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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **1** | **2** |
| **Low risk** | **High risk** |
|  | Example lower risk factors for consideration are noted below. | Example higher risk factors for consideration are noted below. |
| Participants | * participants are all 16 years and over.
* the participants are not considered vulnerable.
 | * vulnerable groups such as children aged under 16, people known to have additional support or educational needs, people with cognitive impairments at the time of the research (e.g. due to health condition, emotional state, drug or alcohol use), patients or carers, people recruited through self-help or support groups.
* without their consent.
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| Nature of the study | * no risk to the participant that might lead to disclosures of a sensitive nature or cause anxiety.
 | * an element of deception.
* disclosure of illegal or harmful activity or sensitive information.
* research involving the discussion or collection of information on potentially sensitive, embarrassing or distressing topics.
* risk of physical harm, psychological harm or discomfort for participants, or prolonged or repetitive testing which may be a burden to participants.
* where the researcher or gatekeepers are in a position of influence or authority over participants that could give rise to a perceived pressure to participate.
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| Study methodology | * there no drugs/ placebos involved.
* data has already been collected or is pre-existing data.
* no invasive techniques.
* Surveys/interviews/focus groups of a non-sensitive nature.
 | * physically intrusive, involving administration of substances, use of bodily materials, or DNA/RNA analysis.
* medical devices that are CE marked used outside its product limitation or any non-CE marked products.
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| Geographical Location | * UK
* online surveys UK and abroad.
 | * areas of political unrest.
* areas with public health concerns.
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| Other reasons |  | * undue incentives are offered.
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