



**Health Research  
Authority**

**London - Surrey Research Ethics Committee**

Nottingham Centre  
The Old Chapel  
Royal Standard Place  
Nottingham  
NG1 6FS

Telephone: 0207 104 8388

**Please note: This is the favourable opinion of the REC only and does not allow you to start your study at NHS sites in England until you receive HRA Approval**

22 May 2023

Dr Matthew Williams  
Consultant Clinical Oncologist  
Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust  
Dept. Clinical Oncology - Charing Cross Hospital  
Fulham Palace Road  
London  
W6 8RF

Dear Dr Williams

**Study title:** **INDIGO Community: Investigating DIGital Outcomes in a community setting for patients living with and beyond a diagnosis of cancer. To understand more about the long-term outcomes and service use of patients living with and beyond a diagnosis of cancer**  
**Phase II randomised feasibility research administering questionnaires in a mixed methods study.**

**REC reference:** **23/PR/0405**  
**IRAS project ID:** **324034**

Thank you for your letter responding to the Proportionate Review Sub-Committee's request for changes to the documentation for the above study.

The revised documentation has been reviewed and approved on behalf of the PR sub-committee.

### **Confirmation of ethical opinion**

On behalf of the Research Ethics Committee (REC), I am pleased to confirm a favourable ethical opinion for the above research on the basis described in the application form, protocol and supporting documentation as revised.

### **Good practice principles and responsibilities**

The [UK Policy Framework for Health and Social Care Research](#) sets out principles of good practice in the management and conduct of health and social care research. It also outlines the responsibilities of individuals and organisations, including those related to the four elements of [research transparency](#):

1. [registering research studies](#)
2. [reporting results](#)
3. [informing participants](#)
4. [sharing study data and tissue](#)

### **Conditions of the favourable opinion**

The REC favourable opinion is subject to the following conditions being met prior to the start of the study.

**You should notify the REC once all conditions have been met (except for site approvals from host organisations) and provide copies of any revised documentation with updated version numbers. Revised documents should be submitted to the REC electronically from IRAS. The REC will acknowledge receipt and provide a final list of the approved documentation for the study, which you can make available to host organisations to facilitate their permission for the study. Failure to provide the final versions to the REC may cause delay in obtaining permissions.**

Confirmation of Capacity and Capability (in England, Northern Ireland and Wales) or NHS management permission (in Scotland) should be sought from all NHS organisations involved in the study in accordance with NHS research governance arrangements. Each NHS organisation must confirm through the signing of agreements and/or other documents that it has given permission for the research to proceed (except where explicitly specified otherwise).

Guidance on applying for HRA and HCRW Approval (England and Wales)/ NHS permission for research is available in the Integrated Research Application System.

For non-NHS sites, site management permission should be obtained in accordance with the procedures of the relevant host organisation.

Sponsors are not required to notify the Committee of management permissions from host organisations.

### Registration of Clinical Trials

All research should be registered in a publicly accessible database and we expect all researchers, research sponsors and others to meet this fundamental best practice standard.

It is a condition of the REC favourable opinion that **all clinical trials are registered** on a publicly accessible database within six weeks of recruiting the first research participant. For this purpose, 'clinical trials' are defined as:

- clinical trial of an investigational medicinal product
- clinical investigation or other study of a medical device
- combined trial of an investigational medicinal product and an investigational medical device
- other clinical trial to study a novel intervention or randomised clinical trial to compare interventions in clinical practice.

Failure to register a clinical trial is a breach of these approval conditions, unless a deferral has been agreed by the HRA (for more information on registration and requesting a deferral see: [Research registration and research project identifiers](#)).

If you have not already included registration details in your IRAS application form you should notify the REC of the registration details as soon as possible.

### Publication of Your Research Summary

We will publish your research summary for the above study on the research summaries section of our website, together with your contact details, no earlier than three months from the date of this favourable opinion letter.

Should you wish to provide a substitute contact point, make a request to defer, or require further information, please visit: <https://www.hra.nhs.uk/planning-and-improving-research/application-summaries/research-summaries/>

**N.B. If your study is related to COVID-19 we will aim to publish your research summary within 3 days rather than three months.**

During this public health emergency, it is vital that everyone can promptly identify all relevant research related to COVID-19 that is taking place globally. If you haven't already done so, please register your study on a public registry as soon as possible and provide the REC with the registration detail, which will be posted alongside other information relating to your project. We are also asking sponsors not to request deferral of publication of research summary for any projects relating to COVID-19. In addition, to facilitate finding and extracting studies related to COVID-19 from public databases, please enter the WHO official acronym for the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the full title of your study. Approved COVID-19 studies can be found at: <https://www.hra.nhs.uk/covid-19-research/approved-covid-19-research/>

**It is the responsibility of the sponsor to ensure that all the conditions are complied with**

**before the start of the study or its initiation at a particular site (as applicable).**

### **After ethical review: Reporting requirements**

The attached document “After ethical review – guidance for researchers” gives detailed guidance on reporting requirements for studies with a favourable opinion, including:

- Notifying substantial amendments
- Adding new sites and investigators
- Notification of serious breaches of the protocol
- Progress and safety reports
- Notifying the end of the study, including early termination of the study
- Final report
- Reporting results

The latest guidance on these topics can be found at <https://www.hra.nhs.uk/approvals-amendments/managing-your-approval/>.

### **Ethical review of research sites**

The favourable opinion applies to all NHS/HSC sites taking part in the study, subject to management permission being obtained from the NHS/HSC R&D office prior to the start of the study (see “Conditions of the favourable opinion” above).

### **Approved documents**

The documents reviewed and approved by the Committee are:

| <i>Document</i>  | <i>Version</i> | <i>Date</i>      |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Copies of materials calling attention of potential participants to the research [Indigo Community - Adverts (overall)] | 1.1            | 21 February 2023 |
| Copies of materials calling attention of potential participants to the research [Indigo Community - Facebook]          | 1.0            | 10 February 2023 |
| Copies of materials calling attention of potential participants to the research [Indigo Community - Instagram]         | 1.0            | 10 February 2023 |
| Copies of materials calling attention of potential participants to the research [Indigo Community - Twitter]           | 1.0            | 10 February 2023 |
| Covering letter on headed paper [Indigo Community - Covering letter]   | 1.0            | 27 March 2023    |
| Evidence of Sponsor insurance or indemnity (non NHS Sponsors only) [Indigo Community - Verification certificate]       | 1.0            | 01 August 2022   |
| IRAS Application Form [IRAS_Form_03042023]   |                | 03 April 2023    |
| IRAS Checklist XML [Checklist_16052023]  |                | 16 May 2023      |
| Letter from funder [Indigo Community - Award letter]   | 0.1            | 11 August 2022   |
| Letter from sponsor [Indigo Community - College non CTIMP sponsor letter]  | 0.1            | 10 March 2023    |
| Non-validated questionnaire [Indigo Community - Block - Non-validated questionnaires]                                  | 1.2            | 23 March 2023    |
| Other [Indigo Community - end of survey message]   | 0.4            | 23 March 2023    |

|  |     |                  |
|--|-----|------------------|
| Other [Indigo Community - 1. initial questionnaire]  | 1.2 | 23 March 2023    |
| Other [Indigo Community - 2. follow-up questionnaire]  | 1.0 | 23 March 2023    |
| Other [Indigo Community - Transparency notice]   | 0.1 | 23 March 2023    |
| Other [Indigo Community - Ethical Review - Response - 2023.05.16]  | 1.0 | 16 May 2023      |
| Other [Indigo Community - Patient Information Sheet_2023.05.16]  | 1.2 | 16 May 2023      |
| Participant consent form [Indigo Community - Block - 1. Initial consent]   | 1.2 | 23 March 2023    |
| Participant consent form [Indigo Community - Block - 2. Consent to linkage]  | 1.2 | 23 March 2023    |
| Participant consent form [Indigo Community - Block - 3. Consent to future contact]                                 | 1.2 | 23 March 2023    |
| Referee's report or other scientific critique report [Indigo Community - Peer Review Certificate]                  | 1.0 | 22 February 2023 |
| Referee's report or other scientific critique report [Indigo Community - Peer Review 1]                            | 1.0 | 22 February 2023 |
| Referee's report or other scientific critique report [Indigo Community - Peer Review 2]                            | 1.0 | 22 February 2023 |
| Referee's report or other scientific critique report [Indigo Community - Extra Peer Review]                        | 1.0 | 23 February 2023 |
| Research protocol or project proposal [InDIGO Community Protocol]  | 1.2 | 28 February 2023 |
| Summary CV for Chief Investigator (CI) [Indigo Community - Matt Williams - CV]                                     | 1.0 | 20 January 2023  |
| Summary, synopsis or diagram (flowchart) of protocol in non technical language [Indigo Community - data flowchart] | 1.0 | 10 February 2023 |
| Summary, synopsis or diagram (flowchart) of protocol in non technical language [Indigo Community - Process time]   | 1.0 | 10 February 2023 |
| Summary, synopsis or diagram (flowchart) of protocol in non technical language [Indigo Community - survey flow]    | 1.0 | 10 February 2023 |
| Validated questionnaire [Indigo Community - Block - Validated questionnaires]                                      | 1.1 | 23 March 2023    |

## Statement of compliance

The Committee is constituted in accordance with the Governance Arrangements for Research Ethics Committees and complies fully with the Standard Operating Procedures for Research Ethics Committees in the UK.

## User Feedback

The Health Research Authority is continually striving to provide a high quality service to all applicants and sponsors. You are invited to give your view of the service you have received and the application procedure. If you wish to make your views known please use the feedback form available on the HRA website: <http://www.hra.nhs.uk/about-the-hra/governance/quality-assurance/>

## HRA Learning

We are pleased to welcome researchers and research staff to our HRA Learning Events and online learning opportunities– see details at: <https://www.hra.nhs.uk/planning-and-improving-research/learning/>

**IRAS project ID: 324034  
correspondence**

**Please quote this number on all**

With the Committee's best wishes for the success of this project.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Pettit" with the initials "PP" written below it.

**On Behalf Of  
Mr Michael Pettit  
Chair**