



BRAIN Involve  
Freepost BRAIN UNIT

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Many thanks for registering your interest in joining BRAIN Involve. Enclosed in this pack are an application form and an information sheet outlining the terms of reference for the BRAIN Involve group. If you have any questions or queries concerning BRAIN Involve please contact Dr Cassy Ashman ([brainunit@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:brainunit@cardiff.ac.uk) 02920688608).

We believe that active involvement from members of public leads to research that is more relevant and more reliable. BRAIN Involve aims to enable people affected by neurological diseases to play a role in informing and shaping research into neurological and neurodegenerative diseases. Being a member of BRAIN Involve is not about taking part in research but about using your experiences to help inform and develop research ideas and projects that are relevant to you. BRAIN Involve is part of the Brain Repair and Intracranial Neurotherapeutics (BRAIN) Unit. BRAIN is funded by Health and Care Research Wales ([www.healthandcareresearch.gov.wales](http://www.healthandcareresearch.gov.wales)) and aims to be a UK centre of excellence for developing and delivering novel therapies to patients with neurological and neurodegenerative diseases. Our Unit members range from lab-based scientists working on developing novel cell and drug therapies through to healthcare professionals working with patients with neurological diseases throughout Wales.

There are lots of ways you can contribute to research within BRAIN. For example, you may want to attend our BRAIN research events and/or provide us feedback on research grants, research study materials and patient leaflets. We understand that getting involved in developing research may seem daunting, but we have lots of support in place to help you become as active in the group as you want to be.

As we want to make sure BRAIN Involve members are provided with the appropriate training and support we ask that all BRAIN Involve members are also members of the Health and Care Research Wales Involving People Network. We believe that this is important for our BRAIN Involve members as the Involving People network provide support and training opportunities for becoming actively involved in research and will often cover expenses incurred (e.g. travel to and from meetings) and reimbursement for involvement in the development of research (e.g. review research grant applications, review study materials for clinical trials). Further information about the network can be found here: <http://www.healthandcareresearch.gov.wales/involving-people-network/>

If you are not currently a member of the Involving People Network we will ask the Involving People administrator to contact you directly to register for the Involving People network.

Thank you again for taking the time to consider joining BRAIN Involve, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Best wishes,

Dr Cassy Ashman and Dr Emma Lane  
BRAIN Research Manager and BRAIN Involve Package Lead

