



ONLINE PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT

Visiting friends and relatives (VFR) travellers

Travel health perceptions and practices of travel agents and travellers visiting friends and relatives

The research study is being carried out by the following researchers:		
Role	Name	Organisation
Chief Investigator	Dr Anita Heywood	School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of New South Wales
Co-Investigator/s	Dr Holly Seale Professor Raina MacIntyre Professor Nick Zwar A/Prof Heather Worth Dr Mohamud Sheikh Dr Mitchell Smith	University of New South Wales University of New South Wales University of New South Wales University of New South Wales University of New South Wales NSW Refugee Health Service
Student Investigator/s	None	
Research Funder	This research is being funded by the Australian Research Council Discovery Project grant scheme.	

What is the research study about?

You are invited to take part in this online research study. You have been invited because you have travelled or planned to travel to visit friends and relatives in your or your parent's country of birth in the South Asian region.

To participate in this research study you need to meet the following inclusion criteria:

- You must be aged 18 years and older ;
- You must have travelled within the last 2 years or plan to travel in the next 1 year for the purpose of visiting friends and relatives in your or your parents' country of birth
- You or one of your parents' country of birth must be in South Asia (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka)

The research study is aiming to investigate perceptions of travel risks, pre-travel health advice seeking behaviours and vaccine uptake of travellers who visit friends and relatives.

Do I have to take part in this research study?

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you don't wish to take part, you don't have to. Your decision will not affect your relationship with The University of New South Wales or the organisation who provided you with the study information.

This Participant Information Statement tells you about the research study. It explains the research tasks involved. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research. Please read this information carefully.

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

If you decide to take part in the research study, you will be asked to complete an online questionnaire, which will ask you questions about your travel health preparations such as seeking advice from a medical professional and avoid infections when you travel. We expect this activity to take up to 10 minutes. There is no risk involved in this study.



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Will I be paid to participate in this project?

If you participate in the online survey, your name will be entered into a draw to win one of two iPad minis valued at \$368 each.

What are the possible benefits to participation?

We hope to use information from this research study to benefit travellers who visit friends and relatives who are at higher risk of several travel-associated infectious diseases compared to other travellers. The study will provide important information on how we can protect travellers from infections during travel including tailoring travel health messages.

What will happen to information about me?

By clicking on the 'I agree' button you consent to the research team collecting and using information from the questionnaire you complete for the research study.

Any information obtained in connection with this research study that can identify you will remain confidential. This project will use an external site to create, collect and analyse data collected in a questionnaire format. The site we are using is SurveyMonkey. If you agree to participate in this study, the responses you provide to the questionnaire will be stored on a host server that is used by SurveyMonkey. Once we have completed our data collection and analysis, we will import the data we collect to the UNSW server. The data on the SurveyMonkey server will then be deleted. We will keep the data for 7 years.

It is anticipated that the results of this research study will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that your research findings may be published, but you will not be individually identifiable in these publications.

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

You have a right to receive feedback about the overall results of this study. You can tell us that you wish to receive feedback by sending us an email to the chief investigator. This feedback will be in the form of a one page lay summary of the study findings after the study is finished.

What if I want to withdraw from the research study?

Submitting your completed questionnaire is an indication of your consent to participate in the study. You can withdraw your responses if you change your mind about having them included in the study, up to the point that we have analysed and published the results. You can do this by sending us a form for withdrawal of participation.

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 want any further information concerning this project or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the project, you can contact the following member/s of the research team:



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Research Team Contact

Name	Dr Anita Heywood
Position	Chief Investigator
Telephone	02 9385 3667
Email	a.heywood@unsw.edu.au

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

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted, then you may contact:

Complaints Contact

Position	Human Research Ethics Coordinator
Telephone	+ 61 2 9385 6222
Email	humanethics@unsw.edu.au
HC Reference Number	HC15802



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Consent Form – Participant providing own consent

Declaration by the participant

- I have read the Participant Information Sheet;
- I understand the purposes, study tasks and risks of the research described in the project;
- I have had an opportunity to ask questions and I am satisfied with the answers I have received;
- I freely agree to participate in this research study as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the project and withdrawal will not affect my relationship with any of the named organisations and/or research team members;
- I understand that I can download a copy of this consent form from <http://sphcm.med.unsw.edu.au/research/infectious-diseases/travel-study>

Participant Details

Name of Participant (please type)	
Participant email address (if applicable)	
Date	

I agree, start questionnaire



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Form for Withdrawal of Participation

I wish to **WITHDRAW** my consent to participate in the research proposal described above and understand that such withdrawal **WILL NOT** affect my relationship with The University of New South Wales.

Participant Name

Name of Participant (please type)	
Date	

Submit withdrawal of consent