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Participant Information Sheet – General Public

Project Title: Patterns and perceptions of weight loss injection use in Australia and the UK

Project Summary:

You are invited to participate in a research study being conducted by Kate McBride, Associate Professor, Translational Health Research Institute, Western Sydney University, in collaboration with Professor Michelle Harvie, Research Dietitian, Prevent Breast Cancer Research Unit, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, Dr Kathryn Williams Clinical Lead and Manager, Nepean Family Metabolic Health Service and HOD Endocrinology, Nepean Hospital, NBMLHD and Ms Sarah Hirst, Research Officer, Translational Health Research Institute, Western Sydney University.

The research aims to identify patterns of weight loss injections in Australia and the UK and understand perceptions, attitudes, and understandings the public may have about weight loss injections and barriers and negative perceptions that may prevent people from accessing these medications.

How is the study being paid for?

This study is internally funded by Western Sydney University. No member of the research team will receive a personal financial benefit from your involvement in this research project (other than their ordinary wages).

What will I be asked to do?

You will be asked to complete an anonymous online survey, hosted by Qualtrics. To be eligible to participate in this survey you need to be aged 18 or older, and currently be living in Australia or the UK. The survey will ask you some general questions for example, about your age, marital status, location, and your cultural background. The survey will also ask about your height and weight. You will also be asked questions about your experiences with weight loss medications; including accessibility and barriers, as well as any perceptions you or the people around you may have about weight loss injections.

How much of my time will I need to give?

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes of your time. You will be required to complete the survey in one sitting as we do not collect your IP or use cookies, to protect your privacy.

What benefits will I, and/or the broader community, receive for participating?

Participation is entirely voluntary, and while may not have immediate value to you as a participant, the indirect benefits of participation include improved knowledge regarding weight loss injection use in Australia and the UK. This aims to inform policy and decision making about obesity medicine generally and weight loss medications specifically.

Will the study involve any risk or discomfort for me? If so, what will be done to rectify it?

The study involves discussions about weight, weight loss, medication usage and medical diagnoses which can be sensitive in nature and mildly distressing. If you do not wish to answer any specific question due to discomfort or personal preference, you can simply leave it blank or skip it.

If you wish to speak to a counsellor and live in Australia you can contact Lifeline on 13 11 14, 24 hours a day. If you live in the UK you can contact NHS Talking Therapies via https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/talking-therapies-medicine-treatments/talking-therapies-and-counselling/nhs-talking-therapies/

How do you intend to publish or disseminate the results?

It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that the participant cannot be identified, via summaries of what we found, rather than individual data.

Will the data and information that I have provided be disposed of?

We will use your anonymous survey answers for the purposes of this research but please be assured that only the researchers will have access to the raw data you provide.
However, your data may be used in other related projects for an extended period of time. Any data shared with other researchers will be remain anonymous.

Can I withdraw from the study?

Participation is entirely voluntary, and you are not obliged to be involved. If you do participate you can withdraw at any time before you submit your results, without giving reason, by discontinuing the survey.

If you do choose to withdraw any information that you have provided cannot be deleted because once you have submitted the results, we are unable to remove them as they are anonymous, and we will be unable to identify which answers are yours.

Can I tell other people about the study?

Yes, you can tell other people about the study by providing them with A/Prof McBride's details or the Qualtrics link. If they would like more information, they can then contact A/Prof McBride to discuss their participation in the research project and obtain a copy of the information sheet.

Please also free to send social media links relating to this study to peers within Australia and the UK who may also wish to participate.

What if I require further information?

Please contact A/Prof Kate McBride should you wish to discuss the research further before deciding whether or not to participate.

Name: A/Prof Kate McBride

Position: Chief Investigator

Phone Number: 02 4620 3436 or via email compass@westernsydney.edu.au

Privacy Notice

Western Sydney University staff and students conduct research that may require the collection of personal and/or health information from research participants.

The University's Privacy Policy and Privacy Management Plan set out how the University collects, holds, uses, and discloses personal or health information. Further details about the use and disclosure of this information can be found on the Privacy at Western Sydney webpage.

What if I have a complaint?

If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this research, you may email the Ethics Committee through Research Services: humanethics@westernsydney.edu.au.

Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and investigated fully, and you will be informed of the outcome.

If you agree to participate in this study, you may be asked to sign the Participant Consent Form. The information sheet is for you to keep, and the consent form is retained by the researcher/s.

This study has been approved by the Western Sydney University Human Research Ethics Committee. The Approval number is H *[16123]*.

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Explanation of Consent

What will happen to my information if I agree to it being used in other projects?

Thank you for considering being a participant in a university research project. The researchers are asking that you agree to supply your information (data) for use in this project and to also agree to allow the data to potentially be used in future research projects.

This request is in line with current University and government policy that encourages the re-use of data once it has been collected. Collecting information for research can be an inconvenience or burden for participants and has significant costs associated with it. Sharing your data with other researchers gives potential for others to reflect on the data and its findings, to re-use it with new insight, and increase understanding in this research area.

You have been asked to agree to Extended consent.

What does this mean?

When you agree to extended consent, it means that you agree that your data, as part of a larger dataset (the information collected for this project) can be re-used in projects that are.

- an extension of this project
- closely related to this project
- in the same general area of this research.

The researchers will allow this data to be used by members of the research team in any extension of this project.

To enable this re-use, your data will be held at the University in its data repository and managed under a Data Management Plan. The stored data available for re-use will not have information in it that makes you identifiable. The re-use of the data will only be allowed after an ethics committee has agreed that the new use of the data meets the requirements of ethics review.

The researchers want to keep the data for 24 months for possible re-use. After this time the data will be securely destroyed.

You are welcome to discuss these issues further with the researchers before deciding if you agree. You can also find more information about the re-use of data in research in the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research – see Sections 2.2.14 - 2.2.18.

https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/national-statement-ethical-conduct-human-research-2007-updated-2018