

PARTICIPATE IN AN INTERVIEW

Circulation: Participants who are imminently due to or who have graduated from the program.

Date: March 2023.

Dear Participant,

You are invited to participate in a research study led by Professor David Simmons, from Western Sydney University titled Wollondilly Diabetes Program (WDP): A population based, integrated approach for preventing diabetes and its complications. This study aims to evaluate your experience of the Wollondilly Peer Support Program, any benefits or challenges you experienced, and how it can be improved in the future. Any person who participated in the Wollondilly Diabetes Program peer support program is invited to take part in this study.

How is the study being paid for?

This study has not received any funding.

What will I be asked to do?

You will be asked to answer a series of questions, either participating in a face to face or over the telephone one to one or group discussion. These questions aim to gather your feedback on the Peer support program, any benefits or challenges you have experienced since participating in the program and your suggestions on improving the program.

If you consent, your responses will be voiced recorded.

How much of my time will I need to give?

The discussion will last between 45-60 minutes and will be done in a public location agreed upon between you and the interviewer or over the telephone depending on your preference and availability.

What benefits will I, and / or the broader community, receive for participating?

Your assistance will help us to evaluate the impact that the Wollondilly Diabetes Program peer support program is having on those participating in the service. Your data will also help us to provide recommendations to improve the program in future. It is anticipated that if the program is effective, it will be rolled out more widely across the other LGAs in South western Sydney for people with Type 2 diabetes, after adjustments made based on yours and other participants feedback.

Will the study involve any discomfort or risk for me? If so, what will you do to rectify it?

Except for time taken to complete the discussion (45-60 minutes), we would not expect any discomfort from participating in this study. If you feel distressed from completing the survey or participating in a discussion and would like to talk to someone about this, we recommend the Lifeline service, who can be contacted via telephone on 13 11 14 or online chat or text via www.lifeline.org.au.

How do you intend to publish the results?

Please be assured that only the researchers will have access to the data you provide. The findings will be used to develop a report for South Western Sydney University and our collaborators in the Wollondilly Health Alliance. The findings will also be published in academic journals and presented at research conferences. All data for publication/presentation purposes will be de-identified - no personal information or contact details will be revealed at any time. Please note that the minimum retention period for data collection is five years post publication, as per university policy.

Can I withdraw from the study?

Participation is entirely voluntary, and you are not obliged to be involved. If you do participate, you can withdraw at any time without giving a reason. If you do choose to withdraw, any information that you have supplied will be used in analysis. If you decide not to participate, this will not affect your relationship with the researcher/s or WDP / Western Sydney University in any way.

Can I tell other people about the study?

Yes! We encourage you to tell other people with diabetes who have participated in the peer support group about the project by providing them with the project contact details:

((02) 46344570 E: L.Osuagwu@westernsydney.edu.au)

They can reach the researcher who will provide them with a Participant Information Sheet.

Data storage

All data will be stored on university password protected computers only. Data will be accessible to the researchers only. Your contact details will be stored in a password protected computer file and stored on a university computer. All data will be de-identified before it is used for analysis and publication and destroyed after five years post publication.

What if I require further information?

Please contact Prof David Simmons or Dr Levi Osuagwu should you wish to discuss the research further before deciding whether to participate or not. The contact details are (02) 46344570.

What if I have a complaint?

If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this research, you may contact the Ethics Committee through Research Engagement, Development and Innovation (REDI) on Tel +61 2 4736 0229 or email humanethics@westernsydney.edu.au.

Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and investigated fully, and you will be informed of the outcome. If you agree to participate in this study, you may be asked to sign the Participant Consent Form. The information sheet is for you to keep, and the consent form is retained by the researcher/s.

This study has been approved by the Western Sydney University Human Research Ethics Committee. The Approval number is H11826.

Warm wishes from,

Western Sydney University team & Hitachi team.



Start your journey today – good luck!

Don't forget to visit the:

'Resources' link – for further advice, manuals, videos, guides, release notes and links to local interests

'FAQ's link -- to answer questions you may have before you contact your Health Advisor

'Contact Us' link at the bottom of each page – if you are stuck and need further help after you looked at the above or want to cancel your scheduled telephone appointment

