Study of point of care full blood count test

You are invited to take part in a study to measure the full blood count using a drop of blood taken from a finger-prick blood sample. Whether or not you take part is your choice. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to give a reason, and it will not affect the care you receive. If you do want to take part now, but change your mind later, you can pull out of the study at any time.

This Participant Information Sheet will help you decide if you would like to take part and please ask a member of the study team if you have any questions.

If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to sign the Consent Form on the last page of this document. You will be given a copy of both the Participant Information Sheet and the Consent Form to keep.

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

*The purpose of the study is to compare the results from a finger-prick blood test analyzed immediately using a bedside testing device, with the results from the usual blood test taken from your arm or line, which is analysed in the laboratory. If the results from the finger-prick test are shown to be very close to the lab blood test, the bedside analyser may be useful when blood results are needed rapidly.*

*The Haematology team is conducting this study and the principal investigator is Dr Nilofer D’Sousa, Haematology Registrar. The analyser for the finger-prick blood test has been lent to us by the manufacturer, EliteTech Group,*

* *You have been asked to participate in this study as you are under the care of the Haematology team and it is anticipated that you will need blood tests as part of your care.*
* *If you agree to participate, you will have a finger-prick blood test for a full blood count IN ADDITION to your usual lab test (either from your line or from a vein in your arm as usual).*
* *The procedure for collecting the finger-prick sample will be as follows*
	+ *The blood sample will be collected by a nurse or one of the doctors involved with the trial.*
	+ *The person collecting the sample will ensure your hands are warm to ensure good blood flow*
	+ *A small lancet device will be used to prick your finger. This makes a small cut in the skin on the soft part of the end of your finger.*
	+ *The doctor or nurse will collect the drop of blood into a small tube by holding it against the drop of blood.*
	+ *The sample is immediately transferred to the testing device and analysed.*
	+ *You will be asked to apply some pressure to the site of the cut.*
	+ *The whole process will only take a couple of minutes.*
* *The results from the finger-prick test will be compared to the result from the lab test. Your results will be entered into a database without any identifying information (no name or hospital number).*

*It is important for you to know that any decisions that affect your care will be made on the results from the lab test as this is the current standard of care.*

* *We want to know if the finger-prick blood test result is as good as the lab result. If this is the case, there are some situations – for example the neutropenic clinic – where this would be very useful. You would not have to wait for your results and we could make a plan very soon after your test. This would give you more time out of hospital.*
* *The main risk is that you may get some bruising or bleeding from the finger-prick. We will keep a close eye on this and give you instructions on what to do if this occurs.*
* *Participation is entirely voluntary. You are free to decline to participate, or to withdraw from the research at any time, without experiencing any disadvantage. You have the right to access information about yourself collected as part of the study.*

**CONSENT FORM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name of participant), consent to participating in the above study. I have read and understood the participation information sheet and have had the opportunity to ask questions. I understand that I may withdraw my consent at any stage and this will not affect my care in any way.

Signature of participant:

Signature of investigator:

Date: