CVD-COVID-UK Consortium: Principles for Participation (21 August 2020)

- CVD-COVID-UK commits to the 'Five Safes' (http://www.fivesafes.org/) and to a transparent and inclusive approach, enabling additional researchers, research groups and, where appropriate, institutions, to join and contribute to the consortium as the work progresses and evolves.

- All project analysis plans and protocols, listing data requirements, will go through the CVD-COVID-UK approvals mechanism process before work commences.

- All analysis plans, protocols, code and reports arising from this consortium's work will be made publicly available via the HDR UK website and/or HDR UK Gateway (linking to additional institutional documentation if appropriate), HDR UK github repository and through open access publications.

- All reports for government advisory groups and policy makers, the lay public and academic publications will be written in the name of the collaborative group (CVD-COVID-UK) with all relevant individual contributions (coordination, writing, analysis, interpretation etc.) listed and the coordinating role of the BHF Data Science Centre acknowledged. In addition, some data custodians require specific acknowledgement of use of their dataset in reports and publications arising from the work of the consortium. Prior to submission, all reports and manuscripts for potential publication must be checked for compliance with these requirements by the BHF Data Science Centre coordination team who will ensure that these checks are conducted in a timely manner (generally within a day).

- A list of the members of the consortium and their institutional affiliations will be maintained by the BHF Data Science Centre coordination team and placed in the public domain on the BHF Data Science Centre webpages / website.

- Access to data within trusted research environments (TREs) for relevant researchers within the consortium will require institutions to sign various agreements. Relevant members of the consortium should do everything they can to ensure that this is done as quickly as possible so as not to impede the progress of our research. In particular, when institutions are added as joint data controllers to the data sharing agreement required for researchers to access the NHS Digital TRE, or when new datasets are incorporated into that TRE, existing signatories will be required to re-sign the agreement. Sign off is a simple and rapid electronic process. The BHF Data Science Centre coordination team will work with NHS Digital to limit the number of times this agreement needs to be re-signed.

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