

Title of Project:

Blurting, Blocking, Belonging:

Double-Masking and Conflicting Communication Strategies in Adults with ADHD Who Stammer

Name and Contact Details of Researcher:

Dr Claire Norman-Maillet (hello@drclaire.uk)

1. Invitation

I am a counter-fraud practitioner and academic, with research interests spanning many areas of fraud operations, risk and strategy. My research also covers areas to do with neurodiversity and disability, which is where this particular study sits.

I would like to invite you to take part in this research study; joining is entirely up to you. This sheet will explain the study's purpose, contribution to research and what is expected of participants.

2. Study Summary and Purpose

Adults with ADHD who stammer represent a largely under-researched intersection within neurodivergence studies. This research explores how individuals navigate communication, identity and social perception when managing both impulsive cognitive patterns associated with ADHD and stammering. Using qualitative thematic analysis, the study introduces the concept of double-masking outside of the autism spectrum, plus also proposes cognitive–speech dissonance, a perceived mismatch between rapid internal thought processes (ADHD) and externally constrained speech (stammering). The hypothesis is that there is increased cognitive effort involved in managing communication and fluency-centred communication norms can obscure social perceptions of adults with both conditions.

I am seeking adults who have been diagnosed with both ADHD and a stammer, by a medical professional. Participation in the research would require you to complete an online survey. This should take between 10-15 minutes and can be completed in your own time.

3. Do I have to take part?

No, taking part in this research is entirely voluntary. If you agree to take part, you will be asked to sign the attached Consent Form.

4. What will happen to me if I take part and what will happen if I don't want to carry on with the study?

If you agree to take part, you will be invited to complete an online survey. This should take between 10-15 minutes and can be completed in your own time. There will not be a payment for participation in this study. A follow-up email may be requested by the researcher if they would like to clarify or get more information about something written by the participant. Approval for the follow up will be at the discretion of the participant.

As a volunteer you can stop any interview participation at any time or withdraw from the study at any time before the data analysis stage (two weeks after the survey completion), without giving a reason if you do not wish to. If you do withdraw from a study after some data have been collected, you will be asked if you are content for the data collected thus far to be retained and included in the study. If you prefer, the data collected can be destroyed and not included in the study. Once the research has been completed and the data analysed, it will not be possible for you to withdraw your data from the study.

5. What data will be collected and / or measurements taken?

The data that will be collected in the survey will be a combination of quantitative (e.g. how many participants chose option A compared to option B) and qualitative (open-ended question responses). The questions will be surrounding the participant's experiences with regards to living, identifying and communicating with ADHD and a stammer.

This research complies with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR). The legal basis for processing personal data in this study is participant consent (Article 6(1)(a) UK GDPR). The data controller for this research is Dr Claire Norman-Maillet.

Identifiable data collected will include your name (via the consent form) and email address. This information will be stored securely and will not appear in any publications. All research data used will be anonymised so that individuals cannot be identified. Only fully anonymised data may be shared publicly for research purposes.

Participants have the right to request access to their data, request correction of inaccurate data, or withdraw their data from the study within two weeks of completing the survey.

If you have concerns about how your data is handled, you can contact the researcher or the [UK Information Commissioner's Office \(ICO\)](#).

6. What are the possible risks of taking part?

No research study involving external participants is risk-free. It is, of course, my duty to ensure that all risks are minimised and that you are as comfortable as possible.

The psychological well-being of participants will be always considered. Participants will be reminded of their choice to abandon the survey, as mentioned in Question 6 above. At the end of the survey, signposted resources are available for organisations and charities relating to ADHD, stammering and mental health.

7. Will my data be kept confidential?

The identifiable data that will be kept regarding you is as follows:

- First and last name (in the Consent Form)
- Email address (where the Information Sheet and Consent Form are sent)

The raw data, which identifies you, will be kept securely by the researcher. To comply with GDPR, data obtained whilst the research is taking place will be stored securely on the researcher's personal laptop, which itself is password protected, within a password protected Drive..

Within the research itself, all data will be anonymised (e.g. Participant 1, Participant 2, etc). The data, when made anonymous, may be presented to others at conferences, or published in academic journals or books.

Anonymous data, which does not identify you, will be publicly shared at the end of the project and made open access. This will allow anyone else (including researchers, businesses, charities and the public) to use the anonymised data for any purpose that they wish, providing they credit the researcher as the original creator.

The raw data will be retained for a minimum of 10 years. When it is no longer required, the data will be disposed of securely and destroyed.

Thank you

Thank you for taking time to read this Information Sheet and for considering volunteering for this research.