



**Understanding shared decision making about major surgery:
a qualitative study**

Invitation letter for clinicians eligible to take part in Phase 2
19th November 2018, version 1.0

Dear Sir / Madam,

We are a research team from the University of Oxford. We are studying how clinicians like yourself, and patients, make decisions about whether or not major surgery is the right option for them. This study is part of a six-year research programme, funded by the National Institute of Health Research, designed to make it easier for patients and doctors to arrive at the best decision possible about surgery.

The research is led by a professor and conducted by trained researchers. We want to hold focus groups for people like yourself who have been involved in providing care for patients undergoing high risk cardiac, colorectal and major joint surgery and/or supporting patients in making a decision about that surgery.

You do not have to agree to take part in this research and do not need to decide straight away. You have received this letter, along with a copy of our information sheet, either because you have already expressed an interest in participating in the research or because your hospital or professional organisation has sent this letter to you on behalf of the research team to see if you are interested in participating. If you are happy to talk with us then please contact the researcher on [INSERT NUMBER/EMAIL]. We can discuss the research with you and answer any questions that you have about the research and what your participation would mean. Once we have confirmed that you would like to take part we will invite you to participate in a one-off focus group of no more than 1.5 hours.

Thank you for your consideration.

Professor Sara Shaw
(Professor in charge of this research study)