

Research Participant Information Statement

Sexual Health Knowledge and Sexual Behaviour in Young People attending Gold Coast Youth Events

Dr Lisa Wang (Gold Coast Sexual Health Service)

(1) What is the study about?

You [i.e., the research participant] are invited to participate in a study looking at sexual health knowledge and sexual behaviour in young people attending Gold Coast youth events through an online anonymous survey. We [i.e., the researchers] hope to learn the current sexual health knowledge and behaviour, and access to health services for sexually transmitted infections (STI) and related issues amongst young people who attend mass gathering events in Gold Coast. This will provide valuable information to allow improvement in sexual health promotion and service provision including implementation of community outreach service for young people for sexual health care.

You were selected as a possible participant in this study because young people are considered one of the priority populations in the Notifiable Conditions Annual Report as well as the Queensland Sexually Transmissible Infections Action Plan as they continue to be significantly impacted by sexually transmissible infections.

Sensitive information will be collected which may cause emotional distress from answering the survey. Please talk to our experienced sexual health nurse at the event if you have any concerns or contact our service if you require any further advice and assistance.

Participation in this study is voluntary - you are not under any obligation to consent

If you decide to participate, you can complete the online survey accessed through the QR code provided. Implied consent will be assumed if you proceed with submission of the survey. Participation in the survey is voluntary. There is an optional opportunity to enter a raffle draw for an AUD50 retail voucher at each event. Contact details provided for this raffle will be collected separately and will not be linked to the survey. Contact details will be destroyed upon completion of recruitment. If you experience any emotional distress from the survey, please approach our staff at the event stand, or contact our service to talk to one of our experienced clinicians with the contact details provided on the QR code card.

(2) Who is carrying out the study?

This is a collaborative project that will be carried out by the Gold Coast Sexual Health Service and Gold Coast Public Health Service.

(3) What does the study involve?

As a participant in this study, you will be involved in completing an online survey which will take up to ten minutes to complete and will be opened up to 2 weeks after the event.

(4) How much time will the study take?

The survey will take up to 10 minutes to complete.

(5) Will I incur any costs by participating in the study?

No cost to the participants will be anticipated hence no reimbursement will be provided.

(6) Can I tell other people about the study?

The survey and the QR code can be shared with other people.

(7) Will I receive the results of the study?

We aim to present our results at meetings and conferences. In any publication, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified. Individual results will not be disclosed to the participants.

(8) Confidentiality and disclosure of information

Non-identifiable information will be collected and hence all participants' confidentiality will be maintained throughout the process.

(9) Can I withdraw from the study?

Being in this study is voluntary and you are not under any obligation to consent to complete the survey. Submitting a completed survey is an indication of your consent to participate in the study. You can withdraw any time prior to submitting your completed survey. Once you have submitted your survey anonymously, your responses cannot be withdrawn.

(10) How can I obtain further information?

When you have read this information, the staff member at the event will discuss it with you further and answer any questions you may have. If you would like to know more at any stage, please feel free to contact either the researcher or the Gold Coast Sexual Health Service.

(11) What can I do if I have a complaint or a concern?

Any concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study should be directed to the:

HREC Coordinator
Gold Coast University Hospital
1 Hospital Boulevard
SOUTHPORT QLD 4215
Email: GCHethics@health.qld.gov.au
Phone: (07) 5687 3879

Research Governance Leader
Gold Coast University Hospital
1 Hospital Boulevard
SOUTHPORT QLD 4215
Email: GCHResearch@health.qld.gov.au
Phone: (07) 5687 3880

Any complaint will be investigated promptly and you will be informed of the outcome.

This information sheet is for you to keep.