



Improving medication adherence to reduce asthma exacerbations in children aged 5-9 years

GP Information Statement

Project Number: ETH01436

Principal Site Investigator: Sharon Ryan

Location: The University of Newcastle

Research Team: Prof. Joerg Mattes, Dr Megan Freund, Dr Jamie Bryant, Professor Peter Wark, Dr Chris Oldmeadow

You are invited to participate in the research study 'Improving medication adherence to reduce asthma exacerbations in children aged 5-9 years'. Please read this information sheet carefully before deciding whether or not to participate.

Why is the research being done?

Smart inhalers have the potential to increase asthma control in children. However, very limited research has examined the perceptions of the effectiveness smart inhalers for children. This study aims to understand key stakeholder's perceptions of the usefulness of smart inhalers for children aged 5-9 with asthma, and issues to be considered in effectively integrating the use of smart inhalers in the care.

Who can participate in the research?

As key stakeholders in managing children's asthma treatment, General Practitioners (GP) are being invited to take part in this research. You are eligible to participate if your practice is located within the Hunter Central Coast Primary Health Network (HCCPHN) catchment area, if you currently provide care for children with asthma aged 5-9 years and if you have an interest in child asthma.

What would you be asked to do?

You are invited to participate in a one-on-one interview with a trained research assistant. You will be asked open-ended questions about your perceptions of the usefulness of smart inhalers, their potential effectiveness for children, and any issues you perceive should be considered in effectively integrating the use of smart inhalers in asthma care.

The interview will take about 20-30 minutes to complete. At the end of the interview, you will be offered a \$100 gift card as reimbursement for your time.

If you are interested in participating, please contact the research team to organise a time for a one-on-one interview. Participating in the interview will be considered consent.

What are the risks and benefits of participating?

There are no identified risks or direct benefits to you for participating in this study.

How will your privacy be protected?

Information will only be accessed by the researchers unless you give permission for personal details to be provided to others, except as required by law. Your name and any other identifying information will be stored separately from your survey answers and will only be linked by a unique ID number. All data will be stored in password-protected files on a University of Newcastle secure cloud-based storage network. All hard copy surveys will be kept in locked filing cabinets. Data will be stored for a minimum of 7 years in line with University of Newcastle policy.



How will the information collected be used?

The results of this study will be used to guide a future funded randomised controlled trial. This trial will examine if smart inhaler use for children aged 5-9 with asthma is potentially effective in reducing moderate and severe exacerbations and improving adherence to preventer medication.

The information collected in the interviews will be disseminated via publication in academic journals, as a summary report to participants, and a report to Asthma Australia (the research funding body).

Only de-identified data will be presented in any reports or publications arising from this research. In this way, no individual will be identifiable and your privacy will be protected.

What do you need to do to participate?

Before agreeing, please read this Information Statement and be sure you understand all of its. If there is anything you do not understand, or you have questions, contact the research team on (free call) 1800 084 755.

A research assistant from our team will contact you via email and phone to ascertain your interest in participating. They will organise a convenient time for you to undertake an interview via phone or videoconference. Participating in the interview will be considered consent.

Further information

If you would like further information, please contact the research team on (free call) 1800 084 755.

Thank you for considering this invitation. This information statement is for you to keep.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Joerg Mattes
School of Medicine and Public Health
The University of Newcastle

Ethics:

This research has been **approved** by the Hunter New England Human Research Ethics Committee of Hunter New England Local Health District, Reference ETH01436.

Complaints about this research:

Should you have concerns about your rights as a participant in this research, or you have a complaint about the manner in which the research is conducted, it may be given to the researcher, or, if an independent person is preferred, please contact the **HNE Research Office**, Hunter New England Local Health District, Level 3, POD, HMRI, Lot 1 Kookaburra Circuit, New Lambton Heights NSW 2305. Telephone: 02 4921 4140. Email: HNELHD-ResearchOffice@health.nsw.gov.au and quote the reference number: [insert REGIS ETH reference).