**Participant Information Sheet for the Key informant interview study**

**Perceptions and understandings of Post-Malnutrition Weight Gain & Growth: a survey and key informant interview study**

***Introduction***

*We would like to invite you to take part in an in-depth, online interview to further understand your perceptions and opinions on post-malnutrition weight gain and growth. Participation in the interview is entirely up to you and you will be asked to provide your informed consent. Before providing consent, you will need to understand the purpose of the study and what it would involve. Please do not hesitate to ask questions if anything you read is not clear or if you would like further information. Please feel free to talk to others about the study if you wish.*

***What is the purpose of the study?***

*This study contributes to a work package within the Medical Research Council’s “CHANGE” project (Child malnutrition & Adult NCDs: Generating new Evidence on mechanistic links in Jamaica, Malawi & Ethiopia to inform future policy & practice). The overall aim of the CHANGE project is to “optimise severe malnutrition treatment programmes by better understanding the mechanisms linking infant/child undernutrition to longer-term (adult) NCD”.*

*This present study aims to understand current perceptions of post-malnutrition weight gain and growth, and their relations to the risks of non-communicable diseases. As a descriptive, qualitative study, our findings will be used to generate hypotheses and inform future intervention studies on this topic.*

***Why have I been asked to take part?***

*You have previously participated in an online questionnaire investigating your perceptions of post-malnutrition weight gain and growth. At the end of the questionnaire, you expressed consent to be contacted for an in-depth interview on the topic.*

*You have been invited to take part because we would like to further understand your perceptions of post-malnutrition weight gain and growth, and their relations to the risks of non-communicable diseases.*

***Do I have to take part?***

*No; Your participation is entirely voluntary. If you wish to take part in the interview after reading this information sheet, we will ask you to provide your written consent by signing a consent box and returning it to our research team by email before the start of the questionnaire.*

***Can I change my mind about taking part?***

*Yes; You may refuse to participate or withdraw from the study at any time without having to provide any reason.*

***What will I have to do?***

*You will be invited to participate in an online interview, either via Zoom audio or video call. This interview is expected to last approximately 30-45 minutes. The interview will consist of a series of questions on post-malnutrition weight gain and growth, and their relations to the risks of non-communicable diseases.*

***What are the possible risks and disadvantages?***

*As we will not be collecting any sensitive or personal information, we do not foresee any risks or disadvantages in taking part in the study. We would like to highlight that the questions are designed to gather your opinions on the topic area and that there are no right or wrong answers.* ***All responses are valid and important to us.*** *We understand that your answers only represent your individual view and not that of any organisation you are associated with.*

***What are the possible benefits?***

*This study may not provide any direct benefits for you personally. However, findings obtained from the study will help provide a better understanding of current perceptions of post-malnutrition weight gain and growth and may inform the hypotheses and design of future follow-up or intervention studies on this topic.*

***What if something goes wrong?***

*If you have any concerns about this study, you may ask to speak to the Lead Investigator, whose research team will do their best to answer your questions:* [*marko.kerac@lshtm.ac.uk*](mailto:marko.kerac@lshtm.ac.uk)*. If you remain unhappy and wish to file a formal complaint, you can do so by contacting: Patricia Henley at* [*rgio@lshtm.ac.uk*](mailto:rgio@lshtm.ac.uk) *or +44 (0) 20 7927 2626.*

*The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine holds insurance policies which apply to this study. If you experience harm or injury as a result of taking part in this study, you may be eligible to claim compensation.*

***What will happen to information collected about me?***

*All data and information collected from you will be kept securely in protected, encrypted files. Only the staff involved in the study and regulatory authorities performing monitoring, audits, or inspections for the study will be allowed to access the data and information collected.*

*The only piece of personal information we will request from you will be your email address, if you are willing to take part in the in-depth online interview. All email correspondence will be deleted from our records once we have received all consent forms and have scheduled the interview. Audio/video recordings of interviews will be deleted once the content has been transcribed. You may request to review your interview transcript if desired.*

*All data from questionnaires and interview transcripts will be anonymised and de-identified.*

*At the end of the project, the study data will be archived at LSHTM’s digital research repository (LSHTM Data Compass* [*https://datacompass.lshtm.ac.uk/information.html*](https://datacompass.lshtm.ac.uk/information.html)*). Your personal information will not be included and the data will be anonymous and unidentifiable.*

***Where can you find out more about how your information is used?***

*You can find out more about how we use your information*

* *At* [*https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/research-participant-privacy-notice.pdf*](https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/sites/default/files/research-participant-privacy-notice.pdf)
* *by asking one of the research team (at* [*grace.odonovan@lshtm.ac.uk*](mailto:grace.odonovan@lshtm.ac.uk) *or* [*marko.kerac@lshtm.ac.uk*](mailto:marko.kerac@lshtm.ac.uk)*)*
* *by sending an email to* [*DPO@lshtm.ac.uk*](mailto:DPO@lshtm.ac.uk)

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

*The study results might be published in a relevant journal to share our findings with others. Your personal information will not be included in the study report and all data will be anonymised and de-identified upon publication.*

***Who is organising this study?***

*The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine is organising the study and will act as the Data Controller for the study. This means that we are responsible for the proper collection, storage, and analysis of your data.*

***Who has reviewed this study?***

*This study has been reviewed and approved by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine Research Ethics Committee to protect your interests.*

***Further information and contact details***

*Thank you for taking time to read this information sheet. If you would like to take part in the study, please sign and return the consent form to our research team to provide your written consent.*

*If you would like any further information, please contact the Lead Investigator of the study, whose research team can answer any questions you may have. Contact details:* [*marko.kerac@lshtm.ac.uk*](mailto:marko.kerac@lshtm.ac.uk)