



#### ONLINE PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT

The PrEPARE Project Dr James MacGibbon

#### 1. What is the research study about?

This study aims to understand gay and bisexual men's attitudes towards HIV prevention technologies like pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), treatment as prevention (TasP) and condoms.

### 2. Who is conducting this research?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers:

- Dr James MacGibbon, Centre for Social Research in Health, UNSW
- Dr Timothy Broady, Centre for Social Research in Health, UNSW
- Dr Benjamin Bavinton, Kirby Institute, UNSW
- Professor Martin Holt, Centre for Social Research in Health, UNSW

**Research Funder:** This research is funded by the NSW Ministry of Health.

#### 3. Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Before you decide to participate in this research study, we need to ensure that it is ok for you to take part. The research study is looking recruit people who meet the following criteria:

- You identify as gay, bisexual or queer
- You identify as male (cisgender or transgender) or non-binary
- You are aged 16 years or older, and
- You live in Australia.

#### 4. Do I have to take part in this research study?

Participation in any research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to.

If you decide you want to take part in the research study, you will be asked to:

- Read the information carefully
- Complete the online questionnaire.

#### 5. What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks involved?

If you decide to take part in the research study, we will ask you to complete an online questionnaire. The questionnaire will ask you questions about PrEP, HIV testing, relationships, sexual practices, attitudes to HIV treatments, attitudes to condoms and illicit drug use. It should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

If you want to participate in future rounds of the survey, to receive feedback on the study, or if you would like to be contacted about other research studies, you will be asked to provide your contact details. If you do not wish to provide your contact details, you can participate in the study anonymously.

We don't expect this questionnaire to cause any harm or discomfort, however if you experience feelings of distress as a result of participation in this study, we encourage you to contact a service that provides free, confidential support to gay and bisexual men, such as QLife (contact details listed below).

# 6. What are the possible benefits to participation?

The results of this study are already being used for the development of HIV prevention policy and the implementation of new HIV prevention technologies in Australia. The survey results will inform our stakeholders about the best ways to educate gay and bisexual men about new prevention technologies.

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### 7. What will happen to information about me?

Submission of the online questionnaire is an indication of your consent. By clicking the 'I agree to participate' button you are providing your permission for the research team to collect and use information about you for the research study. Your data will be securely stored in a non-identifiable format at the Centre for Social Research in Health, UNSW. If you provide your contact details to receive feedback on the survey, your contact details will be stored separately from your survey responses. This will ensure that your responses remain confidential.

### 8. How and when will I find out what the results of the research study are?

The research team will report the results of the research study in a variety of ways, including journal articles, conference presentations, and community feedback sessions. All information published will be done in a way that will not identify you.

If you would like to receive a copy of the results you can provide your email address at the end of the questionnaire. We will also publicise the results of the survey on our Facebook page and through the project website.

# 9. What if I want to withdraw from the research study?

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time. You can do this by closing the survey. If you withdraw from the research, any answers you have submitted up to that point will still be recorded. Once you have submitted the survey, we will not be able to withdraw your survey responses unless you have provided contact details. If you would like us to withdraw your survey responses, contact James MacGibbon (see section 10) as soon as possible to make the request. Please note that because we store identifiable information (first name and emails) separately from survey responses, it will only be possible for us to withdraw your responses from the survey website while recruitment is ongoing.

### 10. What should I do if I have further questions about my involvement in the research study?

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you require further information regarding this study or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the study, you can contact the study's lead investigator:

### **Research Team Contact**

Name	Dr James MacGibbon	
Position	Research Associate	
Telephone	02 9348 1246	
Email	j.macgibbon@unsw.edu.au	

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If at any stage during the study, you become distressed or require additional support from someone not involved in the research please contact:

### Contact for feelings of distress

Organisation	QLife (free LGBTI specific phone support or web chat 3-12pm AEST)
Description	National telephone and web counselling for LGBTI people providing advice and support about mental health, relationships, isolation and coming out
Telephone	1800 184 527
Website	https://qlife.org.au

Organisation	Beyondblue (free 24/7 phone support and web chat)
Description	Provides mental health advice and support 24 hours, 7 days a week, particularly to those experiencing anxiety or depression (online support available)
Telephone	1300 22 4636
Website	https://www.beyondblue.org.au

Organisation	Lifeline (free 24/7 phone support and web chat)
Description	Provides mental health and crisis support, particularly to those contemplating suicide (online support available)
Telephone	13 11 14
Website	https://www.lifeline.org.au

# What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the research study?

If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of the study or the way it is being conducted, please contact the UNSW Human Ethics Coordinator:

# **Complaints Contact**

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Position	Human Research Ethics Coordinator		
Telephone	+ 61 2 9385 6222		
Email	humanethics@unsw.edu.au		
HC Reference	HC230024		
Number			

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