



EXPLANATORY STATEMENT (General Practitioners (GPs) Qualitative Interview)

Project ID: 37445

Project title: Endometriosis Management Plan (Endo-MP)

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You are invited to take part in an individual interview as part of the consultation phase of the Endometriosis Management Plan (Endo-MP) project. The research team will seek your input into current endometriosis management in primary care and your views on how an endometriosis management plan could be successfully implemented in Australian primary care to improve endometriosis diagnosis and management. For healthcare providers and the community, this research aims to reduce the delay between symptom onset and diagnosis, streamline referrals and transition between services, increase awareness of the impact of endometriosis, and increase efficiency in service delivery. The research is conducted through the SPHERE Centre of Research Excellence, Department of General Practice at Monash University. Please read this Explanatory Statement in full before deciding whether or not to participate in this research. If you would like further information, please contact a research team member via the contact information above or email: endo-mp@monash.edu or phone (03) 9902 4354.

What does the research involve?

The individual interview aims to explore the clinical insights, experiences, and views of general practitioners (GPs) with experiences of endometriosis or chronic pelvic pain management. The study will strengthen our understanding of the needs of healthcare providers' and consumers (women with endometriosis and/or chronic pelvic pain) and determine how to develop an endometriosis management plan with a high degree of utility that can be successfully embedded in Australian primary care settings.

GPs interested in participating may express their interest in participating via phone or email to the research team. Informed participant consent will be obtained verbally at the time of the interview and audio recorded. During the interview, participants will be asked some brief demographic questions to enable the description of the participant sample. De-identified, aggregate findings from the interviews will be used to inform the development of an Endometriosis Management Plan prototype for piloting in Australian general practice settings.

As part of the interview, you will:

- Receive an overview of the Endo-MP project
- Provide feedback on your experiences of diagnosing and managing endometriosis and/or chronic pelvic pain.
- Provide feedback or suggestions on GPs' need for a management plan to improve patient care.

- Discuss the logistics and challenges of implementing an endometriosis management plan.

The interview is expected to take approximately 45-60 minutes and will be conducted online (e.g. Zoom) or by telephone, based on your preferences. With consent, the interview will be audio recorded to assist with transcription and the analysis of interview findings.

Why were you chosen for this research?

We are sending you this Explanatory Statement because you have been identified by SPHERE or a partner organisation as someone who may have experience with treating consumers with, or relevant insights into, endometriosis or chronic pelvic pain; a personal contact of the Endo-MP investigators; or a participant in a previous research study who had indicated a willingness to be contacted about further research.

Source of funding

This project is funded by the Commonwealth of Australia, Department of Health and Aged Care as part of the National Action Plan for Endometriosis. There are no declarable conflicts of interest.

Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research

You may express your interest in participating in this project or, if you have any questions, by emailing the Endo-MP team (endo-mp@monash.edu). Following this, a member of the research team will contact you via the details provided to confirm eligibility, answer any questions, and arrange a time for an interview.

Participation in this study is completely voluntary. You are not under any obligation to participate. If you agree to participate, you can withdraw from the study at any time without adverse consequences. There will be no negative consequences associated with refusal or withdrawal from participation.

Possible benefits and risks to participants

The interview aims to understand the experiences of GPs providing care for patients with endometriosis and/or chronic pelvic pain. This research will facilitate the design of an endometriosis management plan prototype that aligns with the needs of consumers and health professionals and has a high degree of utility in primary care. A management plan is expected to reduce the delay between symptom onset and diagnosis, streamline referrals and transition between services, increase awareness of the impact of endometriosis, and increase efficiency in service delivery.

Whilst there may be elements of self-reflection throughout the interview, it is unlikely that participants will be at risk of psychological distress any more than that encountered during daily practice. Collected data will be de-identified, thereby minimising the risk of loss of confidentiality.

Remuneration

GP participants will be reimbursed \$200 for their time. This will be provided after the session in the form of an e-gift card.

Confidentiality

All aspects of this study, including results, will be strictly confidential, and only the principal researchers will have access to information provided by participants. No individual data will be disclosed, and all data will be de-identified upon analysis and reporting.

Storage of data

Any data collected will be stored on a secure drive on the Monash server. All electronic data (e.g. participant databases) will be password protected and only accessible to the researchers. Where non-Monash University parties require access (e.g., project investigators from other organisations), secure data exchange methods such as password-protected USB drives, encrypted files, or a secure cloud storage folder (e.g., Cloudstor, Onedrive) will be used. Any written data will be compiled into a MS Word document. All documents are stored on Monash University password-protected computers and disposed of after five years in line with university protocol.

Use of data for other purposes

Secondary use of data increases the value of your data. The aggregated de-identified data collected may be used for purposes other than this study, where ethics approval has been granted.

Results

Data will be utilised to design and identify the content for the Endo-MP prototype, co-design workshop. We expect to present de-identified findings from the qualitative interviews, focus groups with consumers and interviews with key stakeholders at conference(s), and publish our results in a peer-reviewed journal. Abstracts of conference presentations relating to our study or links to journal publications can be directly shared via email or post. Participants can be provided with a report of findings from the research by the implementation team upon finalisation and publication of results. Participants can contact the Endo-MP team via email (endo-mp@monash.edu) or phone (03) 9902 4354 to request a copy of the published results.

Complaints

Should you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the project, you are welcome to contact the Executive Officer, Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC):

Executive Officer	Tel: +61 3 9905 2052
Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC)	Fax: +61 3 9905 3831
Room 111, Chancellery Building D, 26 Sports Walk, Clayton Campus	Email: muhrec@monash.edu
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Thank you,



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in Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health in Primary Care