******

**Involvement Opportunity: Join the SINAPPS LEAP**

We are looking for **two** people with experience of [autoimmune encephalitis](https://www.encephalitis.info/pages/category/autoimmune-encephalitis), [psychosis](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/psychosis/), or an autoimmune disease such as Lupus or Arthritis to join our Lived Experience Advisory Panel (LEAP). The LEAP is a group of people that provide advice to a research study called [SINAPPS](http://mcpin.org/immunology-for-psychosis/). We hope that the study will lead to a new way of helping some people who have psychosis due to their immune system not functioning properly.

*People who have experience of having treatment for autoimmune diseases such as arthritis and lupus are also very welcome to apply.*

**About the SINAPPS study**

A team of researchers from Cambridge and Oxford are researching a new way of helping people with psychosis. In particular, these people have the antibodies which causes a condition known as [antibody mediated encephalitis](http://bjp.rcpsych.org/content/200/2/92). Around 11% of people with psychosis for the first time have these antibodies.

Using this knowledge, the study team want to investigate a possible new way of helping people with psychosis that have been tested as having this particular kind of antibody in their system. You can find out more about the research by looking at our [SINAPPS study webpage](https://mcpin.org/immunotherapy-for-psychosis/) or by clicking [here](http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg22129562.700-autoimmune-attack-behind-some-cases-of-schizophrenia.html#.VXr0Q_lVikp).

**What can you expect?**

The LEAP currently consists of four people and meets three times a year in London. Meetings last around four hours with breaks. Lunch and refreshments are provided. This is a medical research study. This means that the research considered by the LEAP will therefore most likely be somewhat medical in nature. However, during meetings we try to use simple language – and refrain from using technical terms. During these meetings, you will have the chance to directly shape and influence the research.

**When is it happening?**

The next meeting takes place on **Thursday 21st November in London.** If your application is successful, you will be invited to attend this meeting.

**Payment and expenses**

You will be offered £100 payment per meeting, which includes any occasional work asked of you outside and in between meetings. All reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed.

**How do I apply?**

To apply to join the LEAP please complete the [**application form**](http://mcpin.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/SINAPPS-application-form.docx) and return it to **Thomas Kabir (email:** **thomaskabir@mcpin.org****, phone 0207 922 7874)**. For more information, you can contact Thomas or try the below links:

-SINAPPS McPin webpage

-SINAPPS website

Applications close on 9am, **Wednesday November 13th 2019.**