PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Title of project:

Part 1

Introduction to the research and invitation to take part:
You are being invited to take part in a research study. It is important that you understand why the research is being done and what it will involve before you decide whether or not to take part. Please read the following information carefully, and please discuss this with others if you wish. Feel free to ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

What is the purpose of the study?
The study will be examining the relations between brain structure and brain function using magnetic resonance imaging.

What kinds of stimuli will be presented?
The stimuli will be visual images (pictures, words), sounds, tactile input or smells. Any stimuli that might potentially be distressing will be shown to you beforehand to enable you to judge if you feel distress. You will be able to withdraw from the study at any time (below).

Do I have to take part?
No. It is up to you whether or not to take part. If you do, you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form. You are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason. Withdrawing from the study will not affect you in any way (e.g., your future medical treatment).

What will happen to me if I take part?
You will undergo an MRI scan and you may also be asked to carry out a task while in the scanner. As you carry out the task we will measure changes related to brain activity which will inform us about how brain areas operate while a task is being undertaken. The scanning session will last about 45 min, during which time you will be asked to lie still.

What is magnetic resonance imaging?
Magnetic resonance imaging involves changes the gradient of a magnetic field to produce shifts in the alignment of atoms in the body of the person being scanned. The changes in alignment can be used to measure the structure and function of the tissues. When the brain is scanned we can derive information about both brain structure and function. The procedure is non-invasive and carries no known harm outside of safety issues for operating in a high magnetic field (e.g., if you have a cardiac...
pacemaker). For this reason you will be asked to go through a safety questionnaire with a scan operator prior to being allowed to proceed into the scanning environment.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?
By learning more about how the brain works, by using MRI, we will be able to develop better ways of diagnosing changes in brain function, and we will learn about how to improve brain function to optimise performance.

What happens at the end of the research study?
The results will be written up in a scientific publication or presented in other academic formats. In addition results may be reported in a newsletter to be distributed to participants or to hospitals involved with the study. All data will be reported anonymously.

Will my data be shared?
In the ethics consent form we also ask if you are willing to share the data we collect from you with other researchers. There are two levels of data sharing: 1) sharing only within the University of Birmingham or 2) sharing more generally as an open access resource outside of the University. In the former case, your anonymised data may be copied to an internal University of Birmingham data server and made available for other University of Birmingham members of staff to use in their research. In the latter case, your data may be made publicly available on the internet as an open access resource. Many scientific journals now require the studies they publish to upload anonymised data repositories as part of the publication process so that other researchers can examine and re-analyze the data. Such sharing of data is considered best practice and is consistent with current government and international policies on scientific data. Note that any shared data will never contain any personal details about you (name, address etc). Please note that you can choose to allow sharing of your data (or not) at either level. If you are happy to share your data you will also need to fill in a short health and demographic questionnaire.

Will I be recognisable from my data?
In case of MRI data, you should be aware that there exists software that can reconstruct the outline shape of the face, similar to the picture shown on the right. Furthermore, similar to fingerprints, brain shape and anatomy are unique to each individual, thus in the future technology may become available enabling one to recognize an individual from their brain structure.

Will my data be used for non-research purpose?
Your data may be also used for example for educational, teaching or media purposes.

What if there is a problem?
It is possible that lying in the scanner might cause some back or neck pain, and it is possible to feel a burning sensation. If you experience any discomfort you can press the emergency buzzer and you will be brought out of the scanner immediately. Any complaint about the way the study has been conducted or any possible harm you may have suffered will be addressed. The detailed information on this is given in Part 2.

Will my taking part in the study be kept confidential?
Yes. All the information about your participation in this study will be kept confidential. The details are included in Part 2.
**Contact Details:**

**Dr Andrew Bagshaw**, BUIC Scientific Director, School of Psychology, University of Birmingham  
Email: a.p.bagshaw@bham.ac.uk  
Telephone: 0121 414 3683

**Dr Pia Rotshtein**, Ethics officer  
School of Psychology, University of Birmingham  
Email: p.rotshtein@bham.ac.uk  
Tel: 0121 414 2879

**Ms Nina Salman**, Clinical Radiographer,  
Birmingham University Imaging Centre, University of Birmingham  
Email: n.salman@bham.ac.uk  
Telephone: 0121 414 8834

**Ms Denise Clissett**, Secretariat  
School of Psychology, University of Birmingham  
Email: d.clissett@bham.ac.uk  
Telephone: 0121 414 4932

This completes Part 1 of the Information Sheet.

If the information in Part 1 has interested you and you are considering participation, please continue to read the additional information in Part 2 before making any decision.
Part 2

What will happen if I do not want to carry on with the research study?
You are free to withdraw from the study at any time, including following data collection, without giving a reason. If the data collected until the time of withdrawal could be used, you will specifically be asked to give your consent to having the data included in any analysis.

What if there is a problem?
The University of Birmingham has an insurance policy in place which provides cover for claims arising from negligent harm.

If you have any problems with the conduct of the study then you can contact various people:
(i) phone the Research Governance Committee of the University of Birmingham, who have considered this project, on 0121 414 7618, who will arrange for your concerns to be investigated.
(ii) Anyone named above (under contact details) as contact personnel for BUIC.

Unexpected findings on your scan
As you are aware, the images obtained of your brain are for specific research purposes only and are generally not suitable for diagnostic opinions. They do not form any part of your official medical records. However, although the pictures are not diagnostic scans, in the unlikely event that any unusual findings are noted incidentally by the scan operator, further advice will be sought and you will be contacted at a later date to discuss any follow-up.

Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?
Our procedures for handling, processing, storing and destroying your data are all compliant with the Data Protection Act 1998. All information that is collected about you during the course of the research will be kept strictly confidential.

Who is organising and funding the research?
The research is organised by the University of Birmingham.

Who has reviewed the study?
This study was given a favourable ethical opinion by the Research Ethics Committee, University of Birmingham.

You will be offered a copy of this information sheet and the signed ethics consent form to keep.

Thank you for considering taking part and taking the time to read this information.