

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

PROJECT TITLE: The Study of Mothers' and Infants' Life Events Affecting Oral Health (SMILE) for School

HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE APPROVAL NUMBER: H-2018-017 & 2021/HE000661

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Professor Loc Do

Dear SMILE Family,

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

What is the project about?

The SMILE for School Project is a continuation of the SMILE 2013-17 that you and your child have been part of. This new phase of the project aims to look at factors affecting child oral health before starting school and when deciduous teeth are replaced by adult teeth.

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 Professor Rebecca Golley, a dietician at the Flinders University; Dr Diep Ha, a dental researcher at the University of Queensland, Dr Sam Leary, a statistician at the University of Bristol, UK; Professor David Manton, a paediatric dentist at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands; Professor Jane Scott, a dietician at the Curtin University; Professor Murray Thomson, a dental researcher at the University of Otago; NZ; Professor John Spencer, a dental researcher at the University of Adelaide.

Why am I being invited to participate?

You and your child have been participating in the SMILE 2013-17 research project. We plan to continue the project when your child reaches seven years of age.

What am I being invited to do?

Participation in the study involves completing a questionnaire (when your child turns seven years old) and attending a dental check-up for you and your child.

The questionnaires will collect data about your and your child's dental health behaviours and practices, dietary patterns, dental visiting patterns, your health and lifestyle, and your perception of the importance of dental health behaviours.

The dental check-up is a simple dental examination. No X-ray, medications or treatment will be provided. The check-up will be conducted by trained and standardised qualified dental practitioners. We will discuss any dental health issues that are found at the check-up of yourself and your child.

In some cases, we may ask for your consent to take photos of your child's teeth. If taken, those photos will not include any facial features that may identify your child.

We will ask for your permission to collect a small amount of saliva and dental plaque from your child's teeth. It will be used to study certain microbes that may be responsible for dental decay. Different people may have different amount or type of microbes in their mouth, making them more prone to dental decay. The collected material **will not be used to examine your child's genes**. Collection of the material is quick and easy and typically takes less than 5 minutes. **Personal results of the microbe analysis will not be provided**. You can discuss with the research team before giving permission.

How much time will my involvement in the project take?

The questionnaire will take 20 to 40 minutes to complete. You can choose to do it online or in a paper-based form. The dental check-up for your child will take up to 20 minutes.

Are there any risks associated with participating in this project?

No risk is expected from participating in this project.

What are the potential benefits of the research project?

While there may not be a direct benefit to you and/or your child from participating in this project, its findings will provide valuable information to understand why some young children have dental decay. Such information will be used to inform preventing childhood dental decay.

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?

All information collected about you will remain confidential. The personal information that you provide is accessible only to the principal investigator of this project. Your and your child's dental health will be de-identified and stored in the secure network of The University of Queensland.

We will analyse the collected information to explore possible associations with child dental health. We will publish the findings in relevant scientific journals. The study findings will be reported in combined forms. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified, except with your expressed permission.

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

Please contact the principal investigator, Professor Loc Do via:

Email: smile@uq.edu.au; Phone: **07 3346 5287**

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-2018-017) and the University of Queensland (approval number 2021/HE000661). 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 Ethics Coordinator on: 07 3365 3924 / 07 3443 1656 or email humanethics@research.uq.edu.au.

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 smile@uq.edu.au or phone/SMS to **046 0416 428**. We will contact you shortly to organise a convenient time to meet for a dental check-up.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Loc Do
Professor Rebecca Golley
Dr Sam Leary
Prof David Manton

Dr Diep Ha
Professor Jane Scott
Professor Murray Thomson
Professor John Spencer