



Participant Information Sheet

PROJECT TITLE: National Dental Care Survey

HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE APPROVAL NUMBER: H-2025-180

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Dr Liana Luzzi

Dear Participant,

You are invited to participate in the research project described below.

What is the project about?

You have been selected at random for inclusion in a major survey of dental health in Australia – the **National Dental Care Survey**. The purpose of the Survey is to obtain information about the frequency of dental problems in the community, and the types and sources of dental care received. The information, which will be collected from 8,000 people aged 5 years and over, will help us to develop priorities for dentistry, and contribute towards planning dental services across Australia. We are therefore seeking your assistance to ensure that a representative sample of people contribute to the survey.

Who is undertaking the project?

This survey is being conducted by the Australian Research Centre for Population Oral Health (ARCPH) at the University of Adelaide in collaboration with the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. You have been sent this information by Services Australia on behalf of the Department of Health and Aged Care and the research team. Services Australia is not involved or otherwise associated with the Survey and your personal details have not been released to us.

Why am I being invited to participate?

You have been randomly selected as part of a representative sample of people aged 5 years and over living in Australia. If you do not wish to participate, you do not need to do anything. However, you may receive up to 3 reminder letters which you can simply disregard. If you would prefer not to receive these reminders, please contact our research assistant, Ms Nikkita Dodds, on 1800 733 284 (free call) or email ndcs@adelaide.edu.au with your Study Access Code to be removed from the survey.

What am I being invited to do?

You are being invited to complete the survey online, over the phone or via a paper questionnaire (based on your preference).



How much time will my involvement in the project take?

The survey should take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

Are there any risks associated with participating in this project?

There are no foreseeable risks associated with participating in the survey.

What are the potential benefits of the research project?

The information you provide during this survey will be used to develop new policies and programs to target population groups of most need and to monitor the utilisation of existing programs. Survey results will help in the planning of future dental services.

Can I withdraw from the project?

Participation in this Survey is completely voluntary. Even if you agree to participate, you can withdraw from the survey at any time during the data collection phase. If you choose to withdraw from the survey, it will in no way affect any entitlements for dental care that you may have with your State/Territory public dental service.

What will happen to my information?

All information collected will be strictly confidential. Information will be stored securely and can only be accessed by the research team. Findings of the survey will be published in the form of reports, journal articles and conference or local presentations. Published results will not include your name or any information that could identify you. Your information will only be used as described in this participant information sheet and it will only be disclosed according to the consent provided, except as required by law.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the project?

If you have any questions about the survey, please telephone Ms Nikkita Dodds on 1800 733 284 (free call) or send an email to ndcs@adelaide.edu.au. Nikkita will be able to answer any questions you may have, or she can direct your call to a member of the research team. Alternatively, you can contact members of the research team, Dr Liana Luzzi and Mr Sergio Chrisopoulos, directly on 08 8313 4235.

Has this study been approved by a Human Research Ethics Committee?

The survey has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee at the University of Adelaide (approval number H-2025-180). This research project will be conducted according to the NHMRC National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2023.

What if I have a complaint or any concerns?

Questions: If you have questions about the survey, you can contact the research team:

Name: Dr Liana Luzzi; **Phone:** +61 8 8313 4235; **Email:** ndcs@adelaide.edu.au



Insurance and Compensation: The survey has been indemnified by the University of Adelaide which is enforceable by a participant to seek compensation in addition to your right to seek compensation under the common law through the legal system in legal proceedings.

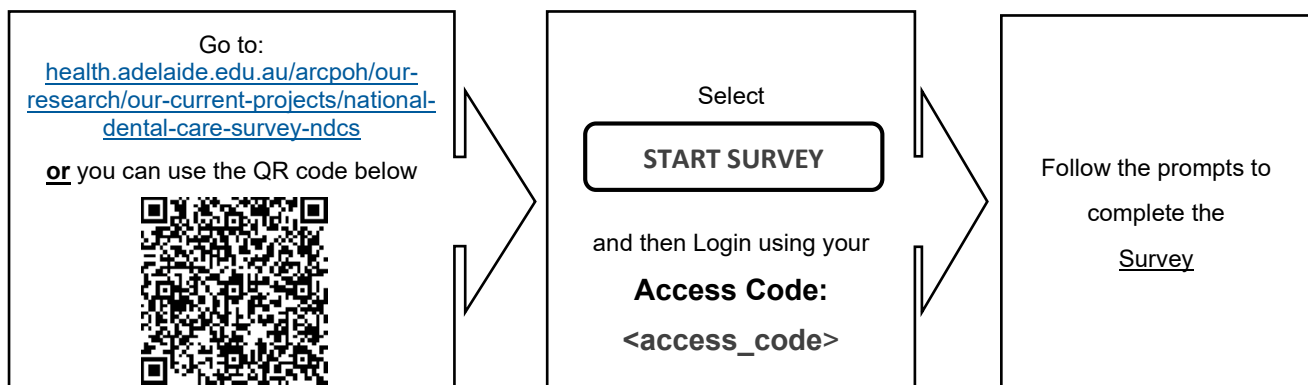
Complaints: If you wish to speak with an independent person regarding concerns or a complaint about this study, the University's policy on research involving human participants, or your rights as a participant, please contact the Human Research Ethics Committee's Secretariat on:

Phone: +61 8 8313 6028; **Email:** hrec@adelaide.edu.au; **Post:** Research Services, Level 3, Rundle Mall Plaza, 50 Rundle Mall, ADELAIDE SA 5000. Any complaint or concern will be treated in confidence and fully investigated. You will be informed of the outcome.

If I want to participate, what do I do?

If you would like to be involved in this survey, you can complete the survey online now by following the instructions below.

Alternatively, if you require assistance completing the survey online, or would like to complete a paper copy of the survey, please call **1800 733 284** (free call). We can complete the survey over the phone with you, or we can post you a paper copy along with a Reply-Paid envelope for the return of the completed survey.



The Research Team (Dr Liana Luzzi, Mr Sergio Chrisopoulos, Ms Nikkita Dodds)