

## PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION SHEET

**PROJECT TITLE: QUEENSLAND CHILD ORAL HEALTH STUDY (QCOHS) 2021-2024**

**HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE APPROVAL NUMBER: HREC/2020/QCHQ/60462 & 2021/HE000664**

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Professor Loc Do**

### What is the study about?



The Queensland Child Oral Health Study (QCOHS) 2021-2024, funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council, is a state-wide Study of children's dental health. Data collected in this study will be combined with that collected from across Australia as part of the National Child Oral Health Survey. Information from this study can be used to:

- provide evidence about regional variations in prevalence of oral health disease
- describe outcomes from children's oral health services
- inform state-wide and national policy to better public health strategies related to oral health
- influence international public health policies related to oral health

### Who is undertaking the project?

This project is being conducted by an international research team.

Lead	Professor Loc Do	University of Queensland
Team	Dr Mark Brown	Office of the Chief Dental Officer
	Dr Ben Stute	Office of the Chief Dental Officer
	Dr Michael Foley	University of Queensland
	Professor Pauline Ford	University of Queensland
	Associate Professor Ratilal Laloo	University of Queensland
	Dr Diep Ha	University of Queensland
	Professor A. John Spencer	University of Adelaide
	Professor Kaye Roberts-Thomson	University of Adelaide
	Professor Helen Whelton	University of Cork
	Professor Jonathan Broadbent	University of Otago

### Why am I being asked to participate?

Your child's school has been randomly chosen to take part in the Study. Within each of the selected schools, a number of children, aged from 5 to 12 years, are randomly selected and invited to participate in the Study. Your child has been selected.

Participation is relevant and encouraged regardless of whether children usually visit private or public dental services and whether they have made a recent dental visit or not.

### What will I be asked to do?



#### *Let us to check your child's teeth*

With your consent, a specially trained dental clinician will check your child's mouth and teeth. The instruments used are a sterile disposable mouth mirror and a sterile disposable blunt dental probe (similar to a dental check-up). The dental check-up is not painful and does not involve any treatment or X-rays. The check-up will occur at the

school or in a local public dental clinic. The dental team will provide you with a brief written report from the check-up. There will be no charge for this check-up.

### **Questionnaire**



If you consent for your child to participate you will also be asked to complete a questionnaire online or a hard copy. The questionnaire has been prepared by researchers at the Population Oral Health Unit, The University of Queensland. Researchers at The University of Queensland will combine the dental check-up results with your questionnaire responses.

You may be contacted by the research team again, if needed, to clarify information or provide additional information, for the purpose of the research.

### **How much time will the project take?**



The questionnaire will take around 20 - 30 minutes to complete online.

The dental check-up for your child will take up to 15-20 minutes. You are welcome to attend with your child but this is not required.

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

No risk is expected from participating in this project.

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

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

### **How do I consent and participate in this important Study?**

#### **Consent:**

- Please complete the consent form by clicking the link provided in the invitation letter

#### **Questionnaire:**

- The link will also take you to the study questionnaire.

#### **Examination of your child:**

- The researchers of the study will be in contact you when they are ready to conduct the examinations of the selected students for the school

### **Can I withdraw from the project?**

Your participation in this project is voluntary and you are free to withdraw from the research at any time without needing to provide any explanation. Withdrawing from the whole or part of the project will not have any impact on you and your child. Should you decide to withdraw, all the information collected from/about you will be destroyed and will not be used in the research.

### **What will happen to my information?**



Yours and your child's dental health will be de-identified and stored in the secure network of The University of Queensland and accessible only to the named investigators in this Information Sheet.

We will analyse the collected information from all those that participated in the study from across Queensland to explore possible associations with child dental health. We will publish the findings in relevant scientific journals. No information on personal details including residential locality, age and gender will be published that may enable re-identification to you or your child.

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



Please contact the University of Queensland's research team at 07 33465287 or email [gcohs@uq.edu.au](mailto:gcohs@uq.edu.au).

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



The study has been approved by the Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service Human Research Ethics Committee (approval number HREC/2020/QCHQ/60462) and the Human Research Ethics Committee at the University of Queensland (approval number 2021/HE000664). 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 at 07 3346 5287.

If you wish to speak with an independent person regarding a concern or complaint, the organisations' policy on research involving human participants, or your rights as a participant, please contact the University of Queensland Ethics Coordinator on 07 3365 3924/07 3443 1656; and the Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service Human Research Ethics Committee on 07 3069 7002.

Alternatively, if you have any concerns and/or complaints about the project, the way it is being conducted or your child's rights as a research participant, and would like to speak to someone independent of the project, please contact your local Research Governance Office.

Location	Name	Contact Phone	Contact Email
Cairns and Hinterland HHS	Research Governance Officer	07 4226 5512	RGO_Cairns@health.qld.gov.au
Central Queensland HHS (Rockhampton, Gladstone, Emerald)	Board Secretary	07 4920 5759	CQHSHREC@health.qld.gov.au
Darling Downs HHS (Toowoomba, Dalby, Kingaroy, Stanthorpe, Goondiwindi)	Research Governance Officer	07 4616 6696	DDHHS-Governance@health.qld.gov.au
Gold Coast HHS	Research Governance Leader	07 5687 3880	GCHResearch@health.qld.gov.au
Mackay HHS (Inc Dysart, Clermont, Bowen)	Research Governance Officer	07 4885 6786	MKY-RGO@health.qld.gov.au
Metro North HHS (Brisbane North, Redcliffe, Caboolure, Kilcoy)	Research Governance Officer	07 3883 7243	MNHHS-RGP@health.qld.gov.au

Metro South HHS (Brisbane South, Logan, Beaudesert, Redlands)	Research Governance Manager	07 3443 8050	MSH-RGO@health.qld.gov.au
North West HHS (Mt Isa)	Research Governance Officer	07 4745 4521	RGONWHHS@health.qld.gov.au
Sunshine Coast HHS	Research Governance Officer	07 5202 2991	SC-Research- Governance@health.qld.gov.au
Townsville HHS	Manager, Research Education Support	07 4433 1351	TSV-RGO@health.qld.gov.au
West Moreton HHS (Ipswich, Somerset, Lockyer Valley, Scenic Rim)	Research Governance Officer	07 3271 8656	WM_Researchandinnovation@health.qld.gov.au
Wide Bay HHS (Bundaberg, Maryborough, Hervey Bay)	Research Governance Officer	07 4122 8658	WBHHS-ETR-Research@health.qld.gov.au

Any complaint or concern will be treated in confidence and fully investigated. You will be informed of the outcome.

#### I do not wish to participate. What do I do?



It's ok to say no.

Please indicate you do not wish you/your child to participate in the study by following the link provided in the invitation letter and selecting 'I do not consent'.

#### Further information

You can find out more information about the study by:

- going to our website [Queensland Child Oral Health Study \(QCOHS\) - School of Dentistry - University of Queensland \(uq.edu.au\)](http://Queensland Child Oral Health Study (QCOHS) - School of Dentistry - University of Queensland (uq.edu.au))
- Speaking to the researchers at the University of Queensland on 07 3346 5287
- Emailing [gcohs@uq.edu.au](mailto:gcohs@uq.edu.au).