

## Privacy, confidentiality and disclosure of information

Any personal information obtained during this project will remain confidential and anonymous.

We will protect your information and keep it private unless we are required to disclose it by law. Please ask the research assistant if you have any questions about this.

Your name and contact details will NOT be listed on your questionnaire. A code is used instead of your name to link your questionnaire information with your test results. This code will be stored in a locked filing cabinet, available only to research staff.

The University requires us keep this data for a period of 15 years before destroying it.

All information that results from this project will be provided in such a way that cannot identify you as an individual.

## Ethics

The ACCEPt trial has been approved by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) National Research and Evaluation Ethics Committee.

If you have any complaints or concerns about the conduct of this study, please contact the Knowledge Management Administrator, Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) National Research and Evaluation Ethics Committee.

Name: Russell Smiley  
Contact number: (03) 8699 0497

This project will be carried out according to the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research produced by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia. This statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies.

## Feedback and project results

A summary of the study results will be available for you at the completion of the study. We can send this to you by email. Please indicate on the consent form if you would like to receive feedback on the outcomes of the study.

## Further information

If you require further information or if you have any queries relating to this project, please contact the Principal Investigator Associate Professor Jane Hocking on (03) 8344 0762, email: [j.hocking@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:j.hocking@unimelb.edu.au).

Email : [info@accept.org.au](mailto:info@accept.org.au)  
Website : [accept.org.au](http://accept.org.au)

**Participating organisations:** The University of Melbourne in collaboration with Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, the University of New South Wales, La Trobe University, Deakin University, Burnet Institute, Victorian Cytology Service, University of Bern and the Royal Women's Hospital.

**Investigators:** Associate Professor Jane Hocking\*, Professor Christopher Fairley, Professor Jane Gunn, Professor Basil Donovan, Professor John Kaldor, Professor Nicola Low, Professor Matthew Law, Associate Professor Meredith Temple-Smith, Dr David Regan, Associate Professor David Wilson, Mr James Ward, Professor John Imrie, Professor Rob Carter, Professor Marian Pitts, Professor Anne Mitchell, Associate Professor Marion Saville, Associate Professor Dorota Gertig, Associate Professor Lena Sanci, Associate Professor Marie Pirotta, Associate Professor Sepehr Tabrizi, Associate Professor Marcus Chen, Professor Margaret Hellard

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Thank you for taking the  
time to read this information.



# The Australian Chlamydia Control Effectiveness Pilot

Information for Participants

## Background

This clinic is part of a large study called the Australian Chlamydia Control Effectiveness Pilot (ACCEPT).

This study is funded by the Australian Government and aims to increase chlamydia testing among young people. If you are aged 16 to 29 years, you are invited to take part.

This information sheet tells you about the study. Please read it carefully and talk to the research assistant if you have any questions.

## What is chlamydia?

Chlamydia is a common infection in young people that is spread through unprotected sex.

About 1 in 20 adults under the age of 30 are infected with chlamydia. It usually doesn't have any symptoms, so most people do not know they have the infection and can continue to spread it.

Chlamydia is easy to diagnose and easy to treat with antibiotics.

We worry about chlamydia because if it is left untreated it can lead to long-term problems in your reproductive organs.

## The purpose of the study

We want to find out whether regular chlamydia testing can reduce the number of people infected with chlamydia in the population.

To do this, we have to find out how many people aged 16 to 29 years actually have chlamydia.

If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the study at any stage.



## What participation will involve for you

A research assistant employed by the University of Melbourne will explain the study to you.

Once the research assistant is sure you understand the study, she will ask you to sign the CONSENT FORM.

If you sign the CONSENT FORM you are telling us that you agree to participate in this study.

As part of the study, you will be asked to fill in a questionnaire. The questionnaire asks about your age and education, your sexual health and sexual behaviour and some questions about your knowledge of chlamydia.

Your name DOES NOT appear on the questionnaire.

We will also ask you to provide a specimen for chlamydia testing. This will usually be a urine sample. If you're having a pap smear today, the doctor or nurse may do a vaginal swab instead of asking you to do a urine sample.

If you are having your period, you can still provide a urine or swab.

## Test results

Your chlamydia test results will go to your doctor who will let you know when they are available.

We will get your chlamydia testing results from the clinic.

## Possible benefits

Testing for chlamydia is a good thing. Any young adult who has ever had sex should have a chlamydia test each year as part of their regular checks.

Testing for chlamydia can prevent some long term reproductive health problems.

If you test positive for chlamydia, your treatment is free and given to you by your doctor.

You are helping us to design Australia's future chlamydia testing programs.

## Things to keep in mind

Some of the questions in the questionnaire are personal and may make you feel embarrassed.

If you test positive for chlamydia, you may feel upset at being diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection.

We are able to refer you to specialised sexual health counsellors if you would like. Please ask the research assistant. Your information pack also contains details of available support services.

Please ask your doctor if you have any questions or concerns.

## Alternatives to participation

Participation in this research project is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you decide not to participate, or decide to withdraw from the study:

- 1) It will not affect your relationship with your doctor;
- 2) You will receive your usual medical care; and
- 3) You will not be disadvantaged in any way.

## Further study

This clinic will continue to be part of the Australian Chlamydia Control Effectiveness Pilot.

The clinic will provide some basic information to the researchers every three months. This includes the age of patients who visit the clinic, whether they had a chlamydia test and the test results.

This means if you attend this clinic in the future, some of your health information MIGHT be provided to the researchers.

BUT the doctor will not give us any details about who you are or where you live - in fact, we WILL NOT know who you are at all.

This information is completely separate to the information you provide today.