



## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION LEAFLET

### Investigating Functional Immune Profiles in Multiple Sclerosis Substudy on circadian regulation of immune cells in MS

- You are being invited to take part in a research study.
- Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve.
- Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish.
- Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.
- Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.
- Thank you for reading this.

#### **What is the purpose of the study?**

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a condition of the central nervous system in which the coating around nerve fibres is damaged, causing a wide range of symptoms. Unfortunately we do not yet fully understand the cause of this condition. We do know that the immune system, your body's defence system, has an important role to play both in causing damage to the nerve fibre coating, and in its repair. It is essential that the precise role of the immune system is investigated, so we can help to identify new potential treatments for MS. The frequencies of different immune cells in the blood changes during the day in response to circadian rhythm. This substudy has been designed to investigate this effect in people with MS on different drug treatments. In particular we will be investigating T cells, a type of immune cell which is activated in MS.

#### **Why have I been asked to take part?**

You are being asked to participate because you do not have MS. Your samples will be used as a comparison for donors that have MS.

#### **Do I have to take part in the study?**

No, you can decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep and asked to sign a consent form. The consent form consists of a series of questions. If you decide to take part you are still free to withdraw at any time, without giving a reason. A decision to withdraw at any time, or a decision not to take part, will not affect future treatment.