

## **HIPS/22/33 - Caring For Long COVID In Primary Care: Using Patient And Professional Experience To Build Co-Designed Solutions. A Participatory, Mixed Methods Study.**

Long COVID is a new multi-system disease which develops after a COVID-19 infection. In Scotland, over 200,000 people now have long COVID. Many people living with long COVID say it is difficult to see a general practitioner (GP). When they are seen, people report a range of responses. Some GPs are supportive and try to refer them to other services, if available. Others are dismissive of the symptoms people describe and do little to support them. GPs also describe challenges caring for patients with long COVID, including knowing what services are available in their area and how to refer patients. This study brings these two groups together to explore these difficulties, hear about each other's experiences and work together to develop solutions. We will talk to people living with long COVID and to GP and staff working in primary care to find out what is most difficult for people accessing primary care with long COVID. We will map services in Scotland to find what support and care is available and make this accessible to GPs, patients, the NHS, and the public. Finally, we will work with long COVID communities and primary care staff to start developing better health care for people with long COVID. We have already worked with people living with long COVID to design this study. We will keep working with them to find the best ways to tell people what we find.