QIMR Berghofer
Medical Research Institute

Participant Information Sheet - Questionnaire

HREC No:	**P3907**
Project Title:	**Shave biopsy: clinician perspectives**
Principal Investigator:	**Dr Daniel Lindsay**
Associate Investigators:	**Prof Louisa G. Gordon, Professor David Whiteman, Dr Catherine Olsen, Dr Nirmala Pandeya, Dr Lena von Schuckmann**

Introduction

Evidence-based clinical guidelines recommend excisional biopsy with narrow margins as the most reliable diagnostic method for lesions suspected for melanoma. However, recent Australian trends indicate greater use of shave biopsy for diagnosing thin lesions (defined as ≤1mm thick) suspicious of melanoma. As someone with experience in skin cancer diagnoses, you are being invited to take part in a research study aiming to obtain clinician perspectives on the factors influencing the use of shave biopsy. It is important that you have the information about this study in order to decide if you want to participate. The researchers are available to answer any questions you have. Contact details can be found on page 2 under the section 'Voluntary participation'.

Purpose of the study

This research aims to document the prevalence of shave biopsy for diagnosing thin lesions suspicious of melanoma, as well as understanding the clinical and other factors contributing to the use of shave biopsy. This research project will provide evidence for Australian policy makers and other key stakeholders around the management of thin lesions suspicious of melanoma.

Who will be asked to join the study?

Australian clinicians with expertise in skin cancer diagnosis.

What will happen in this study?

If you give your consent to take part after you have read this information sheet, we will ask you to complete an online questionnaire assessing your use of shave biopsy for diagnosing thin lesions suspicious of melanoma, as well as the factors driving this choice. Your participation includes a once-off, online questionnaire that will take approximately 15 minutes of your time to complete.

If you are interested in participating in a short follow-up interview exploring the same topic area, you will be asked to provide your contact details at the end of this questionnaire. Completing this questionnaire is separate from the follow-up interview and there is no expectation that you complete both aspects of the study.

Study Risks

A potential risk for this data collection is the anxiety of reporting clinical practices that do not align with clinical guidelines. However, your response will be anonymous and you cannot be linked to your questionnaire responses in any way, so this risk is minimised. Your response will remain anonymous and you will not be identifiable in any further uses of this data. Any contact information you may provide at the end of the questionnaire will be held in a separate file from your questionnaire responses and cannot be linked back to your questionnaire responses. All data will be held on secure servers at QIMR Berghofer.

Potential Benefits

Recent trends in melanoma management indicate an increased use of shave biopsy for diagnosing thin lesions suspicious of melanoma, yet little is known about the reasons for, or implications of, this increase. The results from this study will provide more information about the factors driving biopsy choice for thin lesions suspicious of melanoma. The outcomes of this study may influence clinical guidelines around biopsy choice for diagnosing thin lesions suspicious of melanoma.

Confidentiality

All information collected for this study will be treated with complete confidentiality. Members of the study team, research personnel, and regulatory personnel will ensure its compliance with appropriate ethical and scientific practice. Non-identifiable study data may be shared with other researchers for future/research projects which have ethics approval from appropriate review bodies. You will not be identified in these studies. Data collected for this study will be stored indefinitely at QIMR Berghofer to comply with applicable laws and legislation, including the Public Records Act 2002.

Costs

Your involvement in this study will not cost you anything. You will not be paid to take part in the questionnaire. The questionnaire should take approximately 15 minutes of your time.

Ethics Approval

This study has been reviewed and approved as a Low Risk project by the Human Scientific Sub-Committee (HSSC) of the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). Should you wish to discuss the conduct of this research with someone is not directly involved with the project, you can contact the QIMR Berghofer HREC Secretariat on (07) 3362 0117 or email HREC.Secretariat@qimrberghofer.edu.au.

Voluntary participation

Entry into this study is entirely voluntary. If you agree to participate in this study you will be asked to indicate your consent. However you may withdraw from the study at any time without giving a reason. You will be told if any new information arises which might affect your decision to be in the study. For further information about this study, please contact Dr Daniel Lindsay, the Project Manager on (07) 3845 3571 or Daniel.lindsay@qimrberghofer.edu.au.

This study has been cleared by the Human Scientific Sub-Committee (HSSC) of Human Research Ethics Committee of QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute Human Research Ethics Committee, and the Education Queensland in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's guidelines. You are free to discuss your participation in this study with the Principal Investigator or Project Manager (contactable on (07) 3845 3717). If you would like to speak to someone not involved in the study, or have any complaints you may contact the QIMR Berghofer HREC Secretariat on (07) 3362 0117