Information sheet for young people about the NSW Youth Health Access Survey

We are doing a research study to find out what it is like for young people who want or need to access health care. This could be going to a doctor, a hospital or chatting with a health professional online.

We are asking you to be in our study because you are aged between 12 and 24 years old and live in NSW. You can decide if you want to take part in the study or not. You don’t have to - it’s up to you. This sheet tells you what we will ask you to do if you decide to take part in the study. Please read it carefully so that you can make up your mind about whether you want to take part.

What will happen if I say that I want to be in the study?
We will ask you to answer questions about:
• You and your internet use
• Your feelings about going to the doctor or a health service
• What it was like for you when you went to a doctor or a health service
• How you use the internet to get help from doctors or health services
• Whether you have any health problems

You can stop the survey anytime if you don’t want to finish it, and any questions you’ve already answered will be kept. All your answers will be confidential. You don’t even have to tell us your name.

If you decide that you want to be in our study, we will ask you to do these things:
• Click on the link and complete your answers
• You can ask your parent to help you to complete if you want
• You can choose to provide your contact details if you wish
• At the end we will ask if we can contact you about another study. It’s completely up to you if you want to be contacted.

Who is running the study?
The study is being carried out by Dr Melissa Kang, Senior Lecturer and Fiona Robards, Senior Research Officer, both researchers from the Department of General Practice.

If you have any questions, you can ask us or your parent or carer. If you want to, you can call Fiona Robards on 9845 9214.

How long will the study take?
This survey will take about 20 minutes to complete.

Are there any good things about being in the study?
You will be helping us do our research. This study will help health services know how they can be better at helping young people access health care.

At the end of the survey you can enter a draw to win a prize. There are 20 prizes which are vouchers worth $50 each - your choice of a JB Hi-Fi gift card, movie tickets, Myer or Dymocks voucher. You will need to provide some contact details in order to receive the prize.
Are there any bad things about being in the study?
This study will take up some of your time, but we don’t think it will be bad for you and it doesn’t cost anything.

Will anyone else know what I say in the study?
We won’t tell anyone else what you say to us, except if you talk about someone hurting you or about you hurting yourself or someone else. Then we will be obliged by law to act on this in order to keep you and others safe. All of the information that we have about you from the study will be stored in a safe place.

Will you tell me what you learnt in the study at the end?
Some survey results will be posted on the survey website: http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/general-practice/access
We will also share some results with community organisations and at conferences, and write about the survey in scientific journals. None of the young people will be identified at all when we share the survey results.

What if I am not happy with the study or the people doing the study?
If you are not happy with how we are doing the study or how we treat you, then you or your parent or carer can call the university +61 2 8627 8176 or email ro.humanethics@sydney.edu.au.

You can also write to the Chairperson, Ethics Committee, Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council of NSW, PO Box 1565, Strawberry Hills, NSW 2012.

Where can I find support if I need it?
These services provide support for young people.
- eheadspace online (https://www.eheadspace.org.au/) and phone service 1800 650 890
- Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800
- Lifeline 13 11 14

This sheet is for you to keep.