

THIS STUDY HAS BEEN REVIEWED BY A RECOGNISED  
RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE



## Title of Project: The Best Services Trial (BeST?)



### An Invitation

**We would like to invite you to take part in a research project.** Before deciding about taking part, it is important that you understand what we want to do and why. Please take the time to read the information. Discuss it with your social worker, or **phone us on 0141 201 9239** if you have any questions.

More information can also be found on the study website:

[www.gla.ac.uk/bestservicestrial](http://www.gla.ac.uk/bestservicestrial)

### What is the study?

In Renfrewshire, health and social work offer two services for children who enter care, **Case Management**, or **GIFT**. The BeST? Services Research Trial team is trying to find out **which one works best** for children's development and wellbeing.

We are inviting birth and foster families to take part if they have a child aged between 0 and 60 months when they enter an episode of care arranged by Renfrewshire Council social work services.

We don't know which service is best and want to be as fair as possible. Families will be chosen to receive Case Management or GIFT by a computer which has no information about individual families - *a bit like tossing a coin.*

### What are the two services like?

Case Management and GIFT have different approaches and different teams, but both services will meet with families regularly and put them in touch with any services they might need.

Families will be asked to meet people who understand about relationships between parents and children, usually at least once a week for a few months. They will also have the chance to talk about their own problems.

It is very important to find out whether Case Management or the Infant and Family Team is better for children.



### How will the researchers find out about the child's development?

**Parents and carers** will be asked about the child's development.

**Children** will be asked to complete some puzzles.

**Video** - we would like to make a videotape of the carer playing with the child during the research assessment. This lets us study the tape later to get a better understanding about how the child is developing.

### How much of your time will this take?

This will involve **3 research visits**:

1. about **3 months** after the child comes into care
2. about **15 months after entry into care**
3. around **2½ years (30 months) after entry into care**

We are keen to see children at each of these 3 time-points, because this will help us decide which service has the best long-term effect. Each research assessment takes 2-3 hours. These usually take place in the **Clinical Research Facility** at the **Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Govan, Glasgow.**

### Your expenses

Families will receive travel expenses and £20 for their time attending each research visit.

## Information and confidentiality

Information will be stored in accordance with the **Data Protection Act** and kept in confidence within the research and clinical team, except in the unlikely event of concerns about safety of the child or others. We also ask that we can **inform your General Practitioner of your participation** in the study. If you have particular concerns about the child and would like us to inform other professionals such as a paediatrician, then we would be happy to do so with your permission.

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHS GG&C) is the sponsor for this study based in Scotland. **We will be using information from the child's medical and social work records in relation to your child in order to undertake this study** and will act as the data controller for this study. This means that **we are responsible for looking after your information and using it properly**. NHS GG&C will keep identifiable information about you for **10 years** after the study has finished.

Your rights to access, change or move your information are limited, as we need to manage your information in specific ways in order for the research to be reliable and accurate. **If you withdraw from the study, we will keep the information about you that we have already obtained unless you instruct us not to**. To safeguard your rights, we will use the minimum personally-identifiable information possible.

You can find out more about how we use your information on **0141 201 9239**.

## Who is organising and funding this research?

The trial is sponsored by **NHS GG&C**, coordinated on behalf of **National Institute of Health Research** by **Glasgow University Institute of Health and Wellbeing** based at Level 4, West Glasgow Ambulatory Care Hospital, Yorkhill, Glasgow, G3 8SJ. The trial is supported by **NSPCC**.

## Do I have to take part?

No, you do not have to take part. If you decide not to take part in the study this will not affect your right to receive a service, and you will be offered the usual social work services.

## What if something goes wrong?

If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, you should ask to speak to the researchers who will do their best to answer your questions. If you remain unhappy and wish to complain formally, you can do this through the **NHS Complaints Procedure** [complaints@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:complaints@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)/ 0141 201 4500

## Why is the study important?

We hope that these two new services will help children's development when they are placed in care. This study will help us find out how best to support the children who enter care in Renfrewshire.



## Additional information about the use of your data

The Research Team at the University of **Glasgow** will collect **information about your child, including their medical records** for this research study in accordance with our instructions.

The Research Team at the University of Glasgow **will keep your name, and contact details confidential** and will not pass this information to the Sponsor (NHS GG&C). **The Research Team at the University of Glasgow will use this information as needed, to contact you about the research study, and make sure that relevant information about the study is recorded for your child's care, and to oversee the quality of the study**. Certain individuals from NHS GG&C and regulatory organisations may look at your child's medical and research records to check the accuracy of the research study. NHS GG&C will only receive information without any identifying information. **The people who analyse the information will not be able to identify you and will not be able to find out your name, or contact details**.

The Research Team at the University of Glasgow will keep identifiable information about you from this study for 10 years after the study has finished.

If you need *independent* advice about the study, please contact  
**Lucy Thompson** on  
**0141 201 9239** or [lucy.thompson@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:lucy.thompson@glasgow.ac.uk)