



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

General practitioners' perceptions of the feasibility of implementing digital clinical decision support tools to facilitate psychosocial screening in pregnancy

Participant Information and Consent Form

The University of Melbourne
Department of General Practice
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Services

Project:

General practitioners' perceptions of the feasibility of implementing digital clinical decision support tools to facilitate psychosocial screening in pregnancy

Responsible Researcher: Dr Libby Dai

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Introduction

Thank you for your interest in participating in this project. The following few pages will provide you with further information about the project, so that you can decide if you would like to take part. Please take the time to read this information carefully. You may ask questions about anything you don't understand or want to know more about. Your participation is voluntary. If you don't wish to take part, you don't have to. If you begin participating, you can also stop at any time.

What is this project about?

This study aims to explore GP perceptions of the feasibility, usability and usefulness of digital clinical decision support tools to conduct psychosocial screening for pregnant women. We know that during pregnancy exposure to domestic and family violence, use of alcohol and other substances, and experiences of mental ill health can contribute to poor outcomes for mother and child. We also know that these psychosocial factors are often under-detected in primary care. We want to understand whether GPs feel there could be value in having digital psychosocial screening and clinical decision support tools integrated into the software that they use in their practice, and how they would like these tools to function if so.

What will I be asked to do?

You are invited to take part in a focus group discussion about digital psychosocial screening and clinical decision support tools. This will take about 45-60 minutes of your time. Within a small group of GPs, you will be shown a brief demonstration of a prototype clinical decision support tool. You will then be asked to respond to some questions about whether you think these digital tools would be helpful or unhelpful in your clinical practice, what features you think could be useful and what features you think need to be improved, and what you see as the barriers to the implementation of the digital tools. The demonstration and discussion will be recorded, and then transcribed for analysis.

What are the possible benefits?

Participating in this project will help us to understand how to develop digital clinical decision support for antenatal psychosocial screening that will be useful within the workflow of a practicing GP. This may support the development of other digital tools and resources to support GPs in managing patient care.

What are the possible risks?

We understand that discussing issues around domestic and family violence, alcohol and substance use, and mental health issues may be distressing for some participants. You can choose not to answer any questions you find difficult or distressing, or to withdraw from the study. At the bottom of this information sheet are contact details for organisations you can contact for support if you experience distress in discussing these issues.

Safety and privacy

All information you provide will remain strictly confidential. Any data collected will be stored securely and disposed of after 5 years according to the University of Melbourne guidelines. After 5 years, data will be deleted from all computers, hard drives, and servers. None of the information collected will be used to assess an individual general practitioner's practice.

Do I have to take part?

No. Participation is completely voluntary. You can withdraw (quit) at any time by notifying the project team.

What will happen to my information about me?

All the information about you will be de-identified (name and other identifying details removed) and only the researchers will know whose information it is. All data will be stored securely at the Department of General Practice (password protected files, encrypted storage, and locked filing cabinets). All the information you provide will be kept strictly confidential (subject to any legal requirement to disclose by a court). Key findings and outcomes of this project may be used to inform ongoing development of digital resources and processes to support GPs in conducting psychosocial screening in pregnancy, and possibly other areas of clinical practice. It may also be used in future publications and presentations. A lay summary of the research findings will be sent to all participants after the study has concluded.

Who is funding this project?

This project is being funded by a grant of \$5,000 from the Elizabeth and Ross Hindmarsh Family Violence Research Fund, and by the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE). FARE has provided a total of \$70,713 for completion of a broader project about primary care responses to prenatal alcohol use, of which this study is a sub-project.

Where can I get further information?

If you would like more information about the project, please contact Dr Libby Dai at antenatal-screen@unimelb.edu.au.

Who can I contact if I have any concerns about the project?

This project has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of The University of Melbourne (HREC reference 2022-24433-34787-6). If you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of this research project, which you do not wish to discuss with the research team, you should contact the Manager, Human Research Ethics, Research Ethics and Integrity, University of Melbourne, VIC 3010. Tel: +61 3 8344 2073 or Email: HumanEthics-complaints@unimelb.edu.au. All complaints

will be treated confidentially. In any correspondence, please provide the name of the research team or the name or ethics ID number of the research project.

Where can I access support?

Below are some resources you can access for support with mental health, alcohol and substance use, or for mental health support:

- 1800 RESPECT: (1800 737 732) or 1800respect.org.au – National sexual assault, domestic and family violence counselling service.
- National Alcohol and Other Drug Hotline 1800 250 015 – Australia-wide number that connects to alcohol and substance use information and support services within your state or territory
- DRS4DRS.com.au – Free, confidential service that links doctors Australia-wide with local support if they are experiencing stress, distress, mental health problems, substance use problems, or other health issues.
- Lifeline: 13 11 14 or lifeline.org.au – 24-hour support for people in Australia experiencing a personal crisis.

Consent Form

Department of General Practice

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Responsible Researcher: Dr Libby Dai

Additional Researchers: Professor Kelsey Hegarty, Professor Dougie Boyle, Dr Rachel Canaway

Name of Participant: _____

1. I have read and understood the information provided about this project.
2. I understand that this project is for research to explore GPs' perceptions about the use of digital clinical decision support tools to facilitate psychosocial screening for pregnant patients.
3. I acknowledge that the possible effects of participating in this research project have been explained to my satisfaction.
4. In this project, I will be required to take part in a 45–60-minute demonstration of a digital tool followed by a discussion and I understand that if I take part, the demonstration and discussion will be video-recorded and transcribed.
5. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw from this project anytime without explanation or prejudice and to withdraw any unprocessed data that I have provided.
6. I understand that the data from this project will be stored at the University of Melbourne and will be destroyed after 5 years after publication or any public release of the work of the research. It will then be destroyed per University of Melbourne guidelines.
7. I have been informed that the confidentiality of the information I provide will be safeguarded subject to any legal requirements; my data will be accessible only by the named researchers.
8. I consent to participate in this project.

Participant Signature:

Date:

Telephone:

Email: