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**Farmer Information Sheet**

***Exploring views and experiences of animal health and disease.***

**Name and contact details of researcher:**

Mary-Ellen Tivey (PhD student, Royal Veterinary College)

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**Summary of the study:**

This study aims to explore the views and experiences of cattle farmers regarding disease in their herds. Farmers are at the forefront of disease management in the UK but there is little research looking at their personal experiences with disease in their stock; the challenges they face, and how they overcome them.

The aim of this study is to use semi-structured interviews to explore the thoughts and opinions of cattle farmers concerning animal health and disease. We also hope to find out how farmers go about managing disease events if they occur, and if there is anything that could help them with this.

**What taking part will involve:**

Taking part in this study will involve participating in an interview that will last approximately 1 hour. The interview will be conducted by the primary researcher (Mary-Ellen Tivey) at a place and time that is mutually convenient.

Taking part in this study is purely voluntary. Every participant has the right to decline to answer a question if they wish to. The interviews will be audio-recorded and care will be taken to ensure participants are not identifiable in any reports or publications arising from the study. All transcripts and other data will be stored securely and access to interview data will be restricted to the primary research team.

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