

# Participant Information Sheet for Dental and Oral Health Therapists - Online

**Health Research - Adult providing own consent**

*South Western Sydney Local Health District (SWSLHD)*

<b>Title</b>	Children's Healthy Eating and Weight guideline Implementation in the dental setting
<b>Short Title</b>	The CHEWI project
<b>Protocol Number</b>	2019/ETH12668
<b>Project Sponsors</b>	National Health and Medical Research Council, Western Sydney University, South Western Sydney Local Health District
<b>Coordinating Principal Investigator</b>	Amy Villarosa
<b>Location</b>	SWSLHD Oral Health Services

## Part 1 What does my participation involve?

### 1 Introduction.

You are invited to take part in this research project, which is called *Children's Healthy Eating and Weight guideline Implementation in the dental setting*. You have been invited because you are a dental or oral health therapist practicing within Australia. Your contact details were obtained from the Australian Dental and Oral Health Therapists Association (ADOHTA).

This Participant Information Sheet/Consent Form tells you about the research project. It explains the processes involved with taking part. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research.

Please read this information carefully. Ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about.

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you don't wish to take part, you don't have to.

If you decide you want to take part in the research project, you will be asked to sign the consent form. By signing it you are telling us that you:

- Understand what you have read
- Consent to take part in the research project
- Consent to be involved in the research described
- Consent to the use of your personal and health information as described.

You will be given a copy of this Participant Information Sheet to keep.

### 2 What is the purpose of this research?

With a quarter of Australian children now considered above a healthy weight, it is a national priority to promote healthy weight among children. As a result, new guidelines have been

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released in New South Wales, called *Growth Assessment and Dietary Advice in Public Oral Health Services*. These guidelines recommend that public dental care providers assess children's weight and height, provide dietary advice, and refer children outside a healthy weight to required services. Yet there is little information available about how to follow these guidelines in a way that is suitable for both dental care providers and the community. This project aims to develop and evaluate a strategy that can allow these guidelines to be used in a way that is suitable for dental practitioners and the community.

This research has been initiated by the researcher, Amy Villarosa. The results of this research will be used to obtain her doctor of philosophy (PhD) degree. This research has been funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council, Western Sydney University, and South Western Sydney Local Health District.

### **3 What does participation in this research involve?**

Before any activities for the project start, you will be given the opportunity to sign a consent form. If you provide consent, you will be asked to fill out a short questionnaire. This questionnaire will include items on your awareness, attitudes, challenges, perceived norm, confidence, intentions and barriers regarding addressing childhood overweight and obesity.

This online questionnaire will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

This questionnaire is one of multiple activities being conducted for the research project. It is anticipated that other activities will be conducted as part of this research project until 2021. This Participant Information Sheet/Consent Form seeks consent for your participation in this questionnaire only.

This research will be monitored by the National Health and Medical Research Council, Western Sydney University and the SWSLHD and Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District (NBMLHD) human research ethics committees. These entities will make sure the project is progressing appropriately and ethically. This research project has been designed to make sure the researchers interpret the results in a fair and appropriate way.

There are no costs associated with participating in this research project, nor will you be paid. As the questionnaire will be provided online, there are no anticipated travel, parking, meals or other expenses associated with the research project.

### **4 Other relevant information about the research project**

It is anticipated around 50 participants will participate in this online questionnaire. This will include dental therapists working across two local health districts, SWSLHD and NBMLHD. All dental and oral health therapists working at this site will be eligible to participate.

### **5 Do I have to take part in this research project?**

Participation in any research project is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any stage.

If you do decide to take part, you will be given this Participant Information and Consent Form to sign and you will be given a copy to keep.

Your decision whether to take part or not to take part, or to take part and then withdraw, will not affect your routine care, your relationship with professional staff or your relationship with SWSLHD Oral Health Services.

### **6 What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

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We cannot guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this research. However, possible benefits of this project in general may include discovering the current attitudes and practices of Australian dental and oral health therapists regarding the new *Growth Assessment and Dietary Advice in Public Oral Health Services* guidelines. This could be used to inform strategies that could increase the ease, efficiency and quality of practice regarding these guidelines. In turn, this project may give Australian children increased opportunity to receive healthy weight promotion.

## **7 What are the possible risks and disadvantages of taking part?**

You may feel that some of the questions we ask are stressful or upsetting. If you do not wish to answer a question, you may skip it and go to the next question, or you may stop immediately. If you become upset or distressed as a result of your participation in the research project, the research team will be able to arrange for counselling or other appropriate support. Any counselling or support will be provided by qualified staff who are not members of the research team. This counselling will be provided free of charge via Beyond Blue (1300 224 636) and/or Lifeline (131 114).

## **8 What if I withdraw from this research project?**

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time. If you decide to withdraw from the project, please notify a member of the research team.

If you decide to leave the research project, the researchers will not collect additional personal information from you. However personal information already collected will be retained to ensure that the results of the research project can be measured properly and to comply with law. You should be aware that data collected up to the time you withdraw will form part of the research project results. If you do not want your data to be included, you must tell the researchers when you withdraw from the research project.

## **9 Could this research project be stopped unexpectedly?**

Although the project investigators will take every effort to ensure this project is completed, this research project may be stopped unexpectedly for a variety of reasons. These may include reasons such as changes to the new guidelines, recruitment difficulties, or termination of the associated PhD.

## **10 What happens when the research project ends?**

It is planned for the project to be completed in mid to late 2021. Upon completion of the project, copies of the results will be available to participants upon request. Contact details of the coordinating principal investigator will be provided to participants who wish to obtain these results.

# **Part 2 How is the research project being conducted?**

## **11 What will happen to information about me?**

By signing the consent form you consent to the research team collecting and using personal information about you for the research project. Any information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you will remain confidential.

The personal information that the research team collect and use is information from the questionnaire. The research team will not collect or link any identifying information to your questionnaire response like your name or date of birth.

Your information will only be used for the purpose of this research project, and potentially in related research if this project is extended or modified. It will only be disclosed with your permission, except as required by law. As part of the policies of participating institutions, there is the potential that information gathered for this project may be made available on open access databases, however all of this data will be completely non-identifiable, and your confidentiality will be kept in this process.

It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified, except with your express permission. Any personal information will be presented as group measures and not individually identifiable.

In keeping with relevant Australian and/or New South Wales privacy and other relevant laws, you have the right to request access to the information about you that is collected and stored by the research team. You also have the right to request that any information with which you disagree be corrected. Please inform the research team member named at the end of this document if you would like to access your information.

Any information obtained for the purpose of this research project and for the future research described that can identify you will be treated as confidential and securely stored. Only the project investigators will be able to access research data relating to this project. All data will be retained for seven years as per NSW Health and SWSLHD requirements and then destroyed. It will be disclosed only with your permission, or as required by law.

## **12 Compensation**

If you suffer any distress or psychological injury as a result of this research project, you should contact the research team as soon as possible. You will be assisted with arranging appropriate treatment and support. In the event of loss or injury, the parties involved in this research project have agreed to arrange appropriate care and support.

## **13 Who is organising and funding the research?**

This research project is being conducted by Amy Villarosa, a PhD student at Western Sydney University. Western Sydney University may benefit financially from this research project if, for example, the project assists Western Sydney University in any commercial enterprise.

You will not benefit financially from your involvement in this research project even if, for example, knowledge acquired from your information proves to be of commercial value to Western Sydney University.

In addition, if knowledge acquired through this research leads to discoveries that are of commercial value to Western Sydney University, the researchers or their institutions, there will be no financial benefit to you or your family from these discoveries.

No member of the research team will receive a personal financial benefit from your involvement in this research project (other than their ordinary wages).

## **14 Who has reviewed the research project?**

All research in Australia involving humans is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC).

The ethical aspects of this research project have been approved by the HREC of SWSLHD.

This project will be carried out according to the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007)*. This statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies.

## **15 Further information and who to contact**

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you want any further information concerning this project or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the project, you can contact the researcher: Amy Villarosa, (02) 8738 9354 or [amy.villarosa@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:amy.villarosa@westernsydney.edu.au) .

## **16. Complaints contact person**

This study has been approved by the South Western Sydney Local Health District Human Research Ethics Committee. Any person with concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study should contact the Research and Ethics Office, Locked Bag 7103, LIVERPOOL BC NSW 1871 on 02 8738 8304 / fax 02 8738 8310 / email [research.support@sswahs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:research.support@sswahs.nsw.gov.au), website: <http://www.swslhd.nsw.gov.au/ethics/default.html> and quote 2019/ETH12668.

**Thank you for taking the time to consider this study.  
If you wish to take part in it, please sign the attached consent form.  
This information sheet is for you to keep.**