

Participant Information Sheet

Department of Medicine

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, University of Auckland

22-30 Park Ave, Grafton, Auckland 1023, New Zealand

Project Title: Perceptions of Arthritis Study

Student Researcher: Dr Vicky Tai (PhD candidate)

Principal Investigator/Supervisor: Professor Nicola Dalbeth

Co-Investigator: Associate Professor Greg Gamble

RESEARCHER INTRODUCTION

Dr Vicky Tai is a Rheumatologist who is funded by the Health Research Council of New Zealand to pursue a PhD at the University of Auckland. The Principal Investigator, Professor Nicola Dalbeth, is a Rheumatologist and Professor of Medicine at the University of Auckland who is supervising Dr Tai's PhD. The Co-Investigator, Associate Professor Greg Gamble, is a senior biostatistician who will provide advice and guidance on design and statistical analysis for this study. We are conducting this study within the Department of Medicine at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

AN INVITATION

You are invited to take part in this study. We are investigating the general public's perceptions of a type of arthritis. You have been invited because you have participated or showed an interest in previous research we have done and agreed to be contacted about further research opportunities or because you have replied to an advertisement about the research.

Whether or not you take part is your choice. If you don't want to take part, you don't have to give a reason. If you want to take part now, but change your mind later, you can pull out of the study.

This Participant Information Sheet will help you decide if you'd like to take part. It sets out why we are doing the study, what your participation would involve, what the benefits and risks to you might be, and what would happen after the study ends. We will go through this information with you and answer any questions you may have. You do not have to decide today whether or not you will participate in this study. Before you decide, you may want to talk about the study with other people, such as whānau and friends. Feel free to do this.

To be included in the study you must be aged 18 years or older and be able to complete a questionnaire in English. If you are a health professional or a student enrolled in a health-related course/degree, you will not be eligible to take part.

If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to sign an electronic Consent Form. You will be sent a copy of both this and the Participant Information Sheet to keep. This document is three pages long. Please make sure you have read and understood all the pages.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY?

Our aim is to understand the general public's perceptions of a common type of arthritis.

WHAT WILL MY PARTICIPATION IN THE STUDY INVOLVE?

You will watch a video on the type of arthritis we are studying and will then be asked to complete a questionnaire about your perceptions of the condition with the study researcher, Dr Vicky Tai. The video will be approximately 3-minutes in duration and the questionnaire will take around 30 minutes to complete. As part of the questionnaire, we will also collect demographic information such as your age, gender, occupation and ethnicity. You may choose to complete the study online or in-person. If you choose to complete the study online, you will have a Zoom call with the study researcher to watch the video and complete the study questionnaire. If you choose to complete the study in person, you will be asked to attend the Clinical Research Centre at the University of Auckland's Grafton Campus where you will watch the video and complete the questionnaire face-to-face with the study researcher.

After watching the video and completing the study questionnaire, you will receive a \$30 supermarket voucher. This will be emailed to you once you have completed the study with the researcher.

There will be 200 participants in this study.

We do not expect your participation in this study to cause any distress or to put you at risk of any adverse event. During the study, if you feel uncomfortable and do not wish to continue watching the video or to complete the questionnaire, you may request to stop at any time. You do not have to provide a reason for this.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE STUDY?

Your participation will be kept confidential, and all data will be stored securely for 6 years on a password protected electronic database at the University of Auckland. After 6 years all electronic data will be erased. The study will take around one year to complete. We can send you a letter summarizing the results of the study at the end of this time. If you would like a copy of the results, please provide an email address we can send them to.

We plan to present results from this study at conferences and publish the findings in scientific journals so that the information is available to doctors, researchers and the public. The results generated from the study may be made available for use in future research. Participants will not be identified in any report or publication and all information about your identity will be kept strictly confidential.

RIGHT TO WITHDRAW FROM PARTICIPATION

Participation in this study is voluntary (your choice). You are free to decline to participate or withdraw from the research without any disadvantage to you. You do not need to give a reason to withdraw from the study.

If you decide after the study visit you want to withdraw from the study, you have the right to withdraw your collected information as long as you let us know within 2 weeks. After 2 weeks, the data collected may continue to be processed as part of the study.

ANONYMITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Your participation in this study will remain confidential. We will ensure that your questionnaire and your personal details are protected, by de-identifying all data we collect from you. No information collected, which could identify you personally, will be used in any reports on this study. Your information will be stored securely in electronic form. Apart from the study researchers, no one else will have access to your information.

WHO DO I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE STUDY?

If you are **interested in the study or have any questions**, please contact the study team at the following email address: arthritisvideostudy@auckland.ac.nz

WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE ANY CONCERNS?

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

Professor Phillippa Poole (Head of the School of Medicine)

Telephone number: 09 373 7599 extn 86440

Email: p.poole@auckland.ac.nz

For concerns of an ethical nature, you can contact the Chair of the Auckland Health Research Ethics Committee at ahrec@auckland.ac.nz or at 373 7599 ext. 83711, or at Auckland Health Research Ethics Committee, The University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142.

If you would like cultural support, please contact the study researchers via email:

arthritisvideostudy@auckland.ac.nz

Approved by the Auckland Health Research Ethics Committee (AHREC) on 08/05/2025 for three years. Reference number AH29102.