



Participant Information Sheet

Online Survey

Project title:

How women use social media for sexual/reproductive health information and support.

Research team:

Student Researcher: Hanna Price
Primary Supervisor: Dr Victoria Egli
Secondary Supervisor: Dr Callie Vandewiele

Locality:

Aotearoa New Zealand

Invitation to Participate:

Kia Ora,

My name is Hanna, and I am a Registered Nurse and student at The University of Auckland. If you were assigned female at birth or have ever/are currently identified as a woman, you are warmly invited to participate in this survey. We hope to explore how you have used or still use social media for sexual/reproductive health information and support. This survey allows you to reflect on and acknowledge any lived experiences with accessing social media for this purpose. Our study will help to contribute new knowledge of how social media is used for seeking support and finding information about health post-pandemic. We also hope to shine a light on the taboo topic that is sexual and reproductive health.

This Participant Information Sheet will help you decide whether to participate in this study. It explains why we are doing the study, what your participation would involve, your rights as a participant, what support is available, and what would happen after this study is complete.

Before you decide to participate, please discuss it with others. We encourage you to do this. This document is four pages long. Please ensure you have read carefully to make an informed decision about whether or not you would like to participate.

If you agree to participate in this study, we will ask you to consent electronically. You can download a digital copy of the "Participant Information Sheet" to keep.

Eligibility:

You can take part in this study if you:

- Assigned a female at birth, have ever or currently identify as a woman.
- Are aged ≥ 18 years.
- Member of the public, based anywhere in Aotearoa, New Zealand.
- Be able to understand English, read and write so that you can complete this survey.

What does the study involve?

We are researching how women access social media for sexual/reproductive health information and support. Questions will be asked using an online survey on Qualtrics, and your responses will remain anonymous.

Your participation is voluntary. Whether or not you take part is your choice. You do not have to take part. You can withdraw from the study at any time until you complete the survey online without giving a reason. You will be protected if you wish to refrain from participating in the research, change your mind, and withdraw later. You are encouraged to ask questions at any time during the study process.

Participating in the study will take some of your time. You will need to read this Participant Information Sheet and consent form. Then you will be asked to complete the online survey using Qualtrics, which will take approximately 10-15 minutes.

We will be recruiting as many people as possible.

Only members of the research team will have access to the study information. All information collected during the survey will be processed to remove any identifying information to ensure anonymity.

Please be aware that we will be discussing a potentially taboo topic. You would only respond to the questions you feel comfortable answering.

Who pays for the study?

- Taking part in this study will not incur any costs for you
- There is no reimbursement for taking part in this brief survey

Rights of the participant(s)

Participation is voluntary:

Your participation in this online survey is entirely up to you (your choice), and you will not be disadvantaged if you choose to participate. You will be allowed to tick an electronic consent box which means you agree to the information you provide to be used for this study.

Withdrawal from participation and exit of data:

You can withdraw from the study until you complete and submit the survey electronically. Once you submit your responses, you can no longer withdraw your data as it would have been anonymously collected and remains unidentifiable (i.e., not linked to your personal information). To try to retrieve this information would contradict the anonymity of the survey. If you decide to withdraw from the study before submission, you will not be disadvantaged.

Confidentiality and Anonymity:

This survey is anonymous. If you choose to provide personal contact information so that you may receive the final results of this research, the researcher will not be able to link your responses to your details. This information will be stored separately from your survey response. Any information

you choose to share will be analysed and deidentified if required. Again, to participate or not to participate is entirely your decision.

Security and Storage of Your Information

Your responses to the survey are kept anonymous and held at the University of Auckland during the study. If provided, these responses and consent forms are kept separate from your email address. After the survey, any information will be transferred to a secure archiving site, stored for at least ten years, and then destroyed. All storage will comply with local data security guidelines.

Risks:

Although efforts will be made to protect your privacy, absolute confidentiality of your information cannot be guaranteed. The risk of people accessing and misusing your information is minimal but may increase as people find new ways of tracing information.

This research includes basic information such as gender and ethnic groups. This research could one day help people in the same groups as you. We do not intend to undertake an analysis based on ethnicity. However, it is also possible that research findings could be misused to support negative stereotypes, stigmatise, or discriminate against members of the same groups as you.

We understand that opening up about and discussing sexual and reproductive health can be uncomfortable for some individuals. Your responses will remain anonymous and confidential to the research team. If you feel uncomfortable during any survey stage, you can withdraw until you press “submit” without reason. We encouraged you to talk to your usual support networks first.

If you are distressed, you can contact the following:

Healthline: Phone: 0800 611 116

Lifeline: Phone 0800 543 354 or free text 4357 (HELP)

If you have any concerns with your sexual or reproductive health, you can seek out the following:

Call Healthline on 0800 611 116.

Call 0800 SEX HEALTH (0800 739 432) to speak with a nurse.

Are you affected by sexual harm? Call 0800 044 334 or text 4334.

- A free, 24/7, and confidential helpline.

Women’s Refuge: Call their crisis line on 0800 REFUGE (0800 733 843).

Family Planning: Make an appointment on 0800 372 546.

Find your local New Zealand Sexual Health Clinic here: www.nzshs.org/clinic

Cultural Support:

If you require Māori cultural support, talk to your whānau in the first instance. Alternatively, you may contact the head of Te Kupenga Haoura Māori (Department of Māori Health and the Office of Tumuaki).

Professor Papaarangi Reid.

Email: p.reid@auckland.ac.nz

Phone: 09 923 1922.

What will happen after the study?

- All electronic data will be stored on the University of Auckland server.
- All computer records will be password protected.

How can I receive a copy of the findings from this study?

- If you wish, an email newsletter summary of the findings can be sent to you after the final write-up of this study.
- A separate URL link will be provided at the end of the Qualtrics survey. This link will need to be copied and pasted into a new webpage.
- This separate Qualtrics document will not link you to your survey responses.
- On this page, you can provide your email address. This information will be stored so we can provide you with a summary from late 2023 - early 2024.
- We aim to publish and present research findings at Women's Health conferences.
- Published articles will be made freely available to the public.
- A summary will also be posted on social media.
- A newsletter summary will also be sent to New Zealand sexual/ reproductive organisations (including some mentioned above).

Contact details:

If you have any questions, concerns or complaints about the study at any stage, you can contact:

Student Researcher:

Hanna Price

Email: hpri513@aucklanduni.ac.nz

Academic Supervisor:

Dr Victoria Egli

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Head of the School of Nursing:

Associate Professor Julia Slark

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For concerns of an ethical nature, you can contact the Chair of the Auckland Health Research Ethics Committee at ahrec@auckland.ac.nz or 373 7599 extension #83711, or the Auckland Health Research Ethics Committee, The University of Auckland, Private Bag 92 019, Auckland 1142.

Approved by the Auckland Health Research Committee on 28/06/23 for three years.

Reference #AH25633