

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

**PROJECT TITLE: Tooth for Health**

**HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE APPROVAL NUMBER: H-2019-020;  
2021/HE000656**

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Professor Loc Do**

Dear Participant,

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

### **What is the project about?**

This research project investigates how dental habits, general health, and early childhood development relates to outcomes in children and young adults in Australia. We want to examine a range of potential influences including demographics, environmental factors, and the different ways families manage their children's health. The focus of the present study is on dental health and dental care and how it relates to the cognitive development of children and young adults in Australia.

### **Who is undertaking the project?**

This project is being conducted by an international research team led by Professor Loc Do, a dental researcher at The University of Queensland. The team includes Dr Alyssa Sawyer, a psychological researcher at The University of Adelaide, dental researchers Dr Diep Ha and Emeritus Professor John Spencer, Professor Alison Jones, a health expert at the University of Wollongong and the Telethon Institute, and Dr Sam Leary, a statistician at the University of Bristol UK.

The project has received funding from the National Health and Medical Research Council.

### **Why am I being invited to participate?**

You and your child participated in the National Child Oral Health Study (NCOHS) 2012-14 and at the time you agreed for us to re-contact you for future research purposes. You and your family may have also participated in the first phase of our new study, 'Tooth for Health' in 2019-20. Participation involved the completion of a questionnaire about your child's dental and general health, and behaviours.

### **What am I being invited to do?**

You are being invited to participate in the second phase of our 'Tooth for Health' Study. Participation involves completing a short questionnaire in your own time. The questionnaire asks some demographic (e.g., age, gender) and basic health information about you and your child. You can choose to complete the questionnaire online or on paper.

Participation also involves your child taking a standard test of intelligence (IQ test) with a trained psychologist. The test will be an age-appropriate Wechsler Intelligence Scale that will involve a series of interactive tasks such as working with blocks or looking at patterns. The IQ test will be given using a traditional face-to-face format.

We may request your permission to video record the session. This recording will be assessed by a senior psychologist and is for quality assurance purposes. The test will not be used as a diagnostic test. However, if necessary the senior psychologist will discuss with you about further clinical assessment of your child by your own healthcare providers.

### **How much time will my involvement in the project take?**

Completion of the questionnaire can take between 5-10 minutes. Completing the IQ test can take between 60-90 minutes. In appreciation and recognition of your time and contribution, all participants will receive a \$30 Coles/Myer gift card and a dental care pack.

### **Are there any risks associated with participating in this project?**

No risk is expected from participating in this project. Some people may feel anxious about the intelligence test. Should you or your child experience any anxiety or distress, please do not hesitate to contact the principal

investigator, who will address any questions or concerns you may have (details below).

**What are the potential benefits of the research project?**

While there may not be direct benefit to you or your child from participating in this project, its findings will provide valuable information to better understand links between the dental and general health of children and young adults in Australia. Such information will be important to advise the policymakers, dental care providers, and the community about important factors affecting health.

You will be provided a one-page summary of the IQ test results. You may also request that one of our senior psychologists contacts you for a feedback session if you would like to discuss the results.

**Can I withdraw from the project?**

Participation in this project is completely voluntary. Your right to decline will be respected and this will not affect your dental care or health services in any way. You may also withdraw from the Study at any time by contacting the researchers.

**What will happen to my information?**

The personal information that you provide are accessible only to the named investigators of this project. Your information will be de-identified and stored in the secure network of The University of Adelaide and accessible only to the named investigators.

We will analyse the collected information to explore the possible associations with dental health for children and young adults. We will publish the findings in relevant scientific journals. The study findings will be reported in combined forms. Personal details including residential locality, age, and gender that may enable re-identification of a person will not be published.

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?**

Please contact the principal investigator, Professor Loc Do via:

Email: [toothforhealth@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:toothforhealth@adelaide.edu.au); Phone: 0435 280 124

**What if I have a complaint or any concerns?**

The study has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee at the University of Adelaide (approval number H-2019-020). This research project will be conducted according to the NHMRC National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007). If you have questions or problems associated with the practical aspects of your participation in the project, or wish to raise a concern or complaint about the project, then you should consult the Principal Investigator. If you wish to speak with an independent person regarding concerns or a complaint, 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](mailto:hrec@adelaide.edu.au)

Post: Level 4, 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?**

Please indicate your willingness to participate in this study by emailing us at [toothforhealth@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:toothforhealth@adelaide.edu.au) or phone/SMS to 0435 280 124. We will contact you shortly to confirm your participation and organise a testing date.

Yours sincerely,

**Professor Loc Do**  
**Dr Alyssa Sawyer**  
**Dr Sam Leary**

**Dr Diep Ha**  
**Emeritus Professor John Spencer**  
**Professor Alison Jones**