

SURVEY

PLAIN LANGUAGE STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM



TO: Survey Participants

Plain Language Statement

Date: 29 October 2024

Full Project Title: Do our words matter in Asthma: a survey of adults living with asthma about the language they prefer in health promotion materials

Principal Researcher: Professor Steven Allender

Student Researcher: Ms. Karyn Jensen

Associate Researcher(s): Professor Jane Speight, Dr Eloise Litterbach

We appreciate your taking the time to participate in this online survey.

Your insights into the language used in asthma care are valuable to us. There are no right or wrong answers; we simply want to understand your experiences.

This research project is being conducted by Ms. Karyn Jensen, as part of her Masters of Health Promotion at Deakin University. This project is part of this Masters project and is not directly connected with Asthma Australia.

You are free to decide not to participate in this study. Choosing not to participate will not affect your relationship with the research team, Deakin University or Asthma Australia.

Please read this information carefully. Ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about. The Plain Language Statement form is for you to print and keep.

By going on to complete the survey, you are telling us that you:

- Understand what you have read
- Consent to take part in the research project

What is the aim of the research?

The aim of the research is to better understand what language used in clinical care and health promotion materials is acceptable, accessible and actionable for people living with asthma in Australia?

The findings of this study may inform the future of language used in asthma information materials. Some of the findings may be used in reports, media releases, presentations and/or journal articles by the research team. Any presentation of the results will be anonymous and if you participate your details and involvement will not be shared with others by the research team.

Who can take part?

Adults (18 years and older) living in Australia, with asthma, who can complete the survey in English language.

What does the study involve?

Taking part in this study involves the completion of an online survey, which will take approximately 30 minutes. You will be asked some questions about yourself (e.g., age, gender) as well as your preferences about certain words used in asthma care.

Are there any benefits in taking part?

There will be no direct benefits to you. Some people get a sense of satisfaction from contributing to research like this, as it helps us to understand how to better support people affected by asthma.

Are there any risks in taking part?

We do not anticipate any risks to you in taking part. You are unlikely to experience any discomfort by taking part in this survey.

If you have any questions about asthma following the survey, we encourage you to contact your health professional or to call the Asthma Australia supp service: 1800 278 4662 to speak with an Asthma Educator or email asthmasupport@asthma.org.au.

If you feel you need support, you may like to contact:

- Beyondblue on 1300 224 636
- Lifeline on 131114

Can I withdraw at any time?

You are free to decide not to participate or withdraw from the study by closing the survey browser at any time (without giving any reason). Doing so will not affect your relationship with any of the researchers, Deakin University or Asthma Australia. However, because the study is anonymous, we will not know which data is yours. This means that you will not be able to withdraw your partial data from the survey.

How will my privacy be protected?

This online survey is hosted via Qualtrics, a secure online survey platform. At the conclusion of the survey, you will have the opportunity to provide consent to receive a summary of the study findings. If you 'opt-in' to receive a summary of results you will be asked to provide your name and email. This personal information will remain strictly confidential and will not be linked to your survey responses. Researchers will not know which data is yours and will not be able to contact participants about their individual responses to survey questions. Your name and email address will be deleted from our records at the completion of the study.

All data will be downloaded from Qualtrics™ on a weekly basis, until study completion. Data will be stored on a Deakin University secure drive (only accessible to the research team) and deleted from Qualtrics™ following completion of data collection. All the information you share with us will be stored electronically (on a computer). In accordance with government requirements, your survey data will be stored for a minimum of five years and then disposed of by erasing of electronic files. Non-identifiable data may be shared with the research team and other collaborating institutions for the purposes of supporting the current, or related research.

What will you do with my data?

Your answers will be analysed along with those from other people taking part in the survey. The overall results of the study will be written up for publication in academic journals, conferences, and magazines and newsletters. A summary of results will be sent to participants requesting a copy within 12 months of participation, and also be made available on the Asthma Australia website following publication. No-one will be able to identify you from any of the information we publish or present. We will take great care to protect your identity. Your privacy is very important to us.

The research team may use the non-identifiable data collected in a closely related or an extension of the current research project. Research data is occasionally requested by external research groups. If reasonable grounds are made to share this project's data, and once evidence of ethics approval has been provided by the external research group it may be shared in a non-identifiable form.

Can I request a summary of results?

Yes. At the end of the survey, we will ask whether you would like to receive a summary of study results. If you do wish to receive a summary, we will ask for your email address so a summary can be emailed to you at the completion of this study.

You will also be able to find the results online at <https://dro.deakin.edu.au/> once they are published.

Further information and who to contact:

Ms. Karyn Jensen (Deakin University) takes overall responsibility for this study, including data monitoring and access, and research publication. If you have questions about this study, please contact Karyn via email: s222507732@deakin.edu.au

Plain Language Statement & Consent Form to survey respondents
2024/HE000267: version n: 0.04 17/10/2024

Complaints

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted or any questions about your rights as a research participant, then you may contact:

The Human Research Ethics Office, Deakin University, 221 Burwood Highway, Burwood Victoria 3125, Telephone: 9251 7129, research-ethics@deakin.edu.au

Please quote project number [2024/HE000267](#)

Consent Form [within Qualtrics]
--

Please tick the box at the bottom of the page to indicate your agreement with each statement.

- I have read and I understand the Plain Language Statement.
- I freely agree to participate in this project according to the conditions in the Plain Language Statement.
- I have access to a copy of the Plain Language Statement and Consent form to save/print and keep.
- I understand that the research team will not reveal my identity or personal details to anyone outside the research team, including where information is published or presented in any public form about this research study.
- I give permission for my anonymous responses to be used in future publications

The above repeats information presented in Qualtrics and by ticking the box and entering the survey you have confirmed you have read and understood the information above and agree to take part in this study.

This copy is for your records only.