

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

### Consumers

**Project ID:** 22334

**Project title:** Improving Melanoma and Skin Cancer awareness in regional and rural Australia

**Adjunct Associate Professor Victoria Mar –  
Coordinating Principal Investigator**

Department of Public Health and Preventive  
Medicine, Faculty of Medicine Nursing and  
Health Sciences

Phone: 03 9076 0365

email: [victoria.mar@monash.edu](mailto:victoria.mar@monash.edu)

**Narelle Williams, Research Manager**

Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Research  
Centre, Monash University

Phone: 0414579120

Email: [narelle.williams@monash.edu](mailto:narelle.williams@monash.edu)

**Melissa Sheldon, Project Officer**

Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Research  
Centre, Monash University

Phone: 0408 819 709

Email: [Melissa.sheldon@monash.edu](mailto:Melissa.sheldon@monash.edu)

You are invited to take part in this study. Please read this Explanatory Statement in full before deciding whether or not to participate in this research. If you would like further information regarding any aspect of this project, you are encouraged to contact the researcher via the phone number or email address listed above.

#### **What does the research involve?**

The aim of this research is to help identify the needs of patients diagnosed with melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers who are living in regional and rural areas as well as those patients with poorer outcomes.

You will be asked to complete an anonymous online survey. This is voluntary and will take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

This survey is part of a 3-year national project endorsed by and developed in collaboration with numerous cancer specialists, hospitals, cancer collaborative groups, advocacy groups and networks, across Australia. It is being conducted by Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Limited (MASC Trials), the cancer collaborative group specialising in investigator-initiated melanoma and skin cancer research with a number of stakeholders representing the national advocacy and research community.

#### **Why were you chosen for this research?**

You have been chosen to participate in this research because you are a member of a melanoma and skin cancer consumer organisation and have valuable insight and experiences.

### **Source of funding**

This study is funded by a Cancer Australia Supporting People with Cancer Grant. Additional support has been provided by Australian Melanoma Consumer Alliance, Melanoma Patients Australia, MelanomaWA, MelanomaTas, Melanoma Institute Australia, Aime St Clair Foundation and Skin Health Institution.

### **Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research**

Your participation is voluntary. Completion of the anonymous online survey will indicate your consent to participate in the study. If you choose not to participate or to withdraw, do not complete the survey. Simply close the link. It will not be possible to withdraw data once you have completed the survey.

### **Possible benefits and risks to participants**

We do not anticipate that there are any significant risks to your participation in this survey project, although some questions in the survey may cause some emotional concerns or discomfort.

### **Services on offer if adversely affected**

Should you experience some emotional concerns or discomfort please reach out to one of the following services offering support and counselling;

- Melanoma Patients Australia at [www.melanomapatients.org.au](http://www.melanomapatients.org.au) or 1300 88 44 50
- Cancer Council Australia at [www.cancercouncil.com.au](http://www.cancercouncil.com.au)
- Melanoma Institute Australia at [www.melanoma.org.au](http://www.melanoma.org.au) or 1300 884 450
- Beyond blue at [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au) or 1300 22 4636

### **Confidentiality**

All data collected will be kept strictly confidential and stored securely on a secure server for access by Monash University staff and affiliates only. Any data collected will be analysed by the study team for presentation and publication in journals/newsletters/newspapers but no identifying data will be published. Only grouped data which will not include any identifying information will be used.

Participants will be able to opt in to provide their contact details for further contact by the study team should they wish to participate in other aspects of the project including consumer forums, focus groups or interviews.

### **Storage of data**

All data collected will be kept strictly confidential and stored securely on a secure server for access by Monash University staff and affiliates only. Survey data will be kept indefinitely.

### **Use of data for other purposes**

Participants will be able to opt in to provide their contact details for further contact by the study team should they wish to participate in other aspects of the project including consumer forums, interviews or focus groups as part of this study.

## Results

Results of the study will be presented and/or published in journals or newsletters or newspapers or online forums. The results of the project will be made available on the MASC Trials website.

## Complaints

Should you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the project, you are welcome to contact the Executive Officer, Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC):

Executive Officer  
Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC)  
Room 111, Chancellery Building D,  
26 Sports Walk, Clayton Campus  
Research Office  
Monash University VIC 3800

Tel: +61 3 9905 2052      Email: [muhrec@monash.edu](mailto:muhrec@monash.edu)      Fax: +61 3 9905 3831

Thank you,



**Adjunct Associate Professor Victoria Mar**

Department of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medicine Nursing and Health Sciences