council (HPDME 13/18/1)

**Who can answer my questions about this study?**

You can talk to Dr David Lawrence about any questions or concerns you have about this study. Contact 7246-4834 or david.s.lawrence@lshtm.ac.uk. If for any reason you do not wish to do this, or you still have concerns about doing so, you may contact the HRDC at the Ministry of Health and Wellness at 391-4467.

**YOU WILL BE GIVEN A COPY OF THE INFORMATION SHEET AND A SIGNED CONSENT FORM TO KEEP.**