Participant Information sheet

The Division of Pharmacy, School of Medicine, University of Tasmania is seeking your assistance to participate in an innovative research proposal.

The study is being conducted by:

- Mr Peter Gee, School of Medicine, University of Tasmania;
- Associate Professor Luke Bereznicki, Deputy Head, School of Medicine, University of Tasmania;

This study will be funded from the Division of Pharmacy as a teaching and research resource.

What are the aims of the study?

We are researching longitudinal medication use in Long Term Care residents in Australia and need your help to make a database of medicines use. Using this database, we aim to answer questions such as:

“What percentage of residents have medicines de-prescribed during the course of their stay?”

“What kinds of medicines are most commonly de-prescribed?”

Why have I been invited to participate?

You are eligible to take part in this study because you use the Omnicell software to pack patient medications.

Working with Omnicell we have created a software solution that will completely anonymise the medicines data you pack for patients, and send the packing data to our secure server at the Hobart campus of the University of Tasmania. You will not need to install any software in your pharmacy. After your consent to participate is given, our software will automatically and seamlessly and securely transfer your packing data from Omnicell to our secure server every day with no further action from you.

What will I be asked to do?

We understand the time pressures of busy pharmacies and have worked hard to make your involvement as seamless as possible.

We are asking for your permission to collect de-identified medicines data from your Omnicell account for facilities you pack medicines for. If you agree we will ask you to complete the consent form and then check a box on the Omnicell website for each facility you want to share data for. We expect this will take less than an hour of your time.

Are there any possible benefits from participation in this study?

Data from this study will provide useful clinical intelligence for public health policy advisers to focus health literacy campaigns. The results will help inform clinicians on the common medicines used that have or have not been successfully deprescribed.

Are there any possible risks from participation?

No. Participation in this study will not affect the service you receive from Omnicell in any way, and your Omnicell subscription fees will not increase if you take part.
What if I change my mind during or after the study?
You can control if further data is collected by unchecking an option on the Omnicell website. If you would like to revoke permissions for data that has already been collected then contact the researchers in writing and we can ensure your data is not used in publication.

What will happen to the information when the study is over?
Data will be securely transferred to our server at the University of Tasmania. The data collected will be aggregated for analysis and the results from a single pharmacy will not be identifiable. This server is password-protected and only accessible by nominated people involved with the study. Data will be destroyed five years after publication.

How will the results of this study be published?
All data will be aggregated for analysis, and results from a single pharmacy or facility will not be published. The database will be used in research and teaching projects and findings may be disseminated to the public using methods such as: peer-reviewed journal articles, conferences and theses.

Can I get paid for my time?
We acknowledge your valuable time and thank you for reading this letter. To recompense, we can reimburse for your expenses (up to $200.00) for participating and completing the enclosed participation form. If you wish to invoice us send a valid tax invoice from your business to: Pharmacy Division, University of Tasmania with the reference ‘Omnicell study’ for payment along with your signed consent form.

What if I have questions about this study?
This study has been approved by the Tasmanian Health and Medical Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study should contact the Executive Officer of the HREC (Tasmania) Network on (03) 6226 6254 or email human.ethics@utas.edu.au. The Executive Officer is the person nominated to receive complaints from research participants. You will need to quote H0016860.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the investigators:

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