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| Participant Information Sheet | | |
| Study title: | **Experiences of prescribed opioid use in Aotearoa New Zealand** | | | |
| Investigators: | Mr Jay Gong, Ms Rose Akkerman, Ms Hoda Fahmy, A/Prof David Newcombe, A/Prof Amy Chan | Ethics committee ref.: AH26698 | |  |
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You are invited to participate in a study about the use of prescribed opioid use. Opioids are a class of medication commonly prescribed for the relief of severe pain from the likes of surgery or injury. Some commonly prescribed opioids include codeine and morphine. Overseas research show that people can have both positive and negative experiences with prescribed opioids but there are no data on this in Aotearoa New Zealand. This study aims to find out the experiences of New Zealanders when using prescribed opioids.

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary. If you agree to participate in this study, please press next to continue the anonymous online survey; this will be considered as consent for participation. The next button is located at the bottom right of the first page of the online survey, after this information section.

## What is the purpose of the study?

The purpose of this study is to explore your experiences when using prescribed opioids in Aotearoa New Zealand. We will do this by conducting an anonymous online survey to ask how using prescribed opioids may have affected different aspects of your life and what your experiences are of taking them.

This participation information sheet will provide information on the survey. This study will help us understand your experiences with prescription opioid use, which can inform future research and improve prescribing practices of opioids.

## What will my participation in the study involve?

If you choose to participate in this study, you will be asked to complete an anonymous, online survey. To determine if you’re eligible for this study, you will be asked if you’re currently using opioids legally. If you’re using opioids illegally, you will not be eligible for this study and your data will not be stored. Your participation in the study is voluntary, and you may choose to stop at any time. Any incomplete responses will be submitted and we would not be able to tell your response apart from others.

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Your participation in this study is confidential and completely anonymous, with no identifiable information being asked. All data collected will be kept secure and will only be accessible to the research team. Pressing next to continue to the screening questions will be taken as consent to participate in the research.

For the survey, your data will be analysed together with the data of other participants, so we won't be able to identify your response personally. The information will be summarised in a written report.

The anonymised data we collect will be stored for a period of 6 years.

At the completion of the survey, you will be asked if you wish to receive a summary of the findings or be in the draw to win 1 of 4 $50 online shopping vouchers. If you agree, you will be redirected to a separate survey link to provide your email address. This is to ensure your anonymity, so that we can keep your survey response and contact details separate.

## Who do I contact for more information or if I have concerns?

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

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| Mr Jay Gong Lecturer- School of Pharmacy, University of Auckland Jay.gong@auckland.ac.nz Phone: 09 373 7599  ext 89220 | Miss Rose Akkerman Bachelor of Pharmacy Honours Student School of Pharmacy, University of Auckland [rakk748@aucklanduni.ac.nz](mailto:rakk748@aucklanduni.ac.nz) |
| Miss Hoda Fahmy Professional teaching fellow School of Pharmacy  University of Auckland [hoda.fahmy@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:hoda.fahmy@auckland.ac.nz) | A/Prof David Newcombe Head of Department  Social and Community Health University of Auckland [d.newcombe@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:d.newcombe@auckland.ac.nz) |
| A/Prof Amy Hai Yan Chan School of Pharmacy University of Auckland [a.chan@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:a.chan@auckland.ac.nz) | A/Prof Shane Scahill  Head of School- School of Pharmacy  University of Auckland S.Scahill@auckland.ac.nz Phone: 09 373 7599  ext 85226 |

For cultural support, please consider discussing with your whānau and personal networks in the first instance.

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.

Approved by the Auckland Health Research Ethics Committee on 03/05/2024 for three years. Reference number AH26698.

**Thank you** for reading this and considering participation.