**SURVEY**

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT &**

**CONSENT FORM**

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| **PROJECT TITLE: Telehealth experiences for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in sexual health** |
| **HREC REFERENCE NUMBER: AHMRC 1984/22** |
| **CHIEF INVESTIGATOR:** Bridget Haire, Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney |
| **ASSOCIATE INVESTIGATORS:**  Jessica Morris, Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney  Rob Monaghan, Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney  Lise Lafferty, Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney  Skye McGregor, Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney |
| **INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RESEARCH:** Kirby Institute |
| **PROJECT SPONSER/ FUNDER:** Commonwealth Department of Health |
| **SITE: NSW** |

**Introduction:**

You are invited to participate in a research study. The research study aims to understand the impacts of telehealth on the provisions of sexual health services and/or HIV PrEP on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in NSW.

You can download a copy of form here to keep so that you have a record of what the study is about.

**The purpose of the research:**

This project will find out what is good about telehealth for sexual health and/or PrEP services, what is not so good and how it can be improved in the future. We also want to know whether experiences of telehealth are different depending on where you live – whether you are in an urban, regional or remote area. This information will inform health promotion and service planning.

Specific objectives are to:

* Find out about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s experiences with telehealth
* Find out about the impacts of COVID restrictions on sexual health and /or HIV PrEP services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
* Understand whether living in an urban, regional or remote area affects the experience of telehealth for sexual health and /or HIV PrEP services.

This research is funded by a grant through the Department of Health

**What does participation involve?**

If you decide to take part in the research, you will be asked to complete an online survey which will take about 15 minutes. The survey will ask you about your sexual health experiences, where you seek sexual health information and support, and your experiences accessing sexual health services.

**Do I have to join the study?**

It is completely up to you to decide if you want to take part in the survey or not. No one will know whether you choose to participate.

**What are the possible benefits to participation?**

Your involvement in this study will provide valuable information to understand Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s experience of sexual health services delivered by telehealth. You will not get any direct personal benefit

**Are there any risks involved?**

There are no physical risks involved in taking part. The research is **confidential** (private) and **anonymous** (no names will be attached to comments), so there is no way that what you say to us now will be passed on to anyone else in a way that links you to the information. However, the research will involve discussion of issues that you may find emotionally difficult to talk about. You might feel uncomfortable disclosing things concerning sexuality, sex practices and gender issues as these are very personal matters and subject to stigmatisation There may also be instances whereby discussing sexual health or sexuality and gender issues brings up memories and emotions associated with trauma, including experiences of sexual violence and/or child sexual abuse.

To minimise your risk of discomfort, you can opt not to answer any question.

**Will my details and the information I give you be kept secret?**

Your details and the information you give will be kept private.

**How will I find out about the results of this study?**

At the end of the study, we plan to discuss the results of this research at meetings. Information will be presented in a summarized form ONLY and we will NOT make any reference to individuals or use names or locations when we talk about study findings to ensure all personal information remains confidential.

A plain language summary report will also be produced and provided to individuals who participated in the research, community groups and key stakeholders.

If you would like us to email you a copy of the report email **jmorris@kirby.unsw.edu.au**

**Who has approved this study?**

This study has been approved by the Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council (AH&MRC) and by the Human Research Ethics Committees of the UNSW Sydney in Australia, in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council’s guidelines.

**Complaints**

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted, then you may contact:

The Chairperson

AH&MRC Ethics Committee

Harvey Street Little Bay

NSW 2036 Australia

Email: ethics@ahmrc.org.au

Telephone: (02) 9212 4777

**Further information and who to contact**

If you have questions, want further information about the study, or if you become distressed or require additional support from someone not involved in the research, please call the research team:

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| **Name** | Bridget Haire | Jess Morris |
| **Position** | Research Fellow | Research Officer |
| **Telephone** | 02 9385 1227 | 02 9348 0614 |
| **Email** | [b.haire@unsw.edu.au](mailto:b.haire@unsw.edu.au) | [jmorris@kirby.unsw.edu.au](mailto:jmorris@kirby.unsw.edu.au) |

**PARTICIPANT CONSENT FORM**

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| **PROJECT TITLE:** | Telehealth Project |
| **HREC REFERENCE NUMBER: AHMRC 1984/22** | |
| **CHIEF INVESTIGATOR:** Bridget Haire, Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney | |
| **ASSOCIATE INVESTIGATORS:**  Jessica Morris, Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney  Rob Monaghan, Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney  Lise Lafferty, Kirby Institute, UNNSW Sydney | |
| **INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RESEARCH:** Kirby Institute | |

I have consented to participate in the above research project on the following basis:

1. I have received the Participant Information Statement and have had the opportunity to ask questions. I understand the purpose of the research and my involvement in it.
2. I have the right to withdraw my consent and cease any further involvement in the research project at any time without giving reasons and without any penalty. I understand that I can withdraw my consent any time until I click the ‘submit’ button. This will not affect any services that I receive or my relationship with the research team.
3. Any information I provide during this research will remain confidential. Where the results of the research are published, my involvement and my personal results will not be identified
4. I understand that interviews may be voice or video recorded, but the recording will be secured and then destroyed five years after the publication of research findings

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| I understand that if I have any complaints or questions concerning this research project I can contact the Chief Investigator, the Chairperson or CEO of the local Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service; or the Chairperson of the AH&MRC Ethics Committee as follows: | **The Chairperson**  **AH&MRC Ethics Committee**  **Harvey Street Little Bay**  **NSW 2036 Australia**  **Email:** [**ethics@ahmrc.org.au**](mailto:ethics@ahmrc.org.au)  **Telephone: (02) 9212 4777** |

**Contact list for feelings of distress**

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| **Name/Organisation** | **13YARN** 24 hours/7days support to talk with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Crisis Supporter. Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and LGBTIQ+ specific resources and support |
| **Telephone** | 13 92 76 |
| **Name/Organisation** | **Wellmob**  Social, emotional and cultural wellbeing online resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and LGBTIQ+ specific resources |
| **Website** | <https://wellmob.org.au/> |
| **Name/Organisation** | **ACON**  General and specific services to reduce HIV transmission among gay and homosexually active men, support people with HIV, and improve the health and wellbeing of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people. Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and LGBTIQ+ specific resources and support |
| **Telephone** | 9206 2000 |
| **Name/organisation** | **QLife**  Anonymous and free LGBTI peer support and referral for people in Australia wanting to talk about sexuality, identity, gender, bodies, feelings or relationships. 3pm- midnight. Specific LGBTIQ+ resources, limited Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander specific resources. |
| **Telephone** | (02)9431 2555 |
| **Name/Organisation** | **Beyond Blue**  Supports people with their mental health through connecting them with a professional support person and providing resources. Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and LGBTIQ+ specific resources and support |
| **Telephone** | 1300 224 636 |
| **Name/Organisation** | **Black Dog Institute\***  Online and app-based mental health support. Specific Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander specific resources, limited LGBTIQ+ resources. |
| **Website** | <https://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/resources-support> |
| **Name/Organisation** | **Lifeline**  24-hour telephone crisis support. Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander people and LGBTIQ+ specific resources and support |
| **Telephone** | 13 11 14 |
| **Name/Organisation** | **Sexual Assault Counselling Australia**  National telephone counselling service for people who have experienced abuse. Face-to-face counselling is available in New South Wales. No identifiable Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander & LGBTIQ+ specific support. |
| **Telephone** | 1800 211 028 |
| **Name/organisation** | **Full Stop Australia**  Full Stop Australia provides support, education and advocacy to sexual, domestic or family violence. Some specific Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and LGBTIQ+ resources. |
| **Telephone** | 1800 385 578 |
| **Name/Organisation** | **Domestic Violence Line**  The NSW Domestic Violence Line provides counselling and referrals to women experiencing domestic and family violence. No identifiable Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander & LGBTIQ+ specific support. |
| **Telephone** | 1800 65 64 63 (Women’s line)  1300 78 99 78 (Men’s line) |
| **Name/organisation** | **PEP Hotline\*\***  ‘PEP’ is a pill that you take to reduce the risk of HIV after a possible exposure. Your doctor or a hospital emergency department can prescribe it.  Support to discuss PEP with a counsellor. No identifiable Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander people and LGBTIQ+ specific support |
| **Telephone** | 1800 737 669 |