Local head and neck cancer (HNC) clinical nurse specialist (CNS) identifies potential participants who meet the study inclusion criteria.

The HNC CNS provides the patients with verbal and written information (patient information sheet) and asks them to consider if they would like to participate in the study. Patients are informed that participation is voluntary and that if they do not wish to take part, or agree to participate and subsequently withdraw, this will not affect their clinical care.

**Willing to participate**
- HNC CNS provides the researcher with the patient’s contact details.
- The patient is informed that the researcher will telephone them.
- The researcher contacts the patient at least 24 hours after they are given the patient information sheet.
- Information reiterated that participation is voluntary and that if the patient does not wish to take part this will not affect their clinical care.
- Questions are answered and an interview date, time and venue agreed.

**Not willing to participate**
- No further action taken.
- Patient thanked for taking the time to consider participation.

**Figure 1. Flow chart illustrating participant recruitment**