**Invitation to take part in group education sessions for**

**management of persistent pain**

Dear xxx

Persistent or chronic pain is common and affects approximately 30-50% of people in the UK. We recognise that living with persistent pain can affect your daily activities as well as your mood. We want to improve quality of life for people living with persistent pain and so we are recruiting participants aged over 18 years old who have been taking opioid pain medication for 3-6 months to attend a group education session.

The aim of these sessions is to make sure you have all the information you need to make informed decisions about your care on pain management. We will also endeavour to provide alternative ways you can manage pain. This is something new that we are trying to see if it is useful and so we would appreciate all the feedback you can provide.

Please note that the group sessions will be held with other people who also have persistent pain. This means that you may hear some information about them which is confidential. For this reason, we ask all participants to sign a confidentiality agreement stating that any personal information relating to other participants within the group should not be mentioned outside of the sessions.

If you agree to take part, please complete the attached confidentiality agreement and the attached survey. You will need to print and sign the confidentiality agreement or come into the practice to sign a printed version if you do not have a printer. Please send these back to us via email or you can return it in person. After you attend the sessions, we will ask you to complete another feedback form. This will help us to understand if the sessions were useful, if they helped you learn more about persistent pain and different ways to manage it and provide us with information on how to improve future sessions. We will also arrange a consultation with a healthcare professional to discuss your next steps for managing pain once you have completed the sessions.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via email or telephone.

Yours sincerely

Named GP