

## Appendix 3 - Participant Information Statement

### Project: Exploring environmental health officers' perceptions of the barriers and enablers to the prevention of Cryptosporidiosis in aquatic facilities

SHR Project 2018/222

#### Principal Investigator

Dr Sarah McLean  
School of Health Sciences  
Swinburne University of Technology  
Phone: + 61 3 9214 5113  
Email: [smclean@swin.edu.au](mailto:smclean@swin.edu.au)



#### Co-Investigator

Ms Louise Dunn  
School of Health Sciences  
Swinburne University of Technology

#### Student Investigator

Ms Lauren Cullinan  
School of Health Sciences  
Swinburne University of Technology

#### Introduction to Project and Invitation to Participate

You are invited to participate in the above research project which focuses on exploring environmental health officers' perceptions of the barriers and enablers to Cryptosporidiosis prevention in aquatic facilities within Victoria. This research is being conducted due to the increased waterborne transmission of the disease in swimming pools and aquatic facilities and the difficulty in trying to prevent and control the disease.

#### Project Aims

- identify what environmental health officers perceive as the barriers and enablers to Cryptosporidiosis prevention in aquatic facilities within Victoria
- gather empirical evidence around the barriers and enablers to the prevention of Cryptosporidiosis
- assist in the development or modification of Cryptosporidiosis prevention strategies and plans

#### What participation will involve

If you consent to participate in this study, you will be asked to participate in a 1-2 hour focus group involving a series of questions prompting discussion around Cryptosporidiosis prevention in aquatic facilities and your role in inspecting aquatic facilities and investigating Cryptosporidiosis. The focus groups will be audio-recorded to ensure an accurate representation of what you say is captured. You will also be asked to complete a short questionnaire relating to your demographic information that will help to describe the sample.

#### Voluntary participation and withdrawal

Your participation in this study is voluntary. If, at any stage you no longer wish to participate in the study you may withdraw without explanation. At any time in which you wish to do so, you are free to withdraw any unprocessed data that you have supplied to the researchers. Your consent to participate in this study will be via a written consent form returned to the researchers prior to the research being conducted.

### **Privacy and Confidentiality**

As a potential participant, you have been contacted by an external organisation on behalf of the Swinburne researchers who have not had your contact details made available to them. Your privacy and confidentiality will be upheld for the entirety of the research project. All information relating to the project will be available only to the researchers. Password protected files and password protected computers will be used to retain all information including consent forms and audio recordings of focus groups. Any hard copy documents such as demographic questionnaires will be kept under lock and key at Swinburne University of Technology and accessible only to the researchers. At the completion of the research project all records and materials relating to the project will be retained on password protected computers or under lock and key by Dr Sarah McLean at Swinburne University of Technology in Hawthorn for at least five years and then destroyed.

### **Research findings and anonymity**

The research findings will be published as part of an Honours thesis and will be developed into a manuscript for submission to a peer-reviewed journal. To ensure that you remain anonymous in any research publication or presentation you will be given a pseudonym that is known only to the researchers.

### **Further information about the project**

If you would like further information about the project, please do not hesitate to contact:

Dr Sarah McLean  
School of Health Sciences  
Swinburne University of Technology  
Phone: + 61 3 9214 5113  
Email: [smclean@swin.edu.au](mailto:smclean@swin.edu.au)

This project has been approved by or on behalf of Swinburne's Human Research Ethics Committee (SUHREC) in line with the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research*. If you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of this project, you can contact:

Research Ethics Officer, Swinburne Research (H68),  
Swinburne University of Technology, PO Box 218, HAWTHORN VIC 3122  
Australia.

Tel (03) 9214 3845 or + 61 3 9214 3845 or [resethics@swin.edu.au](mailto:resethics@swin.edu.au)