

**Sexual Activity, Sexually Transmitted Diseases and
Risk Behaviour among Older Adults**

Thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for

Ph.D.

Vol II

at the

Centre for Ageing and Rehabilitation Studies

The University of Sheffield

by

C. Merryn Gott

November 1999

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Appendix A. Clinic Study Questionnaire

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

Please write your answer in the space provided, or tick the appropriate box

1. Are you male or female?

Male

Female

2. How old are you?.....

3. Are you: (please tick as necessary)

Single

Living with a long term partner

Married

Divorced

Separated

Widowed

4. Which country were you born in?.....

How would you define your ethnic origin?.....

.....

**5. Why are you attending the clinic today?
(Please tick all relevant boxes)**

I think I have an infection/condition requiring treatment
/a check-up

I have already been diagnosed with an
infection/condition *in this clinic* and am here for
treatment/a check-up

I have already been diagnosed with an
infection/condition *somewhere else* and am here for
treatment/a check-up

(Please specify where.....)

For HIV/AIDS testing

For another reason

(Please specify this reason).....

.....

.....

6. Have you ever been a patient at a genitourinary medicine clinic before (either this one, or one somewhere else)

Yes

No

7. Were you referred by anyone to the clinic today?

Yes

No

(If yes please go to next question, if no please go to question 10)

8. Who referred you to the clinic?

My GP

A hospital doctor

Someone else

(please specify who).....

.....

.....

***(If you ticked my GP please go to the next question,
if not please go to question 10)***

9. When you were referred by your GP, how satisfied were you with the way your GP dealt with your concerns?

Very satisfied

Quite satisfied

Not very satisfied

Very dissatisfied

Please add any comments and then go to question 11

.....

.....

.....

.....

10. Please tick the relevant box if you have seen your GP about *any* health concern

In the last six months?

In the last year?

I have not seen my GP in the last year

11. Have you ever been told by a doctor that you have had a sexually transmitted infection/condition?

Yes

No

Don't know

(If yes please go to the next question, if no or don't know please go to question 13)

12. Please could you list the infection(s)/condition(s) you have been diagnosed with and the approximate year of diagnosis.

Condition.....
Approximate year of diagnosis.....
.....

Condition.....
Approximate year of diagnosis.....
.....

Condition.....
Approximate year of diagnosis.....
.....

13. How much information have you received about sexually transmitted infections/conditions (excluding HIV/AIDS)?

A lot

Quite a lot

Not very much

Hardly anything

14. Where did you get most of this information from?

Your GP

Your local genitourinary medicine clinic

Your friends/family

Magazines/Television

Other

Please specify.....
.....

15. Do you feel you know enough about sexually acquired infections/conditions (excluding HIV/AIDS)?

Yes

No

(If yes please go to question 17, if no please go to the next question)

16. From where would you most like to get additional information?

Your GP

Your local genitourinary medicine clinic

Your friends/family

Magazines/Television

Other

(please specify).....
.....
.....

17. How much information have you ever received about HIV/AIDS?

A lot

Quite a lot

Not very much

Hardly anything

18. Where did you get most of this information from?

Your GP

Your local genitourinary medicine clinic

Your friends/family

Magazines/Television

Other

Please specify.....
.....

19. Do you feel you know enough about HIV/AIDS?

Yes

No

(If yes please go to question 21, if no please go to the next question)

20. From where would you most like to get additional information?

Your GP

Your local genitourinary medicine clinic

Your friends/family

Magazines/Television

Other

Please specify.....
.....

21. In the past, have you ever thought that you might have had a sexually transmitted infection/condition, but not sought medical treatment?

Yes

No

(If yes please go to the next question, if no please go to question 24)

22. How long ago was this?.....

23. Why did you not seek treatment?
(Please tick ALL relevant boxes)

I was embarrassed/afraid

I didn't know where to go for treatment

I wanted to wait and see if I really needed treatment

Other reason (please specify)

.....
.....
.....

24. Have you ever had an HIV/AIDS test?

Yes (before this visit)

No (but I intend to have a test during this visit)

No (but I have considered having a test)

No (and I have never considered having a test)

If you are attending the clinic today because you think that you may have (or have been told that you have) a sexually acquired infection/condition OR because you are receiving the HIV/AIDS test, please complete the following questions.

If you are attending the clinic for other reasons please go to the end of the questionnaire

25. We are particularly interested in the reasons people have for seeking medical attention. *On this occasion* what was the main reason you decided to seek medical assistance for your condition?

Concern about symptoms

Concern about possible exposure to infection

For peace of mind

For another reason

(Please specify this reason
.....
.....
.....
)

26. **Have you experienced any of the following symptoms**
(please tick ALL relevant boxes)

- Abnormal discharge
- Itching
- Pain
- Ulcers/Sores
- Genital/anal warts
- Other

Please specify.....
.....
.....

I have not experienced any symptoms

(if you experienced no symptoms please go to question 28, otherwise go to the next question)

27. If you have experienced any symptoms, when did you first notice your symptom(s):

Up to 1 week ago

Between 1 week and 2 weeks ago

3/4 weeks ago

More than 4 weeks ago

(Please specify how long ago.....)

28. If you experienced your symptom(s) more than 1 week ago, why did you delay attending the clinic?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

29. Do you think you may have caught this infection from one particular person?

Yes, my spouse

Yes, a long term sexual partner

Yes, a new sexual partner

(i.e. someone you've started having sexual intercourse with within the last three months)

Yes, a past sexual partner

No, no one in particular

Don't know

Thank you very much for taking the time to fill in this questionnaire. The information you have provided is very important.

Appendix B. Clinic Study Patient Information Sheet

Questionnaire: The Sexual Health of Older People

What is the purpose of this study?

This questionnaire is part of a larger study being carried out within the University of Sheffield to look at people over the age of 50 who are patients at genitourinary medicine clinics. We are aiming to produce much needed information for health care professionals and health educators about issues relating to clinic use within this age group. It is also hoped that the findings of this study will be used to improve the quality of care received by older clinic users.

What will be involved if I take part in the study?

We would like you to share your opinions and experiences with us by completing the following questionnaire. Although you may feel that some of the questions are not very relevant to your particular experience, we would be very grateful if you could fill in every question as carefully as you can.

Will the information obtained in the study remain confidential?

We must stress that all the information you give us will remain completely confidential. When the questionnaire has been placed into the envelope provided, the only people to see the replies will be the researchers directly involved in the study.

Will refusing to participate in the study affect my medical care?

No. Your participation is completely voluntary and non-participation will not affect your care now or in the future.

What if I wish to complain about the way in which this study has been conducted?

If you have any cause to complain about any aspect of the way in which you have been approached or treated during the course of this study, the normal National Health Service complaints mechanisms are available to you and are not compromised in any way because you have taken part in a research study.

Filling in this questionnaire will indicate that you have read the above information and consent to participate in the study.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Appendix C. Clinic Study Data Collection Form for Patient Notes

Clinic number:

Age:

Gender: male / female

Ethnicity: white/asian/afro-caribbean/other/unknown

Marital Status: single / married / co-habiting / widowed /
divorced / separated / unknown

**Mode of Referral to
Clinic:** Self / GP / Hospital / Contact

Diagnosis: codes:

diagnoses:

referred elsewhere yes / no

who to?

Referred by: was letter sent to GUM yes / no

Past Medical History

Current therapy:

Past STD's:

Treatment given:

No. of clinic visits for this attendance:

Sexuality (according to notes)

GP letter sent? yes / no

THE  **Central Sheffield
University Hospitals**

Royal Hallamshire Hospital

SOUTH SHEFFIELD RESEARCH

Glossop Road, Sheffield S10 2JF • Telephone 0114 271 1900

ETHICS COMMITTEE

Ethics Office

8 Beech Hill Road

Tel & Fax No: (0114) 271 2394

Chairman:

Dr P R Jackson

(Please quote the Ethics Reference No in your reply)

Ref: PRJ/KS

25 November 1996

Dr M Gott

Department of Health Care for Elderly People

Community Sciences Centre

Northern General Hospital


Dear Dr Gott

Re: 96/261 - Sexual Health in Older People

Thank you for your letter dated 12 November 1996 answering the queries raised by the Ethics Committee.

I can now confirm unreserved Ethics Committee approval for this protocol.

Yours sincerely



P R Jackson
Chairman

Melanie Sursham
Direct Dial 0116 2588610



LEICESTERSHIRE HEALTH
Gwendolen Road, Leicester LE5 4QF
Tel: (0116) 273 1173 Fax: (0116) 258 8577
DX 709470 Leicester 12

30 December 1996
Merryn Gott
Centre for Ageing and Rehabilitation Studies
Community Sciences Centre
Northern General Hospital Herries Road
Sheffield S5 7AU

Dear Ms Gott

The Sexual Health of Older People: Pathways through medical care - our ref. no. 4494

Further to your application dated 18 November, you will be pleased to know that the Leicestershire Ethics Committee at its meeting held on the 6 December, 1996 approved your request to undertake the above-mentioned research. The Committee felt that the form of the questionnaire might lead some patients to be concerned about HIV/AIDS. The application was approved subject to arrangements being made to reassure patients at consultation.

I would remind you, however, that your research project has been given approval only in relation to its acceptability from an ethical point of view. If, subsequently, departure from the methodology outlined in your protocol is contemplated, the Ethics Committee must be advised in order that the proposed changes may be approved. Also a report should be made to the Ethics Committee if any significant adverse reactions are noted during the course of the study. In addition, any NHS resource implications of your project must be discussed with the appropriate Trust Chief Executive. Similarly, it may be that the research project has implications for other disciplines and, if so, you are advised to discuss them with the appropriate departmental manager. Researchers should also be able to assure the Ethics Committee that satisfactory arrangements have been made for the labelling, safe storage and dispensation of drugs and pharmaceutical staff are always willing to provide advice on this.

Researchers' attention is also drawn to correspondence from the Regional Director of Public Health dated 28 January, 1991 relating to Clinical Trials which sets out revision of the procedures to be followed, and the Clinical Trials Indemnity Letter and Deed of Guarantee. Researchers should ensure that these indemnity arrangements have been complied with.

Researchers intending to study selective groups of patients in the community are reminded that their first approach should be to the individual patient's general practitioner to ascertain whether the particular patient was suitable for inclusion in the study. Equally, when the researcher contacts the patient it should be emphasised that the approach is made with the knowledge of the General Practitioner, with whom the patient may discuss this research, if the patient so wished.

Yours sincerely

M. Sursham

Director of Public Health

**TEXT BOUND INTO
THE SPINE**

Appendix E. GUM clinic study: table of all bivariate analyses

	Sex	Age	Marital status	Prev GUM visit	Prev STD diag.	How much info. about STDs?	More info. wanted about STDs?	How much info. about HIV?	More info. wanted about HIV?	HIV test	Centre	Acute STD	Sus STD	Refer	Delay
Sex	-	p=0.33	p<0.05	p=0.08	p<0.05	p=0.76	p=0.77	p<0.05	p=0.06	p<0.05	p=0.08	p=0.27	p=0.26	p=0.52	p=0.38
Age	p=0.33	-	p=0.15	p=0.70	p=0.87	p=0.15	p<0.05	p=0.36	p=0.41	p=0.10	p=0.08	p=0.66	p=0.99	p=0.99	p<0.05
Marital status	p<0.05	p=0.15	-	p<0.05	p<0.05	p=0.07	p=0.95	p=0.71	p=0.06	p<0.05	p=0.13	p=0.80	p<0.01	p<0.005	p=0.62
Prev. GUM visit	p=0.08	p=0.70	p<0.05	-	p<0.001	p<0.001	p=0.55	p<0.01	p=0.28	p<0.005	p<0.05	p=0.90	p=0.07	p<0.001	p=0.83
Prev STD diag.	p<0.05	p=0.87	p<0.05	p<0.01	-	p<0.05	p=0.90	p<0.05	p=0.68	p<0.05	p=0.30	p=0.93	p=0.45	p=0.28	p=0.49
How much info about STDs?	p=0.76	p=0.15	p=0.07	p<0.001	p<0.05	-	p<0.001	p<0.001	p<0.001	p=0.17	p=0.20	p=0.07	p=0.58	p<0.05	p=0.70
More info wanted re. STDs?	p=0.77	p<0.05	p=0.95	p=0.55	p=0.90	p<0.001	-	p<0.001	p<0.001	p=0.53	p=0.81	p=0.83	p<0.05	p=0.97	p<0.05
How much info about HIV?	p<0.05	p=0.36	p=0.71	p<0.01	p<0.05	p<0.001	p<0.001	-	p<0.001	p<0.05	p=0.64	p=0.37	p=0.36	p<0.05	p=0.70

	Sex	Age	Marital status	Prev GUM visit	Prev STD diag.	How much info. about STDs?	More info. wanted about STDs?	How much info. about HIV?	More info. wanted about HIV?	HIV test	Centre	Acute STD	Sus STD	Refer	Delay
More info. wanted re. HIV?	p=0.06	p=0.41	p=0.06	p=0.28	p=0.68	p<0.001	p<0.001	p<0.001	-	p=0.60	p=0.80	p=0.67	p<0.005	p=0.96	p=0.51
HIV test	p<0.05	p=0.10	p<0.05	p<0.005	p<0.05	p=0.17	p=0.53	p<0.05	p=0.60	-	p=0.47	p=0.20	p<0.005	p<0.001	p<0.01
Centre	p=0.08	p=0.08	p=0.13	p<0.05	p=0.30	p=0.20	p=0.81	p=0.64	p=0.80	p=0.47	-	p=0.08	p=0.35	p=0.67	p=0.26
Acute STD	p=0.27	p=0.66	p=0.80	p=0.90	p=0.93	p=0.07	p=0.83	p=0.37	p=0.67	p=0.20	p=0.08	-	p=0.30	p=0.17	p=0.63
Thinks has an STD.	p=0.26	p=0.99	p<0.01	p=0.07	p=0.45	p=0.58	p<0.05	p=0.36	p<0.005	p<0.005	p=0.35	p=0.35	-	p<0.001	n/a
Self-referral	p=0.52	p=0.99	p<0.005	p<0.001	p=0.28	p<0.05	p=0.97	p<0.05	p=0.96	p<0.001	p=0.67	p=0.17	p<0.001	-	p<0.05
Delay?	p=0.38	p<0.05	p=0.62	p=0.83	p=0.49	p=0.70	p<0.05	p=0.70	p=0.51	p<0.01	p=0.26	p=0.63	n/a	p<0.05	-

Appendix F. GUM clinic study: coding of variables for logistic regression models

SEX

1=male
2=female

AGE

continuous variable

MARITAL STATUS

1=unmarried
2=married

PREVIOUS GUM ATTENDANCE

1=yes
2=no

REFERRED TO CLINIC

1=yes
2=no

AMOUNT OF INFORMATION RECEIVED RE. STD'S

1=a lot/quite a lot
2=not very much/hardly anything

KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT STD'S

1=yes
2=no

AMOUNT OF INFORMATION RECEIVED RE. HIV

1=a lot/quite a lot
2=not very much/hardly anything

KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT HIV

1=yes
2=no

PREVIOUS HIV TEST

1=yes (either before or during current visit)
2=no

ATTENDING BECAUSE OF A SUSPECTED STD

1=yes
2=no

DELAY IN SEEKING MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR SUSPECTED STD

1=yes

2=no

ACUTE STD DIAGNOSIS

1=yes

2=no

PREVIOUS STD DIAGNOSIS

1=yes

2=no

Appendix G: General Population Study Original Questionnaire

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

Please write your answer in the space provided, or tick the appropriate box

1. Are you male or female?

Male

Female

2. How old are you?.....

3. Which country were you born in?.....

4. How would you define your ethnic origin?.....
.....

5. What is your current marital status?

- Single
- Living with a long term partner
- Married
- Divorced
- Separated
- Widowed

6. Are you currently in a steady relationship?

- Yes
- No

If no, please go to question 11

7. How long ago did this relationship start?

.....Years.....Months Ago

8. How often, in an average month, do you have sex with your current partner?

- I don't have sex with my current partner
- 1-2 times
- 2-10 times
- 10-20 times
- More than 20 times

9. How many times did you have sex last month?

- 0 times
- 1-2 times
- 2-10 times
- 10-20 times
- More than 20 times

10. While you have been in your current relationship, have you ever had sex with anyone outside this relationship?

Yes, with one other person

Yes, with more than one other person

No

I don't have a regular partner

Go to question 12.

11. If you are not in a sexual relationship at the moment, what is the main reason?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

12. How many sexual partners have you had *in total* in the last 5 years?

1

2-5

6-9

10+

13. How many sexual partners have you had in your lifetime?

1

2-5

6-9

10+

14. Have your sexual relationships been with:

Males

Females

Both males and females

15. Have you ever used condoms during sex?

Yes

No

If no, please go to question 18

16. If you have a regular partner, how often do you use condoms with them?

Always

Usually

Occasionally

Never

I do not have a regular partner

17. Do you use condoms with other people you have sex with?

Yes, always

Yes, usually

Yes, occasionally

No, never

I do not currently have sex with anyone other than my regular partner

18. Have you ever had concerns about your sexual health?

Yes, frequently

Yes, occasionally

No, never

19. Do you currently have concerns about your sexual health?

Yes

No

20. Do you have any health problems that interfere with your sexual relationship(s)?

No

Yes

(please specify.....
.....
.....
.....)

21. Do you consider yourself to be at risk of contracting a sexually acquired infection?

Yes

No

Don't know

22. Do you consider yourself to be at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS?

Yes

No

Don't know

23. How much information have you received about sexually transmitted infections/conditions (excluding HIV/AIDS)?

- A lot
- Quite a lot
- Not very much
- Hardly anything

24. Where did you get most of this information from?

- My GP
- My local genitourinary medicine clinic
- My friends/family
- Magazines/Television
- Other

Please specify.....
.....

25. Do you feel you know enough about sexually acquired infections/conditions (excluding HIV/AIDS)?

Yes

No

(If yes, please go to question 27)

26. From where would you most like to get additional information?

My GP

My local genitourinary medicine clinic

My friends/family

Magazines/television

Other

(Please specify.....)
.....)

27. How much information have you received about HIV/AIDS?

A lot

Quite a lot

Not very much

Hardly anything

28. Where did you get most of this information from?

My GP

My local genitourinary medicine clinic

My friends/family

Magazines/television

Other

(Please specify.....)
.....)

29. Do you feel you know enough about HIV/AIDS?

Yes

No

(If yes, please go to question 31)

30. From where would you most like to get additional information?

My GP

My local genitourinary medicine clinic

My friends/family

Magazines/television

Other

*(Please specify.....
.....)*

31. Have you ever modified your sexual behaviour in any way as a result of the information you have received about sexually acquired infections/conditions and/or HIV/AIDS?

Yes, within the last five years

Yes, within the last ten years

Yes, but not within the last ten years

No, never

32. Have you seen your GP:

In the last six months

In the last year

I have not seen my GP in the last year

33. Have you ever discussed matters relating to your sexual health with your GP?

No, and I have never wanted to

Yes, recently (i.e. within the last year)

Yes, but not recently

No, but I would have liked to

(If no, and I have never wanted to, please go to question 42)

34. How satisfied were you with the way in which your GP dealt with your concerns?

Very satisfied

Quite satisfied

Not very satisfied

Very dissatisfied

35. Do you know where your nearest genitourinary medicine clinic is?

Yes

No

36. Have you ever attended a genitourinary medicine clinic (anywhere)?

Yes

No

(If no, please go to question 39)

37. How long ago was this? (If you attended more than once please give the most recent date you attended)

In the last six months

In the last year

In the last five years

Longer than 5 years ago

38. How satisfied were you with the treatment/advice you received?

Very satisfied

Quite satisfied

Not very satisfied

Very dissatisfied

39. Have you ever been told by a doctor that you have a sexually acquired infection/condition?

Yes

No

Don't know

If no, or don't know, please go to question 41

40. Please could you list the infection(s)/condition(s) you have been diagnosed with and the approximate year of diagnosis.

Condition.....

Approximate year of diagnosis.....

Condition.....

Approximate year of diagnosis.....

Condition.....

Approximate year of diagnosis.....

41. Have you ever had an HIV/AIDS test?

Yes

No, but I have considered having a test

No, and I have never considered having a test

42. In the past, have you ever thought that you might have had a sexually transmitted infection/condition, but not sought medical treatment?

Yes

No

43. How long ago was this?.....

44. Why did you not seek treatment?
(Please tick ALL relevant boxes)

I was embarrassed/afraid

I didn't know where to go for treatment

I wanted to wait and see if I really needed treatment

Other reason

(Please specify.....
.....)

Thank you very much for your time. The information you have provided us with is very important.

Appendix H: General Population Study Original Patient Information Sheet

Questionnaire: Sexuality and sexual health of older people

What is the purpose of this study?

Research into sexuality has been notable for its exclusion of older people. The views and experiences of people over the age of 50 have never fully been examined, despite the fact that it is known that older people do have sexual health concerns. This questionnaire is part of a larger study being carried out within the University of Sheffield aiming to explore the opinions and needs of people over the age of 50 regarding sexual issues. The information gathered will make a very valuable contribution to providing services and information for older people about these issues.

What will be involved if I take part in this study?

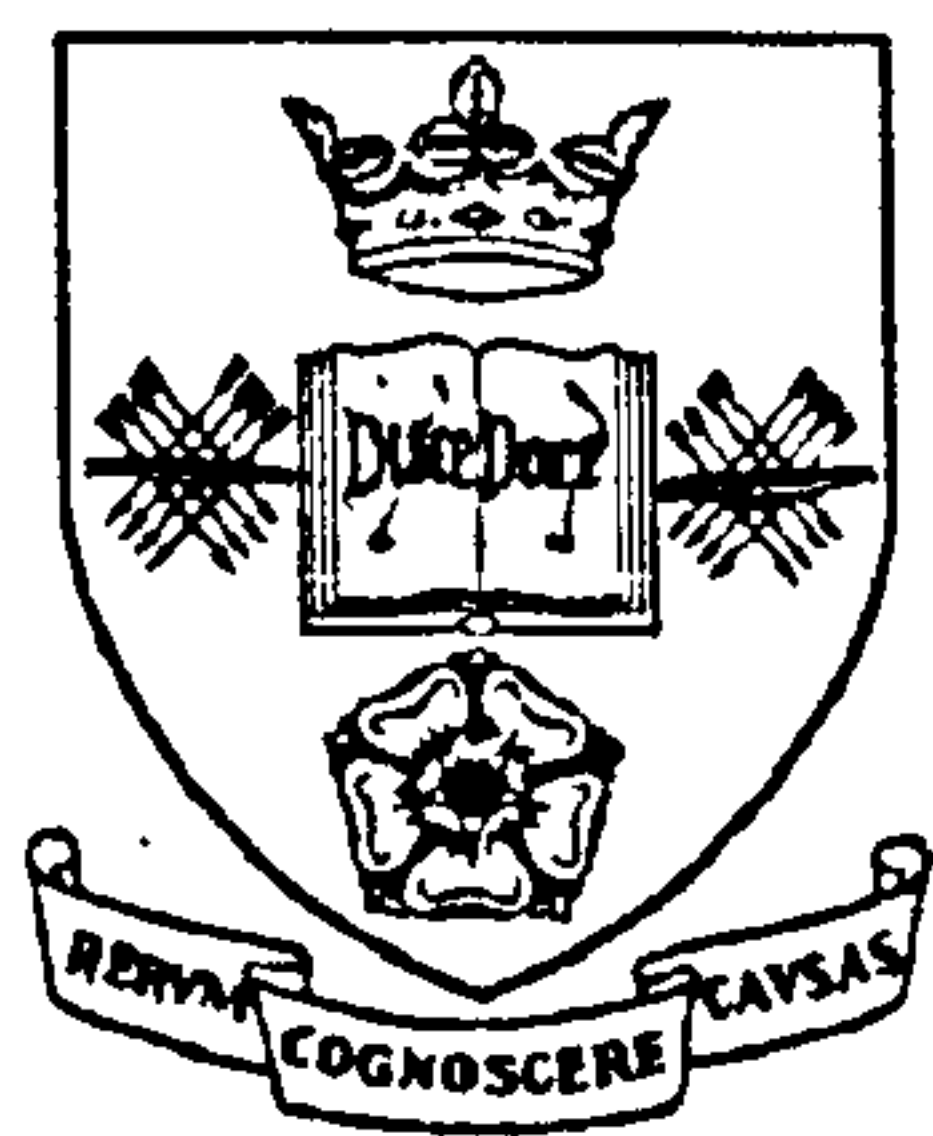
We would like you to share your opinions and experiences with us by completing the following questionnaire. Although you may feel that some of the questions are not very relevant to your particular experience, we would be grateful if you could fill in all applicable questions as carefully as you can.

We must stress that the information you give us is COMPLETELY ANONYMOUS. Do not put your name anywhere on the questionnaire.

If you do not wish to fill in the questionnaire, we would be very grateful if you could return it to us anyway, with any comments you may have about the study.

Thank you for your co-operation

Appendix I. General Population Study Original Covering Letter
Introducing the Questionnaire



The University of Sheffield
School of Health and Related Research

Centre For Ageing & Rehabilitation Studies
Director CARS: Dr Kevin Morgan

Community Sciences Centre
Northern General Hospital
Herries Road
Sheffield S5 7AU

Dear Occupier,

Thank you for returning the postcard, indicating that there is someone over the age of 50 living in your household. Could you please make sure that this letter and the enclosed questionnaire are passed on to the appropriate member of your household.

The next stage of our research is to invite you to complete an anonymous questionnaire which you will find enclosed. This questionnaire addresses a sensitive subject, that of sexual health and includes questions of an intimate nature. We do not wish to offend anybody who would not feel comfortable filling in a questionnaire on this subject, and have therefore placed the questionnaire in a sealed envelope. If you do not feel able to complete a questionnaire on this subject please do not open the envelope, but return it to us in the sealed envelope provided. You do not need to use a stamp.

If you would like to help us with our research, we would be very grateful if you could read the attached letter telling you about the study, and then complete the questionnaire as carefully as possible. Please return the questionnaire to us in the envelope provided. You do not need to use a stamp.

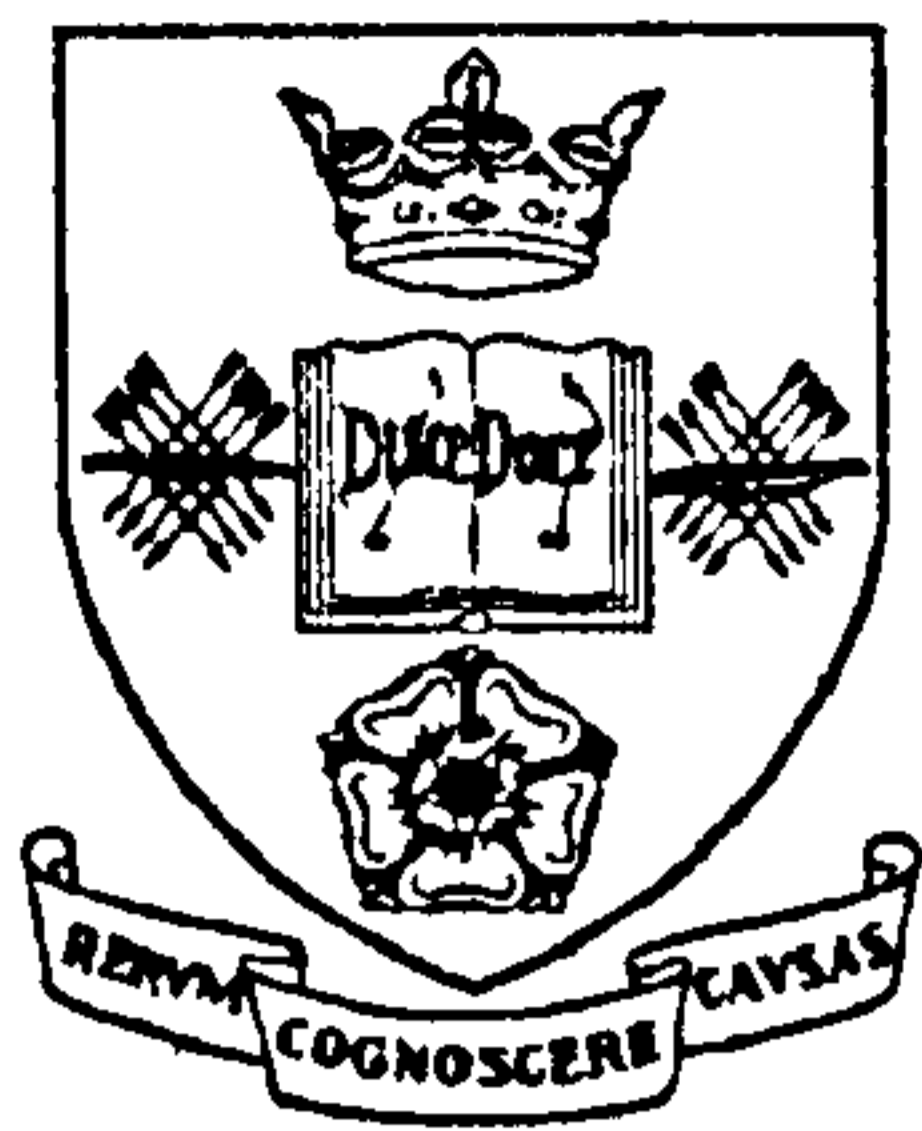
We will not contact you again.

Thank you very much for your help,

Yours faithfully,

Merryn Gott

Appendix J: General Population Study Health Recruitment Letter



The University of Sheffield

ScHARR

School of Health and Related Research

Director CARS: Dr Kevin Morgan

Community Sciences Centre
Northern General Hospital
Herries Road
Sheffield S5 7AU

0114 271 5924

Dear Sir/Madam,

Our research team at the Northern General Hospital is currently planning a large-scale survey of health needs amongst older people living in the city. The survey will be conducted by post, and comprise a short anonymous questionnaire.

To carry out this survey, we would like to identify those over the age of 50 living in the area. We would therefore be very grateful if you could complete the enclosed postcard, and send it back to us as soon as possible. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO USE A STAMP.**

By returning the postcard you are in no way agreeing to be involved in the study and **under no circumstances** will anyone from our research team to call or visit.

As we are anxious to gather a wide range of opinions from members of the public, as well as health care professionals, your co-operation is vital.

Thank you for finding the time to help us,

We look forward to hearing from you,

Yours faithfully,

Merryn Gott

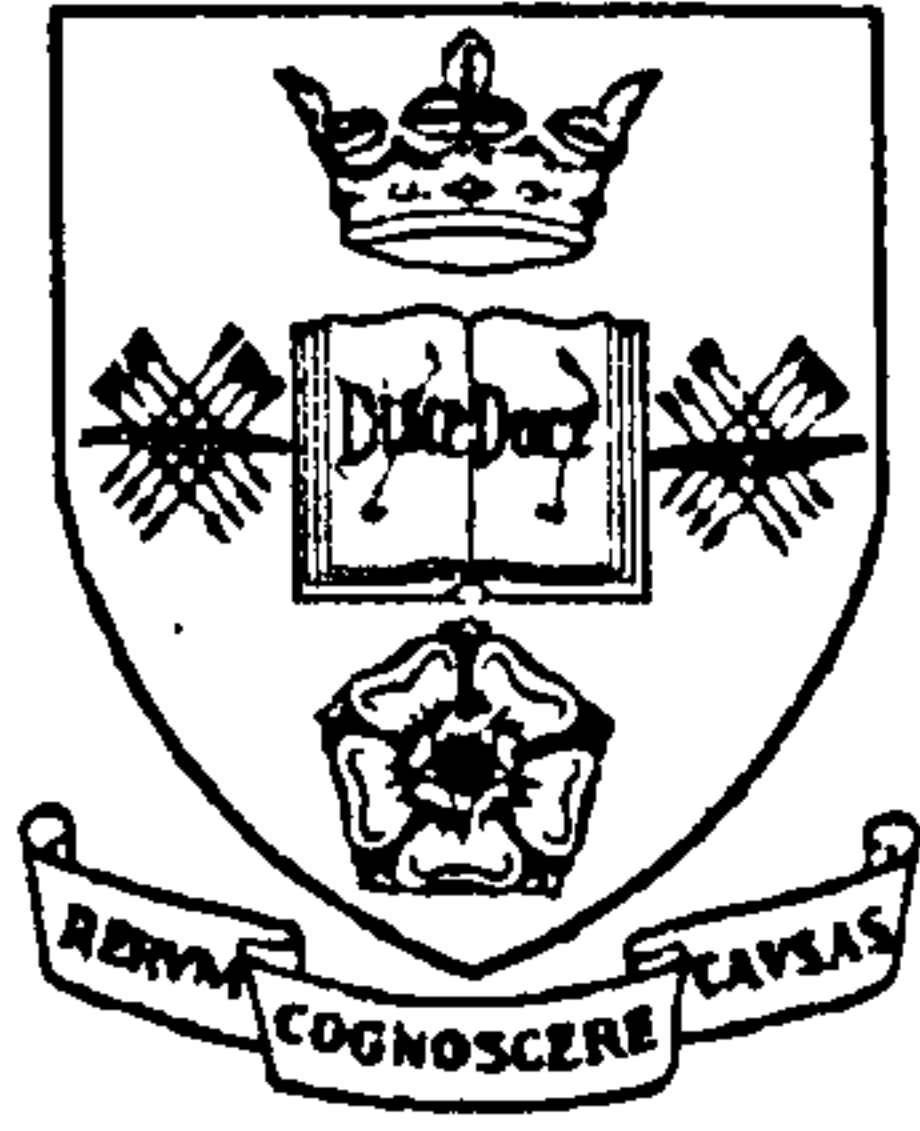
Dr Kevin Morgan

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**Appendix K: General Population Study Sexual Health
Recruitment Letter**



The University of Sheffield

ScHARR

School of Health and Related Research

Director CARS: Dr Kevin Morgan

Community Sciences Centre
Northern General Hospital
Herries Road
Sheffield S5 7AU

0114 271 5924

Dear Sir/Madam,

Our research team at the Northern General Hospital is currently planning a large-scale survey of sexual health needs amongst older people living in the city. The survey will be conducted by post, and comprise a short anonymous questionnaire.

To carry out this survey, we would like to identify those over the age of 50 living in the area. We would therefore be very grateful if you could complete the enclosed postcard, and send it back to us as soon as possible. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO USE A STAMP.**

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As we are anxious to gather a wide range of opinions from members of the public, as well as health care professionals, your co-operation is vital.

Thank you for finding the time to help us,

We look forward to hearing from you,

Yours faithfully,

Merryn Gott

Dr Kevin Morgan

Appendix I: General Population Study Ethics Committee Letter of Approval for Original Study

NORTHERN GENERAL
HOSPITAL N.H.S. TRUST

Herries Road,
Sheffield S5 7AU

Telephone
(0114) 243 4343

Facsimile
(0114) 256 0477
Research Office:
(0114) 271 4011

RJMR/SR/7/7/97

Gott/

(Please quote reference on all correspondence)

14 July 1997

Ms M Gott
pH D Student
Community Sciences Centre
Northern General Hospital

Dear Ms Gott

Re Identifying the sexual health needs of older people

Thank you for your letter of the 7 July 1997 and enclosed introductory letter.

This is satisfactory therefore I can now confirm that the above study has full approval on behalf of the Research Ethics Committee.

Yours sincerely



Richard J M Ross MD FRCP
HONORARY SECRETARY - RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE
Senior Lecturer/Honorary Consultant Physician

cc Dr Kevin Morgan
Dr Kevin McKee

Appendix M. Full Results of Pilot Studies of General Population Survey

Introduction

The results from the questionnaires completed during the research strategies described above will now be presented. As the number of questionnaires completed to this point was low (n=41), the results will be presented together, although any notable differences in responses elicited from the different recruitment strategies will be highlighted.

Socio-demographic characteristics

The socio-demographic characteristics of the three sample groups were very similar (Table 1), the only notable difference being the high percentage of unmarried individuals recruited through the *Sunday Mirror* when compared to the two other sample groups. It was felt that numbers of participants were insufficient to compare their socio-demographic characteristics with relevant census statistics. However, it appears that men and those aged 50-60 were over-represented within the sample group.

Table 1: Socio-demographic characteristics of individuals recruited during initial recruitment strategies

Socio-demographic data	Sheffield Star		Sunday Mirror		Pilot Postal Study	
	n	(%)	n	(%)	n	(%)
<u>Gender</u>						
Male:	5	(71.0%)	10	(66.7%)	11	(57.9%)
Female:	2	(28.6%)	5	(33.3%)	8	(42.1%)
<u>Ethnicity</u>						
White European:	7	(100%)	15	(100%)	19	(100%)
<u>Marital</u>						
married:	5	(71.4%)	6	(40.0%)	13	(68.4%)
cohabiting:	2	(28.6%)	2	(13.3%)	1	(5.3%)
single:			0		1	(5.3%)
widowed:			2	(13.3%)	2	(10.5%)
divorced/ separated			5	(33.3%)	2	(10.5%)
<u>Age</u>						
50-54:	3	(42.9%)	2	(13.3%)	6	(31.6%)
55-59:	2	(28.6%)	5	(33.3%)	3	(15.8%)
60-64:	1	(14.3%)	3	(20.0%)	5	(26.3%)
65-69:	1	(14.3%)	2	(13.3%)	2	(10.5%)
70-74:			2	(13.3%)	2	(10.5%)
75-79:			1	(6.7%)	1	(5.3%)

Key findings

Findings will be summarised with reference to key research questions identified in Chapter 5 (see below). Bivariate relationships will be identified using χ^2 tests for association where numbers permit.

Research questions:

1. What are the rates and determinants of sexual activity in later-life?
2. What is the average number of partners for individuals of this age cohort to have had: i) in the last five years: ii) in their lifetime ? What factors predict number of partners?
3. What proportion of older individuals experience sexual health concerns or have health problems that interfere with their sexual relationships? What factors are associated with such concerns and/or problems?
4. To what extent do older people with sexual health concerns make contact with health care professionals? What are the experiences of individuals who do make contact?
5. What factors predict perceived information need for STDs and HIV?
6. What is the prevalence of condom use among older people?
7. To what extent do older people place themselves at risk of contracting STDs? What factors predict risk-taking behaviour in later-life?

8. What factors are related to receiving an STD diagnosis in later-life?

Five case studies detailing the behaviours and experiences of individual respondents will then be presented. This will provide a deeper insight into the attitudes and behaviours discussed.

Current sexual activity

Proportion of respondents currently sexually active

Overall, 82.9% (n=34) of participants stated that they were currently in a 'steady relationship'. As 12.2% (n=5) of participants reported that they did not have sex with their current partner, 70.7% (n=29) of the sample could be classified as having a regular sexual partner. The percentage of participants with a regular partner ranged from 87.5% (n=6) for *Sheffield Star* respondents, 80.0% (n=12) for *Sunday Mirror* respondents to 57.9% (n=11) for the postal screen sample.

Factors associated with having a regular sexual partner

Numbers were insufficient to perform χ^2 tests for many of the variables recorded in the questionnaire, although the association of this variable with the following socio-demographic factors could be tested: age, gender and marital status. These analyses identified no associations for gender (regular sexual partner: men (n=20; 76.9%); regular sexual partner: women (n=9; 60.0%);

$\chi^2=1.3$; d.f.=1; $p=0.2$) and marital status (regular sexual partner: married (n=19; 79.2%); regular sexual partner: unmarried (n=10; 58.8%); $\chi^2=1.99$; d.f.=1; $p=0.2$). However, an association was identified between age and having a current sexual partner, with individuals under 65 years of age significantly more likely to have a partner (regular sexual partner: <65 (n=24; 80.0%); 65+ (n=5; 45.4%); $\chi^2=4.64$; d.f.=1; $p<0.05$).

Frequency of sex with regular sexual partner

The average reported frequency of sex in the past month with a regular partner was two - ten times (n=15; 36.6%), although 24.4% (n=10) of participants stated that they had had sex more than ten times in the previous month.

14.6% (n=6) of participants recorded having multiple sexual partnerships; 2.4% (n=1) with one other person and 12.2% (n=5) with more than one other person. Frequency of sex with non-regular partners was unknown.

Numbers of sexual partners

Number of sexual partners in the last five years

The majority of participants reported one sexual partner during the past five years (n=28; 68.3%). However, 29.3% of participants (n=12) stated that they had had more than one partner during this time period; 14.6% (n=6) had had between two and five partners, 12.2% (n=5) had had between six and ten partners and 2.4% (n=1) more than ten partners.

Lifetime number of sexual partners

29.3% (n=12) of participants reported having one lifetime sexual partner and 29.3% (n=12) between two and five partners. 14.6% (n=6) of individuals recorded having between six and ten lifetime partners and 26.8% (n=11) more than ten lifetime partners.

Sexual health concerns

Prevalence of sexual health concerns

31.7% of participants (n=13) stated that they had had sexual health concerns at some point in their life and 14.6% (n=6) reported currently having sexual health concerns.

Prevalence and nature of health problems

24.4% of participants (n=10) stated that they had had health problems that interfered with their sexual relationship(s). Eight of these individuals were recruited from the *Sheffield Star* and *Sunday Mirror* advertisements, six of whom stated that they had current sexual health concerns.

Numbers were insufficient for statistical testing to be carried out, but it is worth noting that 90% of these individuals were male (n=9), and 60% (n=6) were over 65 years of age.

Contact with health care professionals

Extent of contact with health care professionals

Of participants with a history of sexual health concerns (n=13), 15.4% (n=2) had attended a GUM clinic, and 46.1% (n=6) had consulted their GP about this issue. A further two participants (20%) who reported health problems that interfered with their sexual relationship(s) had attended a GUM clinic and all (n=10) had discussed this issue with their GP. Seven participants who did not report sexual health concerns or health problems also stated that they had discussed sexual health issues with a GP and two with a GUM health care professional.

Chi square tests revealed that there were no associations between contacting a health care professional and age (contacted a health care professional: <65 (50%, n=15); 65+ (63.6%, n=7); $\chi^2=0.60$, d.f.=1, p=0.44), marital status (contacted a health care professional: married 11 (64.7%);

unmarried 11 (45.8%); $\chi^2=1.42$, d.f.=1, $p=0.23$), or gender (contacted a health care professional: men (61.5%; $n=16$); women (40.0%; $n=6$); $\chi^2=1.7$, d.f.=1, $p=0.2$).

Satisfaction with contact with health care professionals

Overall satisfaction with contact with health care professionals was generally high. Of participants who had attended a GUM clinic ($n=6$), 50% ($n=3$) stated that they were very satisfied with the treatment/advice received, 33.3% ($n=2$) that they were quite satisfied and 16.6% ($n=1$) that they were not very satisfied.

Of participants who had seen their GP ($n=23$), 43.5% ($n=10$) were very satisfied with their consultation, 39.1% ($n=9$) were quite satisfied and 17.4% ($n=4$) were not very satisfied.

Information issues

Perceived amount of information received about HIV and STDs

The majority of participants felt that they had received 'not very much' or 'hardly any' information about either STDs ($n=23$; 56.1%) or HIV ($n=22$; 53.6%).

Primary information sources

The primary sources of information about HIV and STDs are summarised below (Table 2.).

Table 2. Primary sources of information about STDs and HIV

Information Source	STDs		HIV	
	n	(%)	n	(%)
GP	3	(7.3%)	3	(7.3%)
GUM clinic	3	(7.3%)	2	(4.9%)
Friends/ Family	6	(14.6%)	3	(7.3%)
Magazines/TV	22	(53.6%)	32	(78.0%)
Other	5	(12.2%)	1	(2.4%)
Unknown	2	(4.9%)	0	(0%)

Desire for additional information

46.3% of participants (n=19) felt they did not know enough about STDs, while 53.6% (n=22) felt they did not know enough about HIV. No significant associations were found between need for additional information about STDs and HIV for marital status, age, gender, number of partners in the last five years and number of partners ever.

Preferred sources of additional information

The preferred information sources for respondents who wanted additional information about STDs and HIV are summarised below (Table 3.).

Table 3. Preferred source of additional information about STDs and HIV

Information Source	STDs		HIV	
	n	(%)	n	(%)
GP	11	(57.9%)	12	(54.5%)
GUM clinic	4	(21.0%)	2	(9.1%)
Friends/ Family	1	(5.3%)	0	(0%)
Magazines / TV	3	(15.8%)	8	(36.4%)

Condom use

The majority of individuals stated that they had used a condom at some point in their life (n=35; 85.4%). However, of individuals with a regular sexual partner (n=32), 78.1% (n=25) stated that they never used a condom with this partner. A further 21.9% (n=7) recorded that they 'occasionally' used a condom with this partner. No individuals recorded 'always' or 'frequently' using a condom with their regular sexual partner.

However, of individuals with multiple sexual partners (n=8), 75% (n=6) stated that they 'always' used a condom with these partners, 12.5% (n=1) that they 'never' used a condom with these partners and 12.5% (n=1) that they 'occasionally' used a condom with these partners.

Previous STD diagnoses

Only one individual had been diagnosed with a previous STD infection (genital warts) although a further three stated that they 'did not know' if they had been diagnosed with an infection or not. The conditions listed by this latter group included candidiasis, a fungal infection and an enlarged prostate.

Risk-taking behaviour

Risk-taking was defined as individuals placing themselves at risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease through having multiple partners and inconsistently using condoms. Thus, the eight individuals with more than one current sexual partner could be termed 'risk-takers', although when condom use is considered, only two claimed that they did not 'always' use condoms with their non-regular partner. However, a further two individuals (who did not currently have more than one partner) had had more than one partner in the last five years and had never used condoms. Thus four individuals (9.7% of total respondents) had placed themselves at risk of STD infection within the past five years. One was further increasing his risk by having bisexual relationships and never having used condoms. Furthermore, as these individuals also did not use a condom with their regular partner they were placing them at risk of infection as well.

Case studies

Five case studies will now be presented of individuals who divulged a lot of information about themselves during the course of questionnaire completion,

and perhaps represent the experiences and opinions of others from this age cohort.

Case study one

The first is a 68 year old man who has been married for 48 years. In reply to the question enquiring about present sexual relationships he replies:

My wife has had pre-senile dementia for over 20 years and is not fussy over her personal hygiene (and) no longer interested in sex. As a carer and a married man, plus being elderly, I cannot interest other than paid girls and get generally frustrated. Nobody wants you when you're old, although I'm told I look no more than fifty.

He continues by indicating that he has had over ten sexual partners in the last five years, all of whom have been commercial sex workers and that he had sex between two and ten times last month. However, he further records that up until the age of 52 (approximately four years after his wife's diagnosis), he had only had one sexual partner, namely his wife. He states that he always uses a condom with his extra-marital sexual partners.

He records experiencing significant sexual health concerns to the point that he has recently become 'obsessed' with this issue. Although the exact nature of these concerns is unknown, it is likely that they relate, at least in part, to problems of impotence which he mention. He states that he consulted his GP about his sexual health concerns within the last year, but was not very satisfied with the way these concerns were addressed. Indeed, the advice he received was 'to get a girlfriend'.

Case study two

The second case study is that of a 57 year old woman who divorced a 'violent and unfaithful husband' after 26 years of marriage. Although she does not currently have a regular sexual partner, she has had concerns in the past about her sexual health because of her ex-husbands extra-marital relationships.

She states that she has received a lot of information about both STDs and HIV because:

Having an errant husband I made it my business to acquire as much knowledge as possible from all sources, including text books, for my own protection.

She also discussed these issues with her GP, and was very satisfied with this advice. However, despite knowing where her nearest GUM clinic was, she had never attended it. Furthermore, despite not considering herself currently at risk of contracting an STD or HIV, she had considered having an HIV test, but:

was advised by GP that it was unlikely that I would have got AIDS from my husband in 1984.

Case study three

This third case study involves a 56 year old man who has been married for 32 years. Despite reporting regular sexual relations with his wife, he also records having had sex with more than one other person whilst being married. In fact, he states that he had between six and ten partners in the last five years, and more than ten partners during his lifetime. He adds that all of these partners have been male.

Although he reports having used condoms during sex, he never uses a condom with his wife, but 'usually' uses them with other people he has sex with. He does not, however, consider himself to be at risk of contracting an STD or HIV. Regarding information, he considers that he has received 'not very much' information about STDs and would like additional information from magazines and television. However, he feels he has received sufficient information concerning HIV, adding that the information he has received has resulted in his modifying his sexual behaviour over the last five years.

Furthermore, he records having thought he had an STD in the past, but not seeking treatment because he was embarrassed and afraid to do so.

Case study four

The fourth case history involves a 51 year old male, married for 34 years, who has had extra-marital sexual relationships with more than one other person (including during the last five years). Despite stating that these relationships have been with both males and females, he records that he has never used a condom since 'courtship'.

However, he does not consider himself to be at risk of contracting an STD or HIV, and feels he knows enough about these conditions. Unfortunately he did not record whether or not he has undergone HIV testing but, given his low level of risk perception, this is unlikely.

Case study five

The final case study relates to a 73 year old man who records forming a new partnership since being widowed. He states that he has had between two and

five partners during the last five years but has only once used condoms, in 1944. Despite reporting not feeling at risk of acquiring an STD, including HIV, he reports a need for additional information about both STDs and HIV, with his preferred source of HIV information being the media and of STD information a GUM clinic. However, he reports never having visited a GUM clinic, although being aware of the location of his nearest clinic.

Conclusions

Although the number of individuals recruited during these first three recruitment strategies was low, some interesting findings have been identified. These include an identified need for information about STDs and HIV, a relatively high proportion of multiple partnerships and generally low rates of condom use. Although the overall proportion of people who could be identified as taking sexual risks was quite low (9.6%), these individuals were also placing both their regular sexual partners, and all other people with whom they had sex, at risk of infection.

The five case studies highlighted situations where individuals (or their partners) were engaging in multiple partnerships, as well as identifying the formation of new partnerships in later-life. This underlines the fact that older people do not only have sex within the context of mutually monogamous relationships, but also with commercial sex workers and non-permanent partners of the same and/or the opposite sex.

Obviously the small sample size recruited to this point does not allow generalisations to be made as to the extent to which these findings apply to the

general population. Indeed, as discussed previously, it is likely that individuals who respond to advertising strategies differ from the general population in terms of their experiences and attitudes. This is illustrated to some extent by the difference in the proportion of individuals with a regular sexual partner, and indeed with multiple sexual partners, between those recruited in the postal screen and advertising strategies.

However, these data do indicate a need for further research in this area.

Appendix N. General Population Study Modified Questionnaire

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

Please write your answer in the space provided, or tick the appropriate box

1. Are you male or female?

Male

Female

2. How old are you?.....

3. How would you define your ethnic origin?.....

.....

4. What is your current marital status?

Single

Living with a long term partner

Married

Divorced

Separated

Widowed

5. If you are currently in a relationship, (including a married relationship), when did this relationship start?

.....Years.....Months Ago

6. Have you ever had concerns about your sexual health?

Yes, frequently

Yes, occasionally

No, never

7. Do you currently have concerns about your sexual health?

Yes

No

8. Do you have any health problems that interfere with your sexual relationship(s)?
(Please tick all relevant boxes)

No

I am not currently involved in a sexual relationship

Yes

(please specify.....
.....
.....
.....)

9. Have you ever discussed these problems/concerns with your GP?

No, and I have never wanted to

Yes, recently (i.e. within the last year)

Yes, but not recently

No, but I would have liked to
(If no, and I have never wanted to, please go to question 11)

10. How satisfied were you with the way in which your GP dealt with your concerns?

Very satisfied

Quite satisfied

Not very satisfied

Very dissatisfied

11. Do you know where your nearest genitourinary medicine clinic is?

Yes

No

12. Have you ever attended a genitourinary medicine clinic (anywhere)?

Yes

No

(If no, please go to question 15)

13. How long ago was this? (If you attended more than once please give the most recent date you attended)

In the last six months

In the last year

In the last five years

Longer than five years ago

14. How satisfied were you with the treatment/advice you received?

Very satisfied

Quite satisfied

Not very satisfied

Very dissatisfied

15. How much information have you received about:

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

HIV and AIDS?

A lot

Quite a lot

Not very much

Hardly anything

16. Where did you get most of this information from about?

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

HIV and AIDS?

My GP

My local GUM clinic

My friends/family

Magazines/Television

Other

(Please specify.....)
.....)

17. Do you feel you know enough about:

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

HIV and AIDS?

Yes

No

(If yes, please go to question 19)

18. From where would you most like to get additional information about:

	SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS	HIV and AIDS?
My GP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My local GUM clinic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My friends/family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Magazines/television	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>(Please specify.....)</i>		
.....)		

19. Have you ever modified your sexual behaviour in any way as a result of the information you have received about sexually acquired infections/conditions and/or HIV/AIDS?

Yes, within the last five years	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes, within the last ten years	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes, but not within the last ten years	<input type="checkbox"/>
No, never	<input type="checkbox"/>

20. How many sexual partners have you had *in total* in the last five years?

0	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	<input type="checkbox"/>
2-5	<input type="checkbox"/>
6-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
10+	<input type="checkbox"/>

21. How many sexual partners have you had in your lifetime?

0	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	<input type="checkbox"/>
2-5	<input type="checkbox"/>
6-10	<input type="checkbox"/>
10+	<input type="checkbox"/>

22. Have your sexual relationships been with:

Males

Females

Both males and females

23. Have you ever used condoms during sex?

Yes

No

If no, please go to question 26

24. If you have a regular partner, how often do you use condoms with them?

Always

Usually

Occasionally

Never

I do not have sex with my regular partner

I do not have a regular partner

25. Do you use condoms with other people you have sex with?

Yes, always

Yes, usually

Yes, occasionally

No, never

I do not currently have sex with anyone other than my regular partner

26. Have you ever been told by a doctor that you have a sexually acquired infection/condition?

Yes

No

Don't know

If no, or don't know, please go to question 28

27. Please could you list the infection(s)/condition(s) you have been diagnosed with and the approximate year of diagnosis.

Condition.....

Approximate year of diagnosis.....

Condition.....

Approximate year of diagnosis.....

Condition.....

Approximate year of diagnosis.....

28. Have you ever had an HIV/AIDS test?

Yes

No, but I have considered having a test

No, and I have never considered having a test

29. In the past, have you ever thought that you might have had a sexually transmitted infection/condition, but not sought medical treatment?

Yes

No

30. How long ago was this?.....

31. Why did you not seek treatment?
(Please tick ALL relevant boxes)

I was embarrassed/afraid

I didn't know where to go for treatment

I wanted to wait and see if I really needed treatment

Other reason

*(Please specify.....
.....)*

Thank you very much for your time. The information you have provided us with is very important.

Appendix O. General Population Study Modified Participant Information Sheet

The University of Sheffield



PERSONAL HEALTH STUDY

What is the purpose of this study?

This questionnaire is part of a larger study being carried out at the Northern General Hospital aiming to explore the opinions and needs of people over the age of 50 with regards personal relationship issues. The information gathered will make a very valuable contribution to service development.

What will be involved if I take part in this study?

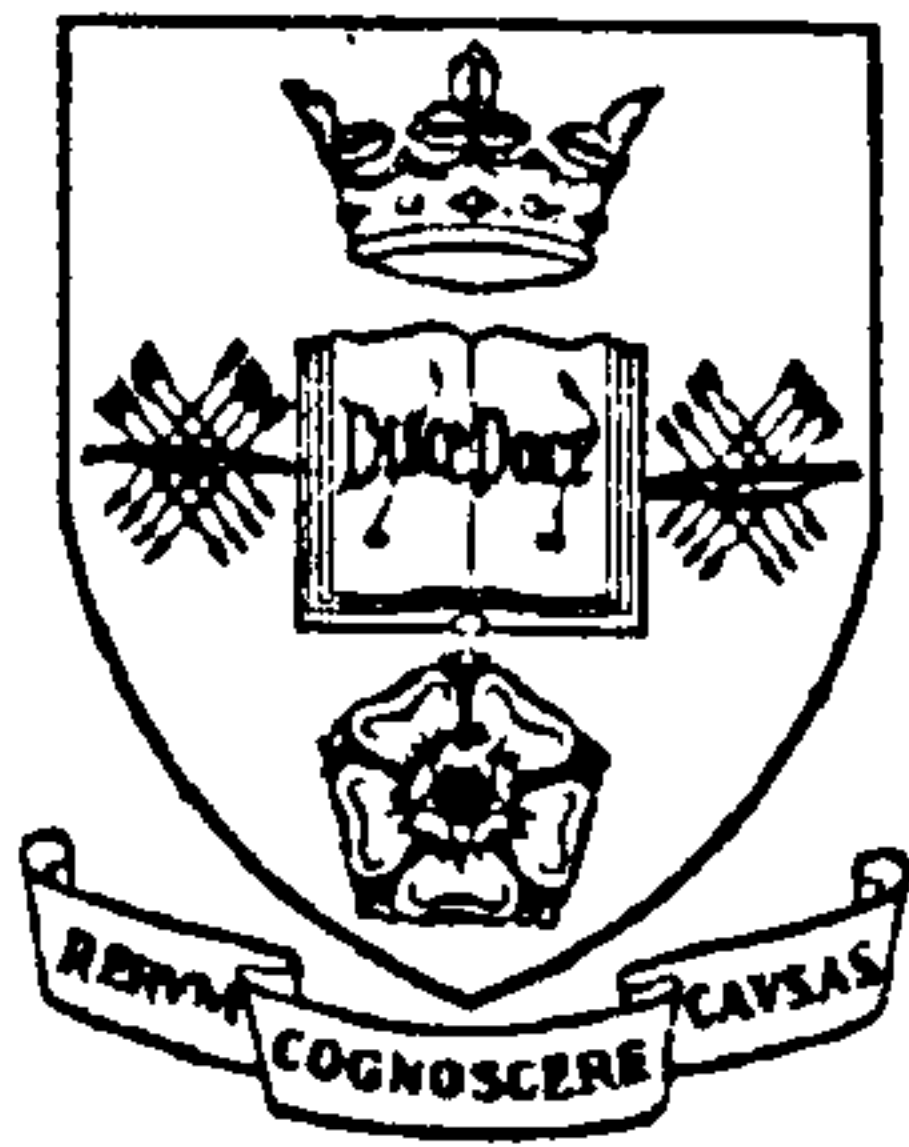
We would like you to share your opinions and experiences with us by completing the following questionnaire. Although you may feel that some of the questions are not very relevant to your particular experience, we would be grateful if you could fill in all applicable questions as carefully as you can.

The information you give us is COMPLETELY ANONYMOUS. Do not put your name anywhere on the questionnaire.

If you do not wish to fill in the questionnaire, we would be very grateful if you could return it to us anyway, with any comments you may have about the study.

Thank you for your help

Appendix P. General Population Study Modified Covering Letter
Introducing the Questionnaire



The University of Sheffield
School of Health and Related Research

Centre For Ageing & Rehabilitation Studies
Director CARS: Dr Kevin Morgan

Community Sciences Centre
Northern General Hospital
Herries Road
Sheffield S5 7AU

0114 271 5924

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for returning the postcard, indicating that there is someone over the age of 50 living in your household. Could you please make sure that this letter and the enclosed questionnaire are passed on to the appropriate member of your household.

The next stage of our research is to invite you to complete an anonymous questionnaire which you will find enclosed. This questionnaire addresses a sensitive subject, that of sexual health and includes questions of an intimate nature. We do not wish to offend anybody who would not feel comfortable filling in a questionnaire on this subject, and have therefore placed the questionnaire in a sealed envelope. If you do not feel able to complete a questionnaire on this subject please do not open the envelope, but return it to us in the sealed envelope provided. You do not need to use a stamp.

If you would like to help us with our research, we would be very grateful if you could read the attached letter telling you about the study, and then complete the questionnaire as carefully as possible. Please return the questionnaire to us in the envelope provided. You do not need to use a stamp.

We will not contact you again.
Thank you very much for your help,

Yours faithfully,

Merryn Gott
Dr Kevin Morgan

Appendix Q: General Population Study Ethics Committee Letter of Approval for Modified Study

NORTHERN GENERAL
HOSPITAL N.H.S. TRUST

Herries Road,
Sheffield S5 7AU

Telephone
(0114) 243 4343

Facsimile
(0114) 256 0472

TAG/SR/7/7/97
Gott/
(Please quote reference on all correspondence)

Research office:
(0114) 271 4011

13 August 1997

Ms M Gott
Ph D Student
Community Sciences Centre
Northern General Hospital

Dear Ms Gott

Re Identifying the sexual health needs of older people

Thank you for your letter of the 31 July 1997 and the enclosed modified proposal.

The modified proposal does not present any ethical issues therefore I can confirm that the original approval is extended to include this.

Yours sincerely



T A Gray
CHAIRMAN - RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE
Consultant in Chemical Pathology

cc Dr K Morgan
Centre for Ageing and Rehabilitation Studies
Community Sciences Centre
Northern General Hospital

Dr Kevin McKee
Centre for Ageing and Rehabilitation Studies
Community Sciences Centre
Northern General Hospital

Appendix R: General population study: coding of variables for logistic regression models

SEX
1=male
2=female

AGE
continuous variable

LENGTH OF CURRENT RELATIONSHIP
continuous variable

MARITAL STATUS
1=unmarried
2=married

AMOUNT OF INFORMATION RECEIVED RE. STD'S
1=a lot/quite a lot
2=not very much/hardly anything

KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT STD'S
1=yes
2=no

AMOUNT OF INFORMATION RECEIVED RE. HIV
1=a lot/quite a lot
2=not very much/hardly anything

KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT HIV
1=yes
2=no

PREVIOUS HIV TEST
1=yes
2=no

EVER ATTENDED A GUM CLINIC
1=yes
2=no

CURRENTLY SEXUALLY ACTIVE
1=yes
2=no

EVER HAD SEXUAL HEALTH CONCERNS

1=yes

2=no

MORE THAN ONE LIFETIME SEXUAL PARTNER

1=yes

2=no

MADE CONTACT WITH HCP'S IF SEXUAL HEALTH CONCERNS

1=yes

2=no

Appendix S: General population study:
Table showing all bivariate analyses

	Sex	Age	Marital Status	Know where nearest GUM clinic is	Visited a GUM clinic	Length of current relationship	HIV test	More than 1 partner in last 5 years	Sexual health concerns	Amount of info. re. STDs	Amount of info. re. HIV	Sexually active	Ever used a condom
Sex	-	P=0.28	P<0.05	P=0.18	P=0/07	P=0/19	P=0.9	P<0.01	P<0.001	P=0.081	P=0.27	P<0.05	P=0.74
Age	P=0.28	-	P<0.001	P=0.23	P=0.63	P<0.001	P=0.006	P<0.001	P=0.92	P=0.07	P=0.93	P<0.001	P=0.06
Marital Status	P<0.05	P<0.001	-	P=0.08	P=0.73	P<0.001	P=0.55	P=0.05	P=0.81	P=0.38	P=0.48	P<0.001	P=0.28
Know where nearest GUM clinic is	P=0.18	P=0.23	P=0.08	-	P<0.001	P=0.07	P=0.21	P=0.75	P=0.06	P<0.001	P<0.01	P=0.64	P=0.13
Visited a GUM clinic	P=0.07	P=0.63	P=0.73	P<0.001	-	P<0.05	P=0.05	P=0.88	P<0.001	P=0.33	P=0.28	P=0.20	P=0.87

Length of current relationship	P=0.19	P<0.001	P<0.001	P=0.07	P<0.05	-	P=0.31	P<0.001	P=0.28	P=0.88	P=0.86	P<0.001	P=0.10
Had an HIV test	P=0.9	P=0.06	P=0.55	P=0.21	P<0.05	P=0.031	-	P<0.05	P=0.05	P<0.05	P=0.10	P=0.56	P=0.25
	Sex	Age	Marital Status	Know where nearest GUM clinic is	Visited a GUM clinic	Length of current relationship	HIV test	More than 1 partner in last 5 years	Sexual health concerns	Amount of info. re. STDs	Amount of info. re. HIV	Sexually active	Ever used a condom
More than 1 partner in last 5 years	P<0.01	P<0.001	P=0.05	P=0.75	P=0.88	P<0.001	P<0.05	-	P=0.16	P=0.27	P=0.13	P=0.10	P<0.05
Sexual health concerns ever	P<0.001	P=0.92	P=0.81	P=0.06	P<0.001	P=0.28	P=0.05	P=0.16	-	P=0.32	P=0.12	P=0.65	P=0.15
Amount of info. re. STDs	P=0.81	P=0.07	P=0.38	P<0.001	P=0.33	P=0.88	P<0.05	P=0.27	P=0.32	-	P<0.001	P=0.68	P<0.05
Amount of info.	P=0.27	P=0.93	P=0.48	P<0.01	P=0.28	P=0.86	P=0.10	P=0.13	P=0.12	P<0.001	-	P=0.80	P<0.01

re. HIV																			
Sexually active	P<0.05	P<0.001	P<0.001	P=0.64	P=0.20	P<0.001	P=0.56	P=0.10	P=0.65	P=0.68	P=0.80	-	P=0.73						
Used a condom ever	P=0.74	P=0.06	P=0.28	P=0.13	P=0.87	P=0.10	=0.25	P<0.005	P=0.15	P<0.05	P<0.01	P=0.73	-						