
INFORMATION SHEET

(for 'online survey participants')

Title: 'Australians' perceptions of fertility and attitudes towards ovarian reserve testing'

Researchers:

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Description of the study:

This study is part of the project entitled 'Australians' perceptions of fertility and attitudes towards ovarian reserve testing'. This project will investigate Australian men and women's perceptions of the change in female fertility potential with increasing age and their attitudes towards ovarian reserve testing. This project is supported by Flinders University School of Medicine.

Purpose of the study:

This project aims to:

- ! Determine Australian men and women's understanding of the natural change in fertility potential with increasing age. Specifically, we are targeting responses from people of reproductive age (18-45years) who do not have children.
- ! Determine what factors influence both women and men's decision regarding when to start a family.

- ! *Determine both women and men's views regarding the potential benefits and risks of ovarian reserve testing for "reproductive life planning". Ovarian reserve testing refers to medical assessments which may identify those women experiencing premature "aging" of their ovaries.*

What will I be asked to do?

You are invited to participate in an anonymous online survey which will take 15 minutes or less. Once recorded, the survey results will be stored as a computer file on a password-secured Flinders University database and then destroyed after 5 years of storage. Participation is voluntary and you may withdraw from the survey at any time.

What benefit will I gain from being involved in this study?

The sharing of your knowledge and family plans will help to assess the relevance and usefulness of ovarian reserve testing. With your help, it may be possible to determine whether the public health system should further promote ovarian reserve testing or not, potentially relieving many couples or individuals from unwanted childlessness.

Will I be identifiable by being involved in this study?

You will be completely anonymous. Only the three people running the survey will be able to see your responses and they will not be linked directly to you in any way.

Are there any risks or discomforts if I am involved?

There are minimal risks involved with the survey although issues surrounding fertility and family planning can create emotional discomfort for women and men dealing with infertility or nervous about family planning. You are free to withdraw from the survey at any point and we recommend contacting Lifeline on 13 11 14 or Beyond Blue on 1300 224 636 if you experience any discomfort during or after the survey.

How do I agree to participate?

Participation is voluntary. If you agree to participate, please simply begin the survey.

How will I receive feedback?

Outcomes from the project will be summarised and can be accessed by contacting the researcher after the study.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet and we hope that you will accept our invitation to be involved.

This research project has been approved by the Flinders University Social and Behavioural Research Ethics Committee (7137). For more information regarding ethical approval of the project the Executive Officer of the Committee can be contacted by telephone on 8201 3116, by fax on 8201 2035 or by email human.researchethics@flinders.edu.au