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Online Survey Participant Information

Project title: Empowering Allied Hearing-Healthcare Professionals to talk about memory issues in hearing impaired older adults: Knowledge, Attitude and Practice Survey.

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Invitation

We would like to invite you to take part in a research study that is investigating the knowledge, attitudes and practices of Allied Hearing-Healthcare Professionals about hearing loss and cognitive impairment. This is a collaborative research project between Ear Science Institute Australia and the University of Western Australia. This study is also a part of Grace Je's (22931411@student.uwa.edu.au) Masters in Audiology thesis project.

Aim of the Study

For this study we are asking Allied Hearing-Healthcare Professionals to complete a short questionnaire based on their knowledge, attitudes and practice of caring for someone with hearing loss and possible cognitive impairment or dementia. The survey aims to explore the identification and management of hearing loss and cognitive impairment in older adults.

What does participation involve?

Participation in this project requires the completion of a 15-20-minute online survey. The approved Participant Information Sheet is shown below.

To participate, please follow this link:
https://uwa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5577sK0ZMRKUV4G to begin the survey.

Voluntary Participation and Withdrawal from the Study

Participation in the study is completely voluntary. Your consent to participate may be withdrawn at any time prior to completion of the survey and without any reason. If you

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withdraw prior to completing and submitting the survey online, your data will not be recorded and any demographic data you have provided will be destroyed. However, once you have submitted your online survey, you will not be able to withdraw your data.

Your privacy

This is an anonymous survey. Your participation in this study and any information you provide will be treated in a confidential manner. The data will be kept in line with the WA University Sector Disposal Authority (WAUSDA) in a non-identifiable format, in a password protected computer or a secure server.” The WAUSDA Guidelines 14.6.5 Conducting Research does not set a minimum retention period. Conducting research with outcomes that are classed as minor, not covered by other minor research classes are required to be retained for a minimum of 7 years after date of publication, or 7 years after conclusion of the project, whichever is later, then destroyed.

How the results and data will be stored?

The data will be stored using the UWA Institutional Research Data Store (IRDS) in a de-identified format, in a password protected computer or a secure server, for minimum seven years. Data will be destroyed seven years after the completion of the study or after the results have been published. Identifying information and participant records will remain strictly confidential. Personal data will not leave the experimental database in a form that allows participants to be identified. The results of this research will be made available through conferences or professional scientific journals. Your rights under any applicable data protection laws are not affected.

Possible benefits of participating in this research?

By participating in this research, you will allow the researchers to gain a better understanding of how Allied Hearing-Healthcare Professionals assess and manage hearing loss and possible cognitive impairment or dementia in older adults.

Possible risks of participating in this research?

The risks associated with this research are minimal and no different to those that you would expect in completing an online survey.

Is there any cost involved for the participants?

There will be no cost involved in participating in this study.

Contacts

Should you have any questions or concerns about the study, please contact Dr Dona Jayakody, Ear Science Institute Australia, 1 Salvado Road, Subiaco WA 6008, Tel: 08 64570541

Approval to conduct this research has been provided by the University of Western Australia, in accordance with its ethics review and approval procedures. Any person considering participation in this research project, or agreeing to participate, may raise any questions or issues with the researchers at any time. In addition, any person not satisfied with the response of researchers may raise ethics issues or concerns, and may make any complaints about this research project by contacting the Human Ethics office at UWA on (08) 6488 4703 or by emailing to humanethics@uwa.edu.au. All research participants are entitled to retain a copy of any Participant Information Form and/or Participant Consent Form relating to this research project.

Consent Statement

I have read the information provided and any questions I have asked have been answered to my satisfaction. I agree to participate in this research project, realizing that I may withdraw without reason and without prejudice.

I understand that all identifiable information that I provide is treated as confidential and will not be released by the investigator in any form that may identify me unless I have consented to this. The only exception to this principle of confidentiality is if this information is required by law to be released.

I agree to participate in this research project but withdrawal is not possible once data are submitted.

If you consent to participate in this research project, please click on the survey link below and answer the consent question in the survey:

http://uwa.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5577sK0ZMRKUV4G