

ONLINE CONSUMER GROUP DISCUSSION - PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT

HREC Project Number:	HRE2020/0619
Project Title:	WA Healthy Weight Action Plan: Developing Quality Standards for Commissioning
Chief Investigator:	Professor Suzanne Robinson, Professor and Discipline Leader for Health Economics and Data Analytics
Version Number:	V2
Version Date:	22 April 2021

What is the project about?

The Western Australian Healthy Weight Action Plan 2019-2024 was developed in response to recommendations in the WA Sustainable Health Review. The Action Plan, developed through health system-wide collaboration, provides a map for action over the next five years and is focused both on people at risk of becoming overweight, as well as those already with overweight and obesity. A key part of the Action Plan is to fund and deliver early intervention and weight management programs that are innovative and maintain continuous quality improvement. The WA Department of Health are keen to have a framework to support commissioning of high quality, innovative programs that support the WA Sustainable Health Review recommendations and the road map outlined in the WA Healthy Weight Action Plan. This project aims to develop these quality standards through consultation with providers, clinicians and consumers. A series of consultation steps have been conducted to develop criteria to inform quality commissioning. This statement outlines the next step in the consultation process: development of expected outcomes.

Who is doing the Research?

The project is being led by Professor Suzanne Robinson, and is funded by a collaboration between the WA Department of Health and the WA Primary Health Alliance, with these organisations and the Health Consumers' Council of WA comprising the project's Steering Committee.

Why am I being asked to take part and what will I have to do?

As part of our consultation phase with representatives from the health system, services and community, we are requesting your involvement in a group discussion. Your participation will help to provide clarification and confirmation of outcomes related to the commissioning of early intervention and weight management programs/services. *Health commissioning* involves a strategic, evidence-based approach to planning and purchasing programs/services and is intended to be outcomes-focused and person-centred¹. If you agree to take part in this research, you will be asked to participate in one focus group discussion, details below:

Date/Time: Wednesday 12th May, 9:30-11:30am

Venue: online group discussion via Zoom

The 2-hour focus group will include a break time, and will run from 9:30am to 11:30am. You will be paid by the Health Consumers' Council of WA (HCC), as reimbursement for your time in participating in the discussion, in line with HCC's policy on consumer engagement. The total payment you will receive is \$70, and this will be paid within four weeks of the discussion date. The questions in the group discussion ask you to comment on your expectations from programs/service use and what happens after the program/service has ended.

We ask that you read this participant information sheet, and if you choose to participate, please complete the consent form attached. Please return the completed consent form to Laura Thomas, Project Manager at email:

l.thomas@curtin.edu.au.

¹ <https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/Fact+Sheet-PHNs-Commissioning-Health-Services+>

WA HWAP: Developing Quality Standards for Commissioning

Are there any benefits to being in the research project?

There may be no direct benefit to you from participating in this research. However, the information collected from the discussions will be used to make recommendations for the development of quality standards to commission overweight and/or obesity-related early intervention and management programs.

Are there any risks, side-effects, discomforts or inconveniences from being in the research project?

Apart from giving up your time, we do not expect that there will be any foreseeable risks or inconveniences associated with taking part in this research. If you find that you are uncomfortable answering any of the questions you do not have to. If participating in the group discussion raises any issues for you and you would like to discuss them with someone, you can phone Lifeline on 13 11 14.

Who will have access to my information?

The information collected in this research will be de-identified. That means we will remove all personal details from the data. No names or identifying information will be used in the reporting of results. Whilst all care will be taken to maintain privacy and confidentiality of any information shared at a focus group or group discussion, you should be aware that you may feel embarrassed or upset if one of the group members repeats things said in a confidential group meeting.

You may withdraw from the group discussion at any stage, however, as this is a group discussion, we will keep any data you have provided to that point. If you do not want to answer specific questions during the discussion, you do not have to. Any information we collect will be treated as confidential and used only in this project unless otherwise specified.

All information will be stored securely on password-protected electronic servers at Curtin University. The following people will have access to the information we collect in this research: the research team and, in the event of an audit or investigation, staff from the Curtin University Office of Research and Development. The information we collect in this study will be kept under secure conditions at Curtin University for 7 years after the research is published and then it will be destroyed. The results of this research may be presented at conferences or published in professional journals. You or your organisation will not be identified in any results that are published or presented.

Will you tell me the results of the research?

If you are interested in obtaining a summary of the results, please contact the researchers after June 2021.

Do I have to take part in the research project?

Taking part in a research project is voluntary. It is your choice to take part or not. You do not have to agree if you do not want to. If you decide to take part and then change your mind, that is okay, you can withdraw from the project. As the data collected are anonymous, you cannot withdraw any data you have provided prior to your withdrawal.

What happens next and who can I contact about the research?

If you decide to take part in this research we will ask you to complete the attached consent form. By completing this consent form, it is telling us that you understand what you have read and what has been discussed. Submitting the consent form indicates that you agree to be in the research project and have your information used as described. Please take your time and ask any questions you have before you decide what to do. You will be given a copy of this information and the consent form to keep. **Please return this consent form by Monday 10th May, 2021.**

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact the Chief Investigator: Professor Suzanne Robinson by email Suzanne.Robinson@curtin.edu.au, or phone +61 8 9266 4921; or the Project Manager: Dr Laura Thomas by email l.thomas@curtin.edu.au, or phone +61 8 9266 2061.

Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) has approved this study (HREC number HRE2020/0619). Should you wish to discuss the study with someone not directly involved, in particular, any matters concerning the conduct of the study or your rights as a participant, or you wish to make a confidential complaint, you may contact the Ethics Officer on (08) 9266 9223 or the Manager, Research Integrity on (08) 9266 7093 or email hrec@curtin.edu.au.