

<b>Short name of project</b>	UCARE-Kids: Understanding Concussion healthcare And Recovery Experiences for children in WA
<b>Full name of project</b>	Understanding priorities and challenges in childhood concussion care from injury through to community: the perspectives of individuals, families, healthcare providers and educators.
<b>Principal investigator</b>	Dr Jemma Keeves
<b>Project number</b>	RGS0000007483
<b>Site Name</b>	Perth Children's Hospital

### Participant Information Sheet: Healthcare Providers and Teachers



#### What am I being invited to do?

- You are being invited to take part in this research project because you are involved in the healthcare, or education, of children aged 8 – 17 years who have experienced a concussion.
- Around 40 people from around Western Australia will take part in this project.
- This project is being conducted by researchers at Curtin University, in conjunction with Perth Children's Hospital (PCH), and is funded by a Perron Institute for Neurological and Translational Science research grant.



#### What is the purpose of this study?

- The project aims to better understand the healthcare and recovery experiences of children and young people who have had a recent concussion. This includes gathering information from children and their families about the care they have received, starting from the time of injury through to returning to school, sport and social activities.
- We know that the role of healthcare professionals and teachers is important for a child's recovery. As such, it's critical to include your perspective on the concussion recovery process and suggestions you may have to improve concussion care in WA.
- We hope that the knowledge gained through this study will help to improve healthcare and the recovery process for children and young people who sustain concussion in the future.



### What do I have to do to take part?

- You will be asked to participate in a focus group with 3-4 other healthcare providers, or educators. If you are unable to attend in person, you may be invited to complete a one-on-one online interview or take part in an online focus group instead.
- Prior to commencing a focus group or interview, you will be asked to complete a brief online survey (~ 5 minutes) which will also ask for your consent to participate in this project.
- Focus groups will be conducted in-person or online, at a time that is convenient for all participants. Interviews will be conducted online via Zoom.
- Focus group discussions will be divided into two 30-minute halves, separated by a 15-minute tea break.
- All focus groups and interviews will be audio-recorded so that the researchers can go over the discussions in detail to make meaning of your experiences.
- You can ask to provide more information related to the discussion for up to one week after the session. This can be done by contacting the study team via telephone or email. If you speak to a member of the study team over the phone, the conversation will be audio-recorded. This information will be added to the answers that you provided during your interview.



### Do I have to take part and can I change my mind?

- Participation in any research project is voluntary. You can say no. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any stage. If you leave the project, we will use any information already collected unless you tell us not to.



### What are the benefits of taking part?

- You will receive a \$50 gift card for your involvement in the project.

- There is no other direct benefit to you in participating. However, by taking part, you will help the researchers understand more about concussion care and recovery. This knowledge may help other children and young people in the future and help to develop additional concussion health services in WA.



### **What are the risks and discomforts of taking part?**

- We don't anticipate any risk to you in participating. However, if you find that the questions asked in the interview bring up difficult feelings or you are becoming distressed, you will be given the option to skip questions, take a break or stop the interview.
- If necessary, the research team will provide you with information about how to access appropriate counselling support.



### **How will my information be used for this study?**

- Data collected during the focus groups will be stored securely on a password protected computer located at Curtin University and only the researchers involved in the study will have access to this information during the project.
- Audio recordings will be stored on a secure server at Curtin University and any identifying information about you will be removed. The recordings will be sent to an external transcription service (Sonix) for transcription but will not include any of your personal details.
- Once the study is completed, the data collected will be stored securely at Curtin University for a period of at least 7 years or until the youngest participant turns 25 years, whichever is later.
- It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and presented in a variety of forums. In any publication or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified, except with your permission.
- Once we have analysed the data for this study, we will email you a summary of our findings. This will be of the whole group of participants, not individual results for you.



### **Who has reviewed and approved this study?**

The Child & Adolescent Health Service HREC has approved this study. This is an independent committee that makes sure that this project meets Australian ethical standards for research that involves people.



### Comments or complaints about how this study is being run

If you have any comments or complaints about this project, please contact the following:

### Reviewing HREC approving this research:

Reviewing HREC name	Child & Adolescent Health Service (CAHS)
Position	HREC Chair
Telephone	(08) 6456 8639
Email	CAHS.Ethics@health.wa.gov.au

### Where can I find more information?



Thank you for taking the time to read this information about our project. You can contact a member of the project team at any time to ask questions.

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