

1 **Acceptability of financial incentives for health behaviours: a**
2 **discrete choice experiment**

3 Emma L Giles,¹ Frauke Becker,² Laura Ternent,² Falko F Sniehotta,² Elaine McColl,² Jean
4 Adams^{3*}

5

6 ¹School of Health & Social Care, Health & Social Care Institute, Teesside University,
7 Middlesbrough, UK

8 ²Institute of Health & Society, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

9 ³MRC Epidemiology Unit, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

10

11 ***Correspondence to:** jma79@medschl.cam.ac.uk

12

13 **Note:** Emma L Giles and Jean Adams were affiliated with Institute of Health & Society,
14 Newcastle University when this work was conducted. Current affiliations are listed.

15 **Abstract**

16 **Background**

17 Healthy behaviours are important determinants of health and disease, but many people find
18 it difficult to perform these behaviours. Systematic reviews support the use of personal
19 financial incentives to encourage healthy behaviours. There is concern that financial
20 incentives may be unacceptable to the public, those delivering services and policymakers,
21 but this has been poorly studied. Without widespread acceptability, financial incentives are
22 unlikely to be widely implemented. We sought to answer two questions: what are the
23 relative preferences of UK adults for attributes of financial incentives for healthy
24 behaviours? Do preferences vary according to the respondents' socio-demographic
25 characteristics?

26 **Methods**

27 We conducted an online discrete choice experiment. Participants were adult members of a
28 market research panel living in the UK selected using quota sampling. Preferences were
29 examined for financial incentives for: smoking cessation, regular physical activity,
30 attendance for vaccination, and attendance for screening. Attributes of interest (and their
31 levels) were: type of incentive (none, cash, shopping vouchers or lottery tickets); value of
32 incentive (a continuous variable); schedule of incentive (same value each week, or value
33 increases as behaviour change is sustained); other information provided (none, written
34 information, face-to-face discussion, or both); and recipients (all eligible individuals, people
35 living in low-income households, or pregnant women).

36 **Results**

37 Cash or shopping voucher incentives were preferred as much as, or more than, no incentive
38 in all cases. Lower value incentives and those offered to all eligible individuals were
39 preferred. Preferences for additional information provided alongside incentives varied
40 between behaviours.

41 Younger participants and men were more likely to prefer incentives. There were no clear
42 differences in preference according to educational attainment.

43 **Conclusions**

44 Cash or shopping voucher-type financial incentives for healthy behaviours are not
45 necessarily less acceptable than no incentives to UK adults.

46

47 **Keywords**

48 Smoking cessation; exercise; vaccination; mass screening

49 Introduction

50 Healthy behaviours such as not smoking, regular physical activity, and taking part in
51 vaccination and disease screening are important determinants of health, morbidity and
52 mortality.[1, 2] However, engagement in these behaviours remains far from optimal.
53 Worldwide, physical inactivity and dietary risk factors account for around 10%, and tobacco
54 6%, of disability adjusted life-years lost.[2] In the UK, comparable figures are 14% and 12%
55 respectively.[3] Only 51% of UK adults in at-risk groups receive influenza vaccinations;[4]
56 and 20-30% do not engage in cancer screening.[5] In response to these findings, national
57 and international public health strategies include maximising healthy behaviours as core
58 components.[6-8]

59 One method of encouraging healthier behaviours, that has received significant recent
60 attention, is personal financial incentives.[9-11] These have been defined as financial
61 rewards provided contingent on behaviour change.[10, 12, 13] Financial incentive
62 interventions for healthy behaviours (termed ‘financial incentives’ hereafter) are
63 increasingly used, encouraged, or being considered, by governments around the world.
64 Large programmes exist in some low and middle income countries incentivising a range of
65 maternal and child health behaviours.[14] The Affordable Care Act in the USA allows
66 insurers to offer contingent incentives up to a value of 30% (50% if targeting tobacco) of the
67 cost of insurance plans.[15] On-line, websites such as www.stickk.com allow users to
68 incentivise themselves to achieve almost anything, including their health behaviour goals.
69 A number of systematic, and other, reviews support the use of financial incentives.[10, 16-
70 23] Non-systematic reviews have reported that financial incentives are more effective for

71 'one off' behaviours such as attending for screening and vaccination, than more complex
72 behaviours such as smoking cessation.[17, 19] However, this is not confirmed in systematic
73 reviews. Systematic reviews find that the effects of financial incentives do not vary
74 according to incentive value or target behaviour, but may be larger in more deprived
75 groups.[10, 16] Whilst these systematic reviews find prolonged effects of continuing
76 incentives, effects after intervention removal appear to decrease over time.[10, 16, 23]

77 Despite this positive evidence of effect, there are concerns that financial incentives remain
78 unacceptable to the public, potential recipients, those involved in front-line health
79 promotion delivery, and policymakers.[9, 11, 24] Without widespread acceptability, financial
80 incentives are unlikely to be widely implemented[25] – meaning their potential will not be
81 achieved. Key concerns with financial incentives identified in qualitative research include a
82 perception that they reward 'bad' behaviour, are socially divisive and ineffective, and that
83 they are too easy for participants to manipulate or 'game'. [11, 26-28]

84 Whilst there is much concern about the acceptability of financial incentives, there is less
85 primary evidence describing this. One systematic review of both empirical studies and
86 scholarly writing found substantial scholarly concerns about the ethics and practicalities of
87 financial incentives.[11] A number of surveys of the public were also included, but the
88 review identified little in-depth exploration of what aspects of financial incentives for
89 healthy behaviours are, and are not, acceptable. Greater understanding of what influences
90 the acceptability of financial incentives may help in designing interventions which are both
91 acceptable and effective.

92 Qualitative research has identified a range of concerns that stakeholders have about
93 financial incentives,[26, 27] but cannot determine the relative importance of these. Discrete

94 choice experiments (DCEs) are a quantitative method for exploring stated, rather than
95 revealed, preferences for the characteristics of services, interventions or policies.[29] A
96 small number of recent studies have used DCEs to explore relative preferences for different
97 aspects of financial incentives for healthy behaviours. These find that more flexible
98 payments (e.g. cash) are preferred by potential recipients to those that can only be spent on
99 specific goods (e.g. at a sports shop or venue).[30, 31] However, the range of financial
100 incentive characteristics and health behaviours that have been explored using DCE methods
101 are both limited. Nor has any attempt been made to determine how preferences may vary
102 according to characteristics of respondents. Furthermore, studies have focused specifically
103 on acceptability of financial incentives to potential recipients of financial incentives. In the
104 context of a publically funded healthcare system, such as the UK, where any large scale
105 financial incentive programme is likely to be publically funded, wider acceptability of
106 financial incentives to the general public as a whole, and not just potential recipients, is also
107 important.

108 We conducted a DCE with the aim to explore relative preferences of UK adults for a range of
109 attributes previously identified as influencing acceptability of financial incentives; as well as
110 whether these preferences varied according to socio-demographic characteristics of
111 respondents. We did not restrict our sample to potential recipients of the financial
112 incentives investigated.

113 **Methods**

114 Discrete choice experiments describe hypothetical interventions according to their key
115 characteristics, or 'attributes' (e.g. type of reward, value of incentive), and 'levels' of these

116 attributes (e.g. cash, shopping voucher; higher, lower values). Participants are then asked
117 which of a small number of intervention ‘scenarios’, combining different levels of each
118 attribute, they prefer. This allows relative preferences for attribute levels to be determined.
119 Discrete choice experiments are well-established in health economics[32-34] and
120 increasingly used in public health.[35-37] We followed best practice recommendations for
121 conducting a DCE,[38, 39] collecting data from UK adults in an on-line survey.

122 **Identification of behaviours, attributes and levels**

123 We focused on four healthy behaviours for which there is evidence that financial incentives
124 can be effective:[10] smoking cessation, regular physical activity, attending a primary care
125 provider for disease screening, and attending a primary care provider for adult vaccination.
126 We used a range of previous research to identify attributes, and levels, of financial
127 incentives that are likely to influence acceptability (see **Table 1**).[11, 13, 26] In accordance
128 with reporting recommendations for DCEs.[40] the qualitative research used to inform
129 attribute development is reported in full elsewhere.[26] In all cases, attributes and levels
130 were realistic and plausible in policy terms.[38, 39]

131 Table 1 – attributes and levels of financial incentive interventions four health behaviours

Attribute	Levels for smoking cessation	Levels for regular physical activity	Levels for attending for vaccination	Levels for attending for screening
Type of incentive	No reward	No reward	No reward	No reward
	Cash	Cash	Cash	Cash
	Shopping vouchers	Shopping vouchers	Shopping vouchers	Shopping vouchers
	Lottery tickets	Lottery tickets	Lottery tickets	Lottery tickets
Total value	£15 over four weeks	£15 over four weeks	£15 for one off attendance	£15 for one off attendance
	£140 over four weeks	£140 over four weeks	£140 for one off attendance	£140 for one off attendance
	£265 over four weeks	£265 over four weeks	£265 for one off attendance	£265 for one off attendance
	£390 over four weeks	£390 over four weeks	£390 for one off attendance	£390 for one off attendance
	£515 over four weeks	£515 over four weeks	£515 for one off attendance	£515 for one off attendance
	£1000 over four weeks	£1000 over four weeks	£1000 for one off attendance	£1000 for one off attendance
Schedule	Same value each week	Same value each week	NA	NA
	Value progressively increases	Value progressively increases	NA	NA
Other information provided	No other information	No other information	No other information	No other information
	Written leaflet on harms of smoking & ways to quit	Written leaflet on benefits of activity & ways to be more active	Written leaflet on benefits of disease screening	Written leaflet on benefits of vaccination
	Face-to-face discussion on harms of smoking & ways to quit	Face-to-face discussion on benefits of activity & ways to be more active	Face-to-face discussion on benefits of vaccination	Face-to-face discussion on benefits of disease screening
	Written leaflet & face-to-face discussion on harms of smoking & ways to quit	Written leaflet & face-to-face discussion on benefits of activity & ways to be more active	Written leaflet & face-to-face discussion on benefits of vaccination	Written leaflet & face-to-face discussion on benefits of disease screening
Recipients	Smokers living in low income households	People living in low income households	People living in low income households	People living in low income households
	Pregnant women smokers	Pregnant women	Pregnant women	Pregnant women
	All smokers	Anyone	Anyone	Anyone

133 In studies included in systematic reviews,[10, 16] financial incentives commonly take one of
134 three forms: cash, shopping vouchers or lottery tickets. Thus, 'type of incentive' was
135 included as an attribute with no reward, cash, shopping vouchers and lottery tickets as
136 levels. Previous evidence suggests that 'total value' is a key determinant of acceptability.[30,
137 31] Levels within the 'total value' attribute were set based on the range found in our
138 systematic review of effectiveness of financial incentives,[10] with some smoothing, of £15-
139 £515 (~\$US23-\$793). We also included one very large incentive value (£1000; ~\$US1540) to
140 capture if people could be 'bought' into a behaviour at all or if even large amounts would
141 not be effective in motivating a behaviour change.

142 Contingency Management Theory predicts that gradually increasing the value of incentives,
143 as maintenance of behaviour progresses, leads to more sustained behaviour change.[41]
144 This was captured in a 'schedule' attribute. Variable reward schedules can only apply to
145 behaviours that are sustained. Thus, this attribute was not applied to screening and
146 vaccination attendance.

147 Participants in qualitative studies exploring acceptability of financial incentives often
148 spontaneously identify education, information and support as either alternatives, or
149 complementary, to financial incentives.[26, 35] We therefore included 'other information
150 provided' as an attribute with written information, face-to-face discussion or both as levels.

151 Finally, various potentially vulnerable groups – particularly pregnant women and people
152 living in low income households - have been identified in both qualitative and quantitative
153 work in whom financial incentives may be considered more acceptable.[11, 26, 35]
154 'Recipients' was, therefore, included as an attribute with all eligible people, those living in
155 low income households, and pregnant women as levels.

156 **Experimental design**

157 The experimental design process is summarised in **Fig 1**. The combination of attributes and
158 levels described in Table 1 would generate 576 unique scenarios (4x6x2x4x3) for smoking
159 cessation and physical activity; and 288 for screening and vaccination (4x6x4x3) – 1728 in
160 total for all four behaviours. This is too many to be considered by any one person. An
161 efficient design was generated using Ngene software[42] to reduce the number of scenarios
162 to the minimum required to estimate main effects and first order interactions, whilst
163 minimising standard errors. This generated 24 pairs of experimental scenarios ('choice sets')
164 for each behaviour – 96 across four behaviours and still too many for one person to
165 consider. The 24 choice sets for each behaviour were randomly divided into four blocks of
166 six. One block from each behaviour was then combined to produce four versions of the DCE,
167 each containing 24 choice sets across four behaviours. Participants were randomly assigned
168 to one of these versions.

169 **Fig 1. schematic summary of experimental design process**

170 Each choice set of experimental scenarios was combined with a third scenario including no
171 incentive but both written information and an opportunity for a face-to-face discussion on
172 the benefits of healthy behaviours and strategies for performing them (**Fig 2**). This
173 represents what might be considered 'routine', if not 'best', practice for encouraging the
174 healthy behaviours of interest in UK primary care. In all choice sets it was stated that all
175 options were equally effective (to avoid any influence of effectiveness on acceptability) and
176 that programmes would be carefully monitored to avoid 'gaming' (i.e. recipients feigning
177 unhealthy behaviour in order to receive rewards for subsequent healthy behaviour).

178 Fig 2. example choice set

179 The full questionnaire included an introduction and instructions, 24 choice sets, and socio-
180 demographic and behavioural questions (age, gender, level of education, current smoking
181 status, and current physical activity level). The 24 choice sets were grouped by behaviour
182 with the order of behaviours randomly allocated across participants.

183 Pre-testing and data collection

184 The draft questionnaire was iteratively pre-tested and refined using cognitive interviewing
185 and the 'think aloud' technique.[43, 44] The first author worked through a paper version of
186 the questionnaire with adult volunteers asking them to comment on design, wording and
187 layout and answer all questions, explaining their thought processes as they did so. We
188 conducted three rounds of pre-testing with three participants in each round, making
189 changes to design, wording and layout after each round to maximise respondents'
190 understanding of the questionnaire.

191 Main data collection took place via an on-line survey and was conducted by a market
192 research company (ResearchNow) in winter 2014-2015. Participants were invited to take
193 part in the survey via a single-use, personalised, link sent in an email. These prevented
194 participants taking part more than once or sharing links with others.

195 Participants and sample size

196 All participants were aged 18 years or older, normally resident in the UK, and members of
197 ResearchNow's on-line panel. As per ResearchNow's normal procedures, participants
198 received small (£2; ~\$US3) shopping voucher incentives to take part. Quota sampling was

199 used to maximise the representativeness of participants with quotas set for age, gender,
 200 educational attainment, smoking status and physical activity levels (with strata as detailed in
 201 **Table 2**) reflective of the current UK adult population. Respondents who did not complete
 202 the full questionnaire were excluded and additional participants recruited to replace them.

203 **Table 2 – characteristics of participants, and comparison to UK adult population**

Characteristic	Level	Study sample, n(%); (N=356)	UK adult population, % ^a
Age	18-29	49 (13.8)	17.6
	30-39	55 (15.5)	16.9
	40-49	77 (21.6)	18.4
	50-59	63 (17.7)	16.8
	60-69	62 (17.4)	14.3
	70-79	38 (10.7)	9.7
	80+	12 (3.4)	10.6
Gender	Male	181 (50.8)	49.2
	Female	175 (49.2)	50.8
Educational attainment	No qualifications	35 (9.8)	23.2
	Secondary school leaving qualifications (e.g. GCSE)	116 (32.6)	29.3
	University entry qualifications (e.g. A-levels, NVQ)	90 (25.3)	12.1
	University degree	114 (32.0)	27.0
Cigarette smoking	Current smoker	46 (12.9)	20.5
	Ex-smoker	72 (20.2)	25.5
	Never smoker	237 (66.6)	54.0
Physical activity	Regularly physically active ^b	85 (23.9)	37.5
	Not regularly physically active	270 (75.8)	62.5

204 ^aData on age and gender distribution from 2014 mid-year estimates;[45] data on education
 205 attainment from 2011 Census;[46] data on cigarette smoking from Health Survey for England
 206 2013;[47] data on physical activity from Health Survey for England 2012.[48]

207 ^bModerately active for 30 minutes or longer on 5 or more days in last week

208

209 We aimed to collect data from 400 participants. Previous studies have highlighted the
210 difficulties of DCE sample size calculations, as sample size calculations are dependent on
211 knowledge of the true choice probabilities – which are not known prior to undertaking
212 research.[38] Health-related DCEs have included samples ranging from 50[49] to almost
213 4000.[50] In practice, DCE sample size estimates are generally based on rules-of-thumb,
214 such as a minimum of 10 observations per parameter, plus 50. With five attributes and up to
215 four interaction terms (see below), this would give a minimum required sample size of 140.
216 Thus, we estimated that our target sample of around 400 would be more than sufficient.

217 **Data analysis**

218 Data was analysed using a random utility model framework and conditional logistic
219 regression to estimate the mean change in utility that respondents placed on attribute
220 levels compared to the reference level (see **Box 1**). Results are presented as ‘marginal utility
221 values’ for each attribute level, compared to a reference level. Marginal utility values
222 indicate relative preferences for levels within an attribute (for example, relative preferences
223 for cash, shopping vouchers, or lottery tickets compared to no reward). Positive marginal
224 utility values indicate an attribute level is preferred more than the reference level and
225 negative marginal utility values that the attribute level is preferred less than the reference
226 level. Marginal utility values do not imply any quantifiable results other than a ranking of
227 levels compared to a reference level according to the magnitude of the coefficient. P-values
228 are used to identify which differences are statistically significant.

Box 1 – Data analysis

Data was analysed using a random utility model framework and conditional logistic regression to estimate mean change in utility, value or preference, which respondents placed on an attribute level

compared to the reference level. This assumes that the choices individuals make in a DCE reveal the utility they place on the alternatives presented. In a DCE it is assumed that an individual will choose an alternative in a given choice set if the utility derived from that alternative is greater than from any other alternative offered in the choice set.[51]

The utility derived from the alternative chosen is assumed to comprise of two parts: a systematic, observable component; and a stochastic, unobservable component.[52] This can be expressed as:

$$U = V + \varepsilon$$

Where:

U is the utility derived by an individual,

V is the observable component of this, and

ε is the unobservable component.

In practice, the observable component (V) is captured through the choices respondents make when answering DCE questions. Or:

$$U = \alpha + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \dots + \beta_n (\alpha Z) + \varepsilon$$

Where:

α is the alternative specific constant (ASC)

X are attributes included in the DCE

β are the parameters (or coefficients) to account for the marginal utility of that attribute

αZ are interaction terms between the ASC and individual characteristics (age, gender, education, smoking status, physical activity)

229 Interaction terms were used to explore whether preferences for attributes were correlated
 230 with each other (no such interactions were found); and whether preferences for attributes
 231 varied by respondents' age, gender, level of education or (in the case of preferences for
 232 smoking cessation and physical activity), current behaviour.

233 **Ethics and data sharing**

234 Ethical approval was obtained from Newcastle University's Faculty of Medicine's Research
 235 Ethics Committee (reference 00775_1). Participants were provided with written information
 236 on the study before deciding to take part and indicated their consent to take part by clicking
 237 a button before data collection took place. No personally identifying data were collected. As
 238 part of the written information and consent procedure, participants were informed that

239 their data would not be shared until three years after collection. For this reason we cannot
240 share data at this time.

241 **Results**

242 A total of 356 individuals completed the DCE and were included in the analysis – more than
243 twice as many as indicated by our sample size calculation. Data was missing on educational
244 attainment, cigarette smoking status and physical activity for one person. The sampling
245 quotas were not entirely achieved. Compared to the UK adult population, participants were
246 more likely to be aged 30-79 years, had a higher educational attainment, were less likely to
247 be current or ex-smokers, and less likely to be regularly physically active (Table 2).

248 Marginal utility values from the DCE are presented in **Table 3**. A statistically significant
249 positive marginal utility value for cash rewards in relation to vaccination indicates that cash
250 rewards were preferred to no rewards for vaccination. However, there were no statistically
251 significant differences in preferences for shopping voucher rewards compared to no
252 rewards for all behaviours, and for cash rewards compared to no rewards for all behaviours
253 except vaccination. In most cases, these rewards are as acceptable as no reward. In
254 contrast, statistically significant negative marginal utility values for lottery tickets across all
255 behaviours indicate that no reward was preferred to lottery ticket rewards in all cases.

256

257 **Table 3 – marginal utility values of attribute levels for financial incentives for four behaviours (N=356)**

Attribute	Level	Marginal utility value ¹							
		Smoking cessation		Regular physical activity		Attendance for vaccination		Attendance for screening	
		Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted
Type of incentive	No reward	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator
	Cash	0.12	1.25²	0.22	1.84	0.19	1.65	0.25²	1.64
	Shopping vouchers	-0.02	1.13	-0.02	1.66	-0.06	1.41	0.002	1.41
	Lottery tickets	-0.35	0.75	-0.35	1.34	-0.53	0.89	-0.38	0.98
Total value	£UK	-0.0004	-0.0004	-0.0003	-0.0003	-0.0002	-0.0002	-0.0001	-0.0001
Schedule	Same value each week	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator
	Value progressively increases	0.12	0.14	0.01	0.03	NA ³	NA	NA	NA
Other info provided	No other information	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator
	Written leaflet	-0.35	-0.37	-0.33	-0.36	0.06	0.22	0.06	0.32
	Face-to-face discussion	0.01	-0.03	-0.12	-0.17	0.18	0.41	0.28	0.45
	Written leaflet & face-to-face discussion	0.08	0.10	-0.04	-0.01	0.38	-0.84	0.42	-0.87
Recipients	All	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator
	People living in low income households	-0.49	-0.54	-0.41	-0.46	-0.46	-0.42	-0.46	-0.42
	Pregnant women	-0.49	-0.49	-0.65	-0.67	-0.82	-0.83	-0.85	-0.87
Interactions	Option C x age	NA	0.03	NA	0.04	NA	0.04	NA	0.04
	Option C x gender (female)	NA	Comparator	NA	Comparator	NA	Comparator	NA	Comparator
	Option C x gender (male)	NA	-0.30	NA	-0.35	NA	-0.42	NA	-0.59
	Option C x education (no qualifications)	NA	Comparator	NA	Comparator	NA	Comparator	NA	Comparator
	Option C x education (secondary school)	NA	-0.03	NA	0.06	NA	-0.14	NA	-0.38
	Option C x education (university entry)	NA	-0.29	NA	-0.09	NA	-0.46	NA	-0.53
	Option C x education (university degree)	NA	-0.14	NA	0.10	NA	-0.11	NA	-0.13
	Option C x smoking status (never)	NA	Comparator	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Option C x smoking status (current)	NA	-0.18	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Option C x smoking status (ex-smoker)	NA	-0.03	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Option C x physical activity (not active) ⁴	NA	NA	NA	Comparator	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Option C x physical activity (active) ⁵	NA	NA	NA	-0.25	NA	NA	NA	NA
Log-likelihood		-2189	-2123	-2211	-2114	-2102	-1995	-2141	-2020

258 For all models: number of observations: 6,408; number of choice sets: 2,136; number of respondents: 356.

259 ¹Marginal utility values indicate relative preferences for levels within an attribute. Positive values indicate an attribute level is preferred more than the
260 comparator and negative values that the comparator is preferred more than the level of interest. P-values identify which differences are statistically
261 significant; ²**Bold typeface** indicates statistically significant at $p < 0.05$; ³NA: not applicable; ⁴Not moderately active for 30 minutes or longer on 5 or more
262 days in last week; ⁵Moderately active for 30 minutes or longer on 5 or more days in last week

263 Incentives of lower value were weakly preferred to those of higher value, except in the case
264 of screening where there was no difference in preference based on incentive value.

265 Respondents had no preferences in terms of whether incentives for longer term behaviour
266 change were the same amount each week or escalated as behaviour change was sustained.

267 Respondents preferred that incentives were not accompanied by written information for
268 physical activity and smoking; but that they were accompanied by both written information
269 and face-to-face discussions for vaccination and screening. There was a universal, and
270 strong, preference for incentives offered to all eligible individuals, rather than those
271 targeted at individuals living in low income households or pregnant women.

272 A small number of participants consistently chose the 'routine practice' option over either
273 of the financial incentive scenarios. As shown by the interaction terms in Table3, these
274 people tended to be older, women, and have attained university entry-level qualifications.

275 Adjusting the analysis to take account of consistently choosing the routine care option
276 changed results in relation to 'type of incentive' (with all rewards becoming preferable to no
277 reward), but not in respect of other attributes. This suggests that those who consistently
278 chose 'routine practice' had a general dis-preference for financial incentives in general,
279 rather than any particular attribute of financial incentives.

280 No interactions were found between preferences for different attributes. However, some
281 preferences did vary according to respondents' socio-demographic characteristics. For all
282 four behaviours, model goodness of fit measured by the log-likelihood ratio statistic
283 improved when controlling for individual characteristics (age, gender, education) and
284 current behaviour where information was available (smoking status, physical activity). **Table**
285 **4** shows how preferences varied by age, gender and level of education for the attributes

286 where main effects were found in Table 3: type of incentive, information provided, and
287 recipients. Older participants were consistently more likely than younger participants to
288 prefer no reward compared to all types of incentives. They were also more likely than
289 younger participants to prefer incentives accompanied by written information and face-to-
290 face discussions and financial incentives offered to all, rather than targeted at particular
291 groups.

292 **Table 4 – interactions between socio-demographics and marginal utility values of attribute levels for financial incentives for four behaviours (N=356)**

Attribute	Level	Smoking cessation					Regular physical activity				
		Age	Male gender ^a	No qualifications ^b	Secondary school ^b	University entry ^b	Age	Gender	No qualifications	Secondary school	University entry
Type of incentive	No reward	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator
	Cash	- ^c	+ ^d	NS ^e	+	NS	-	+	-	NS	NS
	Shopping vouchers	-	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	+	NS	NS	NS
	Lottery tickets	-	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	+	NS	NS	NS
Other information provided	No other information	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator
	Written leaflet	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	NS	NS	NS	NS
	Face-to-face discussion	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	+	NS	NS	NS
	Written & face-to-face	+	NS	NS	NS	NS	+	NS	NS	NS	NS
Recipients	All	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator
	Low income households	-	+	NS	NS	NS	-	+	NS	NS	NS
	Pregnant women	-	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	NS	NS	NS	NS
		Attendance for vaccination					Attendance for screening				
Type of incentive	No reward	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator
	Cash	-	+	NS	+	NS	-	+	NS	+	NS
	Shopping vouchers	-	+	NS	+	NS	-	+	NS	+	NS
	Lottery tickets	-	+	NS	+	NS	-	+	NS	+	+
Other information provided	No other information	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator
	Written leaflet	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
	Face-to-face discussion	-	+	NS	NS	NS	-	NS	NS	NS	NS
	Written & face-to-face	+	-	NS	NS	NS	+	-	NS	NS	NS
Recipients	All	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator	Comparator
	Low income households	-	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	+	NS	NS	NS
	Pregnant women	-	NS	NS	NS	NS	-	+	NS	NS	NS

293 ^aVersus female gender; ^bVersus university degree; ^cStatistically significant negative interaction (p<0.05); ^dStatistically significant positive interaction294 (p<0.05); ^eNS: not statistically significant

295 Male participants were more likely than female participants to prefer any financial incentive
296 to no reward for all behaviours except smoking cessation, and to prefer cash incentives to
297 no reward for smoking cessation. Men were also more likely than women to prefer face-to-
298 face information for physical activity and attendance for vaccination; and incentives
299 targeted at those living in low income households for all behaviours except attendance for
300 vaccination. There were few consistent differences in preference according to level of
301 education.

302 **Discussion**

303 **Summary of findings**

304 We conducted a DCE exploring the relative preferences of UK adults for characteristics of
305 financial incentive interventions for healthy behaviours. Uniquely, we asked all participants
306 to answer questions on financial incentives for four different health behaviours in order to
307 compare how preferences varied between behaviours. Unlike previous work, we also
308 explored socio-demographic determinants of preferences.

309 In the majority of cases, participants considered cash or voucher incentives equally
310 preferable to no incentive (the exception was a significant preference for cash compared to
311 no incentive for attendance for vaccination). However, there was a consistent preference
312 for no financial incentive compared to a lottery ticket incentive. In general, preferences for
313 financial incentives were inversely related to incentive value. Participants preferred financial
314 incentives available to everyone rather than those targeted only at pregnant women or
315 people living in low-income households. Additional written and face-to-face information

316 alongside financial incentives was preferred for vaccination and screening, but not for
317 smoking and physical activity.

318 A number of consistent differences in preferences were seen according to age and gender,
319 but not educational level of participants. In general, younger people were more likely than
320 older people to prefer any financial incentive to none, incentives targeted to pregnant
321 women or people living in low-income households, and incentives provided without any
322 additional information. Men were more likely than women to prefer any incentive to none,
323 face-to-face discussions alongside incentives for some behaviours, and incentives targeted
324 at those living in low-income households.

325 **Strengths & limitations of methods**

326 The use of an on-line market research panel is equivalent to a convenience sample. This may
327 not be representative of the population, limiting the generalisability of results. This
328 constitutes a significant limitation of the work. We chose to use this sample because
329 previous DCEs using more population-representative sampling frames (e.g. from the
330 electoral roll) have resulted in very low response rates – which are leads to limited
331 representativeness.[53] It is also worth noting that even sampling frames such as the UK
332 electoral roll are acknowledged to be biased.[54] By using quota sampling we attempted to
333 ensure that participants reflected the UK adult population in terms of age, gender,
334 educational attainment, smoking status and physical activity. However, our quotas were not
335 always attained. Participants were less likely to be at the extremes of age; were more
336 educated; less likely to currently, or have ever, smoked; and less likely to be regularly

337 physically active than the population as a whole. Despite this, the sample was diverse
338 enough to identify differences in preference according to age and gender.

339 Personalised, single-use links to the survey sent to participants via email prevented
340 individuals taking part in the survey more than once or sharing links with others.

341 External validity is a substantial concern of DCEs[55, 56] – it is not clear that respondents'
342 preferences stated during an on-line survey reflect their true preferences if faced with
343 similar choices in real life. However, in the absence of large scale financial incentive
344 programmes, and observed evidence on acceptability, DCEs can provide valuable
345 preliminary information and improve the understanding of behaviours and triggers to
346 behaviour change. Checks for internal validity showed that the estimated parameters were
347 consistent with findings from the literature. Less than 1% of responses consistently chose
348 only Option A or Option B, indicating that that they did not consider trade-offs between the
349 presented scenarios. Thus, the majority of participants appear to have engaged
350 constructively with the task. However, we were unable to distinguish between personal
351 preferences for what participants would like for themselves, and what they would like for
352 society as a whole.

353 We determined attributes, and levels, of interest from a range of previous research,
354 including a systematic review[11] and focus group interviews.[26] Furthermore, we ensured
355 that all experimental scenarios were realistic and plausible in the UK context. This reflects
356 best practice in DCEs[38, 39] and increases the relevance of our work to both participants
357 and policymakers.

358 We excluded a number of potentially important attributes that may influence acceptability
359 of financial incentives. In particular, we asked respondents to consider scenarios that were
360 described as equally effective, and closely monitored to minimise 'gaming'. One previous
361 DCE found that acceptability of financial incentives increased as stated effectiveness
362 increased.[36] This finding is endorsed by other research.[11, 26] Whilst there is little
363 evidence in practice of 'gaming' financial incentive interventions,[57, 58] it is a common
364 concern in qualitative work.[26-28] We excluded both effectiveness and gaming as
365 attributes from the DCE because we felt that both an effective intervention and one where
366 gaming was monitored and minimised were prerequisites of a realistic intervention.

367 **Interpretation of findings**

368 The finding that, in most cases, there was no difference in preference for cash or voucher
369 incentives versus no incentive suggests that financial incentives may not be as unacceptable
370 as previously reported.[11, 24, 26, 27, 35] Indeed, cash incentives were even preferred to no
371 incentives for screening. This may reflect differences in participant groups. Alternatively, it is
372 possible, although unconfirmed, that social desirability bias operates in some research
373 settings such that people feel it would be 'improper' or 'greedy' to endorse financial
374 incentives in face to face settings. Social desirability bias may be less likely to operate in
375 more anonymous on-line settings.[35] A perception that it is inappropriate to endorse
376 financial incentives may be particular to the UK context where health care does not involve
377 any financial transactions. There is some indication that financial incentives may be more
378 publically acceptable in settings where paying for health care is normalised.[11]

379 The strong negative preference for lottery-type incentives is interesting given how common
380 these are in research settings, particularly in the USA, and in Quit & Win contests.[10, 22]
381 Our results suggest that lottery incentives for healthy behaviours are unlikely to be
382 acceptable to the UK public. It is not clear if and how cultural and contextual factors
383 influence acceptability of lottery incentives and whether lottery incentives are more
384 acceptable in the USA than the UK – although the prevalence of these type of incentives in
385 the USA suggests so. There is some evidence that UK respondents feel it is ‘unfair’ to be
386 encouraged to take up a healthy behaviour in return for an incentive that you are not
387 certain of receiving.[26]

388 Our finding of strong negative preferences for incentives targeted at pregnant women or
389 those living in low income households may offer further insight into the negative preference
390 for lottery incentives. Lottery incentives – where only some people who perform the
391 behaviour receive the reward – may be seen as conceptually similar to those targeted at
392 only some population groups. Again, these results may be specific to the UK context where
393 universal entitlement to health care is well established. Future work could directly compare
394 differences in acceptability of financial incentives according to differences in health-care and
395 other aspects of context and culture. Few, if any, attempts have been made to establish if
396 financial incentives are more effective in those living in less socio-economically affluent
397 circumstances.[10] Further research is required to confirm if the effectiveness of financial
398 incentives varies by socio-economic position and how such a finding could be acceptability
399 operationalised.

400 In qualitative work, pregnant women and those living in low-income households are
401 perceived as most responsive to, and deserving of, financial incentives.[26, 35] This finding

402 is reflected in recent UK research which has focused on financial incentives for
403 breastfeeding and smoking cessation in pregnancy.[28, 37, 58] However, a preference for
404 targeted incentives was not borne out here. It is possible that in some circumstances
405 research participants answer questions on the acceptability of financial incentives from the
406 perspective of society ('how would I feel if financial incentives were being offered in the
407 UK?'), whilst in other circumstances they answer from the perspective of themselves ('how
408 would I feel if I were offered a financial incentive?'). Preferences may vary between these
409 two perspectives. Future work should attempt to de-couple preferences for financial
410 incentives from societal and personal perspectives.

411 The weak preference for lower value incentives, for smoking, physical activity and
412 vaccination, is superficially counter-intuitive. However, this could reflect a common
413 academic concern that external rewards undermine intrinsic motivation – i.e. incentivised
414 behaviours become less attractive.[59] Although a recent analysis suggests that there is
415 little evidence that 'crowding out' of internal motivation does occur in relation to financial
416 incentives for healthy behaviours,[60] this has not yet been widely recognised. Qualitative
417 research also reveals concerns that higher value financial incentives are unaffordable in the
418 current financial climate,[26, 27, 35] and this may explain a preference for lower value
419 incentives. There is very little cost-effectiveness evidence on financial incentives for healthy
420 behaviours. However, one study found incentives for smoking cessation in pregnancy had an
421 incremental cost per quality-adjusted life-year of only £482 (~\$US744), suggesting they are
422 highly cost-effective.[61]

423 We found no differences in preferences in relation to incentive schedule. It has been
424 suggested that escalating incentive values is one way to ensure longer term behaviour

425 change.[41] Participants may have considered this a subtlety – particularly as they were
426 explicitly told that both scenarios in each choice set were equally effective.

427 We included the attribute of additional information because participants in qualitative
428 studies often emphasise the importance of providing education and information on
429 behaviour change as either an alternative to, or alongside, financial incentives.[26, 27, 35] In
430 the current work we found no specific preference for additional written information or
431 opportunities for face-to-face discussions about behaviours for physical activity and smoking
432 cessation. In contrast, there was a positive preference for face-to-face discussions with
433 written information alongside financial incentives for attendance for both vaccination and
434 screening. Respondents may feel that there is less debate over the benefits of smoking
435 cessation[62] and regular physical activity than attending for screening or vaccination;[63-
436 66] and hence that it is more appropriate to discuss these latter behaviours.

437 Consistent interactions were found between age and gender and preferences for
438 characteristics of financial incentives. Older people were less likely than younger people to
439 prefer any incentive over none, more likely to prefer additional written information and
440 face-to-face discussions alongside incentives, and more likely to prefer incentives available
441 to all, rather than targeted at particular groups. In a cross-sectional sample, it is difficult to
442 know if these differences reflect cohort effects or true age effects. Men were more likely
443 than women to prefer any financial incentive over none, and incentives targeted particularly
444 at those living in low-income households over universal incentives. These age and gender
445 differences may reflect political ideology, with men and older people in the UK being more
446 likely to support right-wing political parties[67] – which promote individual responsibility
447 and less government interference in everyday lives.

448 Interestingly, there were no clear or consistent differences in preferences for financial
449 incentives according to level of education. This contrasts with clear educational and socio-
450 economic differences in many health related attitudes and behaviours.[47, 68]

451 **Implications of findings for policy, practice and research**

452 Our results suggest that financial incentives for healthy behaviours are, in general, no less
453 acceptable to the UK public than no incentives. To maximise acceptability, incentives should
454 be in the form of cash or shopping vouchers, and not lotteries; be of low value; and
455 available to all. Incentives for smoking cessation and physical activity would be more
456 acceptable if not accompanied by additional information, whereas combining incentives
457 with written information and the opportunity for face-to-face discussion would be more
458 acceptable for vaccination and screening.

459 Future research could explore the reasons for some of the differences in preferences
460 reported here compared to qualitative research findings. It is also important to identify how
461 generalisable our results are beyond the UK, and to distinguish between preferences for
462 incentives from the personal and societal point of view. Further information is also required
463 on the cost-effectiveness of financial incentives.

464 **Conclusions**

465 Preferences amongst UK adults for programmes promoting smoking cessation, physical
466 activity, vaccination and screening did not vary according to whether or not a financial
467 incentive was offered. Financial incentives offering lottery-type rewards and those only
468 available to some population groups were not considered acceptable. Preferences for

469 additional information provided alongside incentives varied between behaviours. Older
470 participants were less likely to prefer any incentive, more likely to prefer additional written
471 information and face-to-face discussions alongside incentives, and more likely to prefer
472 incentives available to all, rather than targeted at particular groups. Men were more likely
473 to prefer any financial incentive over none, and incentives targeted particularly at those
474 living in low-income households over universal incentives. There were no clear differences
475 in preference according to educational attainment.

476 **References**

- 477 1. Forouzanfar MH, Alexander L, Anderson HR, Bachman VF, Biryukov S, Brauer M, et
478 al. Global, regional, and national comparative risk assessment of 79 behavioural,
479 environmental and occupational, and metabolic risks or clusters of risks in 188 countries,
480 1990–2013: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study The Lancet. 2013.
481 doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(15)00128-2.
- 482 2. Lim SS, Vos T, Flaxman AD, Danaei G, Shibuya K, Adair-Rohani H, et al. A comparative
483 risk assessment of burden of disease and injury attributable to 67 risk factors and risk factor
484 clusters in 21 regions, 1990-2010: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease
485 Study 2010. Lancet. 2012;380(9859):2224-60. Epub 2012/12/19. doi: 10.1016/s0140-
486 6736(12)61766-8. PubMed PMID: 23245609; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4156511.
- 487 3. Murray CJL, Richards MA, Newton JN, Fenton KA, Anderson HR, Atkinson C, et al. UK
488 health performance: findings of the Global Burden of Disease Study 2010. The Lancet.
489 2013;381(9871):997-1020. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(13)60355-4.
- 490 4. Public Health England. Influenza immunisation programme for England GP patient
491 groups. Data collection survey. Season 2014 to 2015. London: 2015.
- 492 5. Centre for Cancer Prevention. Breast screening results from the NHS breast
493 screening programme (England, Wales, Scotland & Northern Ireland) 2012/13. London:
494 Queen Mary University of London, 2014.

- 495 6. World Health Organization. 2008-2013 Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the
496 Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases. Geneva: World Health Organization,
497 2008.
- 498 7. Secretary of State for Health. Healthy lives, healthy people: our strategy for public
499 health in England. London: HM Government, 2010.
- 500 8. US Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health
501 Promotion. Healthy People 2020. Washington DC: 2010.
- 502 9. Marteau T, Ashcroft R, Oliver A. Using financial incentives to achieve healthy
503 behaviour. *BMJ*. 2009;338. doi: 10.1136/bmj.b1415.
- 504 10. Giles E, Robalino S, McColl E, Sniehotta F, Adams J. Systematic review, meta-analysis
505 and meta-regression of the effectiveness of financial incentives for encouraging healthy
506 behaviours. *PLoS One*. 2014;9(3):e90347.
- 507 11. Giles E, Robalino S, Sniehotta F, Adams J, McColl E. Acceptability of financial
508 incentives for encouraging uptake of healthy behaviours: A critical review using systematic
509 methods. *Prev Med*. 2015;doi: 10.1016/j.ypmed.2014.12.029.
- 510 12. Abraham C, Michie S. A taxonomy of behaviour change techniques used in
511 interventions. *Health Psychol*. 2008;27:379-87.
- 512 13. Adams J, Giles E, McColl E, Sniehotta F. Carrots, sticks, and health behaviours: a
513 framework for documenting the complexity of financial incentive interventions to change
514 health behaviours. *Health Psychol Rev*. 2014;8(3):286-95.

- 515 14. Lagarde M, Haines A, Palmer N. Conditional Cash Transfers for Improving Uptake of
516 Health Interventions in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Systematic Review. *JAMA*.
517 2007;298(16):1900-10. doi: 10.1001/jama.298.16.1900.
- 518 15. Madison K, Schmidt H, Volpp KG. Smoking, obesity, health insurance, and health
519 incentives in the affordable care act. *JAMA*. 2013;310(2):143-4. doi:
520 10.1001/jama.2013.7617.
- 521 16. Mantzari E, Vogt F, Shemilt I, Wei Y, Higgins JP, Marteau TM. Personal financial
522 incentives for changing habitual health-related behaviors: A systematic review and meta-
523 analysis. *Prev Med*. 2015;75:75-85. Epub 2015/04/07. doi: 10.1016/j.ypmed.2015.03.001.
524 PubMed PMID: 25843244.
- 525 17. Kane R, Johnson P, Town R, Butler M. A structured review of the effect of economic
526 incentives on consumers' preventive behavior. *Am J Prev Med*. 2004;27:327-52.
- 527 18. Kavanagh J, Stansfield C, Thomas J. Incentives to improve smoking, physical activity,
528 dietary and weight management behaviours: a scoping review of the research evidence.
529 London: Institute of Education, University of London, 2009.
- 530 19. Sutherland K, Christianson JB, Leatherman S. Impact of Targeted Financial Incentives
531 on Personal Health Behavior: A Review of the Literature. *Med Care Res Rev*.
532 2008;65(6_suppl):36S-78. doi: 10.1177/1077558708324235.

- 533 20. Wall J, Ni Mhurchu C, Blakely T, Rodgers A, Wilton J. Effectiveness of Monetary
534 Incentives in Modifying Dietary Behavior: A Review of Randomized, Controlled Trials. *Nutr*
535 *Rev.* 2006;64(12):518-31.
- 536 21. Wigham S, Ternent L, Bryant A, Robalino S, Sniehotta F, Adams J. Effectiveness,
537 acceptability, and economic costs and consequences of parental financial incentives and
538 quasi-mandatory schemes for increasing uptake of vaccinations in pre-school children:
539 systematic review and meta-analysis. *Pediatrics.* 2014;134(4):e1117 -e28 (doi:
540 10.542/peds.2014-1279).
- 541 22. Cahill K, Perera R. Competitions and incentives for smoking cessation. *Cochrane*
542 *Database of Systematic Reviews.* 2011;4:CD004307.
- 543 23. Strohacker K, Galarraga O, Williams DM. The impact of incentives on exercise
544 behavior: a systematic review of randomized controlled trials. *Ann Behav Med.*
545 2014;48(1):92-9. Epub 2013/12/07. doi: 10.1007/s12160-013-9577-4. PubMed PMID:
546 24307474; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC4412849.
- 547 24. Popay J. Should disadvantaged people be paid to take care of their health? No. *BMJ.*
548 2008;337. doi: 10.1136/bmj.a594.
- 549 25. Giles EL, Adams JM. Capturing public opinion on public health topics: a comparison
550 of experiences from a systematic review, focus group study, and analysis of online, user-
551 generated content. *Frontiers in Public Health.* 2015;3. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2015.00200.

- 552 26. Giles E, McColl E, Sniehotta F, Adams J. Acceptability of financial incentives and
553 penalties for encouraging uptake of healthy behaviours: focus groups. *BMC Public Health*.
554 2015;15(58):doi:10.1186/s12889-015-1409-y.
- 555 27. Giles E, Holmes M, McColl E, Sniehotta F, Adams J. Acceptability of financial
556 incentives for breastfeeding: thematic analysis of readers' comments to UK online news
557 reports. *BMC Pregnancy Childbirth*. 2015;15(1):116. Epub 2015/05/20. doi: 10.1186/s12884-
558 015-0549-5. PubMed PMID: 25982305.
- 559 28. Whelan B, Thomas K, Van Cleemput P, Whitford H, Strong M, Renfrew M, et al.
560 Healthcare providers' views on the acceptability of financial incentives for breastfeeding: a
561 qualitative study. *BMC Pregnancy Childbirth*. 2014;14:355.
- 562 29. De Bekker-Grob E, Ryan M, Gerard K. Discrete choice experiments in health
563 economics: a review of the literature. *Health Econ*. 2010;DOI: 10.1002/hec.1697.
- 564 30. Farooqui MA, Tan YT, Bilger M, Finkelstein EA. Effects of financial incentives on
565 motivating physical activity among older adults: results from a discrete choice experiment.
566 *BMC Public Health*. 2014;14:141. Epub 2014/02/12. doi: 10.1186/1471-2458-14-141.
567 PubMed PMID: 24512102; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3933254.
- 568 31. Hashemi A, You W, Boyle K, Parmeter C, Kanninen B, Estabrooks P. Identifying
569 Financial Incentive Designs to Enhance Participation in Weight Loss Programs. *Journal of*
570 *Obesity & Weight Loss Therapy*. 2015;5(1):247.

- 571 32. Ryan M, Netten A, Skatun D, Smith P. Using discrete choice experiments to estimate
 572 a preference-based measure of outcome--An application to social care for older people.
 573 *Journal of Health Economics*. 2006;25:927-44.
- 574 33. Flynn T, Louviere J, Marley A, Coast J, Peters T. Rescaling quality of life values from
 575 discrete choice experiments for use as QALYs: a cautionary tale. *Population Health Metrics*.
 576 2008;6.
- 577 34. Coast J, Flynn T, Natarajan L, Sproston K, Lewis J, Louviere J, et al. Valuing the ICECAP
 578 capability index for older people. *Social Science & Medicine`*. 2008;67:874-82.
- 579 35. Adams J, Bateman B, Becker F, Cresswell T, Flynn D, McNaughton R, et al.
 580 Effectiveness and acceptability of parental financial incentives and quasi-mandatory
 581 schemes for increasing uptake of vaccinations in preschool children: systematic review,
 582 qualitative study, and discrete choice experiment. *Health Technol Assess*. 2015;19(94):1-
 583 176.
- 584 36. Promberger M, Dolan P, Marteau T. "Pay them if it works": discrete choice
 585 experiments on the acceptability of financial incentives to change health related behaviour.
 586 *Social Science & Medicine`*. 2012;75(12):2509-14.
- 587 37. Hoddinott P, Morgan H, Thomson G, Crossland N, Farrar S, Yi D, et al. The push me,
 588 pull you of financial incentives and health inequalities: a mixed methods study investigating
 589 smoking cessation in pregnancy and breastfeeding. *The Lancet*. 2014;384:S37. doi:
 590 10.1016/S0140-6736(14)62163-2.

- 591 38. Lancsar E, Louviere J. Conducting discrete choice experiments to inform healthcare
592 decision making. *Pharmacoeconomics*. 2008;26(8):661-77.
- 593 39. Ryan M, Gerard K, Amaya-Amaya M, editors. *Using Discrete Choice Experiments to*
594 *Value Health and Health Care*: Springer; 2008.
- 595 40. Coast J, Al-Janabi H, Sutton EJ, Horrocks SA, Vosper AJ, Swancutt DR, et al. Using
596 qualitative methods for attribute development for discrete choice experiments: issues and
597 recommendations. *Health Econ*. 2012;21(6):730-41. doi: 10.1002/hec.1739.
- 598 41. Roll JM, Higgins ST, Badger GJ. An experimental comparison of three different
599 schedules of reinforcement of drug abstinence using cigarette smoking as an exemplar. *J*
600 *Appl Behav Anal*. 1996;29(4):495-505.
- 601 42. ChoiceMetrics. *Ngene 1.1.1*. Australia2012.
- 602 43. Willis G. *Cognitive Interviewing: a "how to" guide*. Rockville, MD: Research Triangle
603 Institute, 1999.
- 604 44. Willis G. *Cognitive Interviewing. A Tool for Improving Questionnaire Design*.
605 Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications; 2005.
- 606 45. Office for National Statistics. *MYE1: Population Estimates Summary for the UK, mid-*
607 *2014 (MYE8ST1)*. Fareham: 2015.
- 608 46. Office for National Statistics. *2011 Census: Highest level of qualification, local*
609 *authorities in the United Kingdom (QS501UK)*. Fareham: 2013.

- 610 47. Craig R, Mindell J. Health Survey for England 2013, volume 1: Health, social care and
611 lifestyles. London: Health and Social Care Information Centre, 2014.
- 612 48. Craig R, Mindell J. Health Survey for England 2012, volume 1: Health, social care and
613 lifestyles. London: Health and Social Care Information Centre, 2013.
- 614 49. Dwight-Johnson M, Lagomasino I, Aisenberg E, Hay J. Using conjoint analysis to
615 assess depression treatment preferences among low-income Latinos. *Psychiatr Serv.*
616 2004;55(8):934-6.
- 617 50. Scott A, Watson M, Ross S. Eliciting preferences of the community for out of hours
618 care provided by general practitioners: a stated preference discrete choice experiment. *Soc*
619 *Sci Med.* 2003;56(4):803-14.
- 620 51. Lancsar E, Savage E. Deriving welfare measures from discrete choice experiments:
621 inconsistency between current methods and random utility and welfare theory. *Health*
622 *Econ.* 2004;13(9):901-7. Epub 2004/09/14. doi: 10.1002/hec.870. PubMed PMID: 15362181.
- 623 52. Hicks RL, Strand IE. The Extent of Information: Its Relevance for Random Utility
624 Models. *Land Economics.* 2000;76(3):374-85. doi: 10.2307/3147035.
- 625 53. Ryan M, Yi D, Avenell A, Douglas F, Aucott L, van Teijlingen E, et al. Understanding
626 preferences for lifestyle interventions to reduce obesity: should we pay people to live well?
627 Sixth Annual Scientific Meeting of the UK Society for Behavioural Medicine; Leeds, UK2010.
- 628 54. Wilks-Heeg S. Electoral registration in the United Kingdom: A literature review for
629 the Cabinet Office Electoral Registration Transformation Programme. Liverpool: 2012.

- 630 55. Lancsar E, Swait J. Reconceptualising the external validity of discrete choice
631 experiments. *Pharmacoeconomics*. 2014;32(10):951-65. Epub 2014/06/13. doi:
632 10.1007/s40273-014-0181-7. PubMed PMID: 24920196.
- 633 56. Krucien N, Gafni A, Pelletier-Fleury N. Empirical Testing of the External Validity of a
634 Discrete Choice Experiment to Determine Preferred Treatment Option: The Case of Sleep
635 Apnea. *Health Econ*. 2015;24(8):951-65. Epub 2014/07/06. doi: 10.1002/hec.3076. PubMed
636 PMID: 24986760.
- 637 57. Ierfino D, Mantzari E, Hirst J, Jones T, Aveyard P, Marteau T. Financial incentives for
638 smoking cessation in pregnancy: a single-arm intervention study assessing cessation and
639 gaming. *Addiction*. 2015;DOI: 10.1111/add.12817.
- 640 58. Tappin D, Bauld L, Purves D, Boyd K, Sinclair L, MacAskill S, et al. Financial incentives
641 for smoking cessation in pregnancy: randomised controlled trial. *BMJ*. 2015;350:h134.
- 642 59. Deci E, Koestner R, Ryan R. A meta-analytic review of experiments examining the
643 effects of extrinsic rewards on intrinsic motivation. *Psychol Bull*. 1999;125:627-68.
- 644 60. Promberger M, Marteau T. When Do Financial Incentives Reduce Intrinsic
645 Motivation? Comparing Behaviors Studied in Psychological and Economic Literatures. *Health*
646 *Psychol*. 2013;32(9): 950-7.
- 647 61. Boyd KA, Briggs AH, Bauld L, Sinclair L, Tappin D. Are financial incentives cost-
648 effective to support smoking cessation during pregnancy? *Addiction*. 2015. Epub
649 2015/09/16. doi: 10.1111/add.13160. PubMed PMID: 26370095.

- 650 62. Lader D, Meltzer H. Smoking related behaviours and attitudes, 2002. London: Office
651 of National Statistics, 2003.
- 652 63. Bish A, Yardley L, Nicoll A, Michie S. Factors associated with uptake of vaccination
653 against pandemic influenza: A systematic review. *Vaccine*. 2011;29:6472-84.
- 654 64. Brown KF, Kroll JS, Hudson MJ, Ramsay M, Green J, Long SJ, et al. Factors underlying
655 parental decisions about combination childhood vaccinations including MMR: A systematic
656 review. *Vaccine*. 2010;28(26):4235-48. doi: 10.1016/j.vaccine.2010.04.052.
- 657 65. Falagasa M, Zarkadouliaa E. Factors associated with suboptimal compliance to
658 vaccinations in children in developed countries: a systematic review. *Curr Med Res Opin*.
659 2008;24(6):1719-41.
- 660 66. Mills E, Jadad AR, Ross C, Wilson K. Systematic review of qualitative studies exploring
661 parental beliefs and attitudes toward childhood vaccination identifies common barriers to
662 vaccination. *J Clin Epidemiol*. 2005;58(11):1081-8. doi: 10.1016/j.jclinepi.2005.09.002.
- 663 67. Ipsos MORI. How Britain voted in 2015: The 2015 election – who voted for whom?
664 London2015 [cited 2016 18 January]. Available from: [https://www.ipsos-](https://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/3575/How-Britain-voted-in-2015.aspx?view=wide)
665 [mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/3575/How-Britain-voted-in-](https://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/3575/How-Britain-voted-in-2015.aspx?view=wide)
666 [2015.aspx?view=wide](https://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchpublications/researcharchive/3575/How-Britain-voted-in-2015.aspx?view=wide).
- 667 68. Wardle J, Steptoe A. Socioeconomic differences in attitudes and beliefs about
668 healthy lifestyles. *J Epidemiol Community Health*. 2003;57:440-3.