**DAMASCUS STUDY**

**PPI DAY**

**WED 15th JAN 2020**

**RCS ENGLAND, LONDON**

**10AM-4PM**

Dear Patients,

Many thanks for considering coming along to our patient and public day to help us with our DAMASCUS study which is aimed at improving outcomes/treatment in patients who suffer with diverticulitis.

Diverticulitis is a very common, often painful, condition that affects a large number of patients. There are a variety of ways in which it may present and in how it may be treated and we know that outcomes from these treatments vary considerably both within the UK but also across the world.

Whilst medical teams have an idea of what is important to patients in terms of outcomes of treatment for diverticulitis, we have not “lived” the disease and are therefore only really hypothesing about what treatment outcomes/goals are important to you as patients.

It is therefore absolutely crucial for any medical research that we obtain the face to face views of patients, and this process of involving patients right at the beginning of a study is now a well-recognised step in research design.

The patient day is a very informal day where you will join members of the study team along with medical students who will help record details of the discussions during the day. We will give you a brief introduction to the study and our current knowledge of diverticulitis. Don’t worry this will be presented in a very easy to understand “non-medical terminology” and you will be encouraged to stop us at any time and ask questions. You are likely to find this session quite informative and helpful if you suffer with diverticulitis.

We will then break into small groups where we will discuss your views on:

* Symptoms of diverticulitis
* Consequences of diverticulitis
* Acceptable treatments
* Research goals from a patient perspective

The day will be very informal, lunch will be provided as will travel expenses to the venue (we ask that you kindly keep these as economical as possible please). Please find travel arrangements and contact details below, feel free to get in touch before the event if you have any queries or questions. Thank you so much for your interest, we very much hope to see you on the 15th January.

Dale Vimalachandran

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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**VENUE DETAILS**

The College is centrally located at Lincoln's Inn Fields within easy walking distance of Holborn (Piccadilly and Central lines) and Temple (District and Circle Lines) underground stations. It is a short taxi or underground journey from most major rail stations. Two NCP car parks are situated nearby.

The Royal College of Surgeons of England

35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields

London

WC2A 3PE

United Kingdom

Tel: 020 7405 3474

Public transport links

The College is easily reached via the Underground, bus or rail. For travelling within London, try using the Transport for London journey planner.

By Underground

The nearest Tube station is Holborn (Piccadilly and Central Lines). It takes about 10 minutes to walk from the station to the museum.

Temple (District and Circle Lines) and Charing Cross stations (Northern and Bakerloo Lines) are a 10-20 minute walk or short taxi ride away.

By bus

A number of buses stop near the College, for more details download the map at the Transport for London web site.

High Holborn (travelling east and west)

1, 8, 25, 38, 55, 98, 242

Kingsway (travelling north and south)

1, 59, 68, 91, 168, 171, 188, 243, 521

Aldwych (travelling east and west)

9, 11, 15, 23, 341

Aldwych (travelling north and south)

4, 6, 13, 26, 76, 77A, 139, 172, 176, 341

By rail

The nearest stations are Kings Cross St. Pancras, Euston, Waterloo and Charing Cross. It takes about 20-30 minutes to walk from each to the College. Visit National Rail Enquiries for more information on train times, tickets and planning your journey.

Parking

On street parking is available outside the College on Lincoln's Inn Fields. The pay and display charges are in operation from Monday to Saturday, 8.30am - 6.30pm. The current charge in the Westminster bays is £4 per hour with a maximum stay of 2 hours.

Visitors should be aware that both Westminster and Camden councils operate parking bays around the Fields. Please check the signs carefully when you park to determine which borough you are parked in and ensure you purchase a ticket from the correct pay and display machine.

The nearest multi-storey car parks are in Drury Lane and Bloomsbury Square.

Blue Badge holders can park in marked bays for up to 4 hours, Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 6.30am, and without time limit outside these hours. As a Blue Badge holder you are also entitled to park at a meter/pay-and-display bay for an extra hour once the paid time has expired.

College parking for disabled people

The College has a dedicated parking space for use by disabled visitors. Please book this space in advance by calling reception on 020 7869 6400.

For more information on disabled parking, see the Westminster council website.

DRAFT AGENDA

**Time Session Speaker**

1000 Registration/coffee

1030 Welcome and introductions Dale

1045 Diverticular disease- what is it, who does it effect

1100 Current treatments

1115 Current research in DD/Damascus outline

1145 Small group session- Physical symptoms of diverticulitis: what

they are and which bother most

1215 Summaries of session

1230 Lunch

1330 Small group session- What are the most significant sequalae of

DD? Physical, psychological, social

1400 Summary of the session

1415 Small group session- Acceptable treatments

1445 Summary of session

1500 Small group session- What should research aim to

improve/prevent?

1530 Summary of session

1545 Summary of the day- outcomes and forward plans

1600 Close