

Who is conducting the study

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The researchers have established an international reputation for pioneering work in mental health and health related quality of life. The study is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

Grievance procedure

Should you have any complaint concerning the manner in which this research (Project No: 2004/750) is conducted, please do not hesitate to contact the Monash University Standing Committee on Ethics in Research Involving Humans at the following address:

The Secretary
The Standing Committee on Ethics
in Research Involving Humans (SCERH)
Building 3D
Research Grants and Ethics Branch
Monash University VIC 3800

Telephone: +61 3 9905 2052
Fax: +61 3 9905 1420
Email: scerh@adm.monash.edu.au

Thank you for participating in this research

We are grateful to you for your willingness to contribute to the development of a questionnaire that we hope will be of great benefit to the mental health area in the future.

Contact us

If you wish to participate, or have any questions, please contact the project manager:

Mr Angelo Iezzi
Telephone: 9905 8413
Mobile: 0419 338 241
Address: Building 75, Monash University, Clayton VIC 3800
Email: angelo.iezzi@buseco.monash.edu.au

If you are interested in the results of the project, or in the work of the Centre for Health Economics, the website and contact details are below.

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PsyQoL

A mental health
related Quality of Life
questionnaire

www.buseco.monash.edu.au

You are invited to take part in the development of PsYQOL

Purpose and background

As a result, people with mental health problems may be disadvantaged when decisions about health spending are made.

The Centre for Health Economics at Monash University is developing the "Assessment of Mental Health Related Quality of Life (PsYQOL) Questionnaire", which will be used to measure quality of life of people with mental health problems, before and after they receive health care.

The PsYQOL instrument includes a set of utility weights.

Its principal objective is to assist decision-making about the allocation of resources between mental and general health services.

Previous experience has shown that existing generic utility instruments used to examine how people value health related quality of life are not very sensitive when used with people with mental health problems.



Participating in the study

Participation in the study is entirely voluntary, and participants may refuse to answer any question or withdraw at any stage.

Study participants should be 18–65 years of age.

You may contact the project manager directly if you are interested in taking part in this study.

You may participate in all or some of the following surveys.

Survey 2: Completion of a questionnaire, either postal or in a face-to-face interview, to determine which are the best questions to include in the PsYQOL questionnaire. (20 minutes)

Survey 3a and 3b: Two face-to-face interviews to inform how the health states measured by the PsYQOL questionnaire should be scored. (2 hours)

Survey 4/5: Completion of the final PsYQOL questionnaire as well as one or two other existing quality of life questionnaires (eg AQoL 1, AQoL 2, Heinrich's QLS) to determine how well they relate to each other. (30 minutes)

Reimbursement of your costs

We will reimburse you \$15 for parking and transport costs incurred each time you attend an interview.

Any interview you agree to participate in will be conducted one-on-one with the interviewer (as shown in the photo on the left) at a time and place that best suits you. It can be during the day or evening, at the centre you attend or at a library in your local area.

All your answers are confidential and your privacy will be protected, under strict university rules for the conduct of research. It will not be possible to identify individual people in the research reports. Your name and address will not be recorded with your answers, and will be erased when the study is completed.

Should you have any concerns as a result of your involvement in this research, you may contact

Ms Brooke Ellis, at the Centre for Health Economics, on 9905 0733. The adviser is independent of the study and may be able to give you advice or refer you to a person or service to assist with any problem.