

## PATIENT INFORMATION SHEET

### **The influence of age, sex and disease on bone marrow cells**

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or you would like more information about. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part.

**Thank you for reading this**

#### **Why is this research important?**

There are many diseases that affect our bone and cartilage. Many of us have heard of, or have friends or family with bone and cartilage disorders, such as rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis and osteoporosis, or with difficult bone breakages that do not heal correctly. A team at the University of York are studying the cells in the bone marrow that are responsible for the replacement of damaged bone and cartilage cells. They are investigating how these cells can be identified within the bone marrow, what makes them develop into mature cells, and how this population of cells is affected by age, sex and bone and cartilage diseases. With your help, they aim to learn more about how these cells could be used for the treatment of awkward bone breakages and bone and cartilage diseases.

As part of your operation, spare bone will be removed that would normally be discarded. However, with your permission, it could be used for research.

#### **What will happen?**

Instead of disposing of the bone removed during your operation, the surgical staff will keep it in a sterile container. Later that day, a research scientist from The University of York will collect the samples and take them to the laboratory for processing.