

# 45 and Up Study e-News

Edition 14, December 2015

Editor: Study Director Margo Barr

Welcome to the 14th issue of the 45 and Up Study e-News, a bulletin for members of the 45 and Up Study Research Network, researchers, policy makers and others with a professional interest in Australia's largest cohort study. It was again great to hear about the research you have been conducting at this year's Collaborators' Meeting.

## The cohort

*There are currently data on 267,001 participants of the 45 and Up Study. We now have follow-up data (including SEEF) available on more than 137,000 participants. We also have 68.9 million medical benefits records (2001 to 2014) and 53.9 million pharmaceutical benefits records (2004 to 2014).*

## Data collection

**Wave 2 progress:** All eligible study participants (excluding deaths and those who have requested no follow-up) have now been offered the opportunity to participate in the first 5 year follow-up (41,440 in the September 2012 follow-up; 86,250 in November 2013 follow-up; 52,644 in December 2014 follow-up, and 56,243 in the August 2015 follow-up).

**Wave 3 planning:** Wave three will begin in 2016 and planning is well underway on the questionnaire items. We have suggested additions from our partners and are currently increasing the font size and will see what is possible. A penultimate version of the questionnaire will be available soon.

## Processes and fees

We have now moved the application forms to an online researcher portal. The webpage has been updated to reflect these changes (see the application process and forms at <https://www.saxinstitute.org.au/our-work/45-up-study/for-researchers/>). Any questions and/or issues please feel free to contact us.

Study fees will be increasing in-line with CPI (1.5). So from January 2016 the licence fees will be \$8,370 + GST for the first questionnaire dataset and 50% + GST for second questionnaire dataset. The data preparation fees will also be increasing to \$3,850 + GST. The website will be updated accordingly. SURE access fees are also increasing so please refer to the most recent fee schedule at: <https://www.saxinstitute.org.au/our-work/sure/using-sure/>

## Access to 45 and Up data

From 1 January 2016 all data analysis involving 45 and Up Study questionnaire or linked data needs to occur in SURE. If this affects your project and we have not yet discussed it with you, please contact us.

## Progress reports

It is progress report time. This year we will use the researcher portal to collect the information. Can you please go to <https://www.saxinstitute.net.au/wiki/display/RP/Progress+or+Final+Report> and complete your progress report for 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015. *These are due by end December 2015.*

## Research update

A total of 128 research projects have used or are using the 45 and Up Study data (30 completed). If your project status is different to that listed on the website [here](#), please advise us accordingly.

A total of 170 papers using the Study data have now been published in peer-reviewed journals. A full [list of publications](#) is available on our website. If you have recently published a paper and it does not yet appear on the list, please send it to us so we can include it.

An additional 60 research articles/conference abstracts and reports were technically reviewed in 2015 to date. Please check the guidelines for authors before submitting a paper for technical review to limit modifications that may be needed. For further information, see [Guidelines for authors regarding technical review of 45 and Up Study Papers](#)

## Data updates

The following datasets are now available for researchers:

- **Baseline questionnaire dataset on 267,001 participants** and the updated geocodes from the baseline addresses and associated geographic information for 86% of the participants. The mapping is from geocode to mesh block to SA1 etc. It also includes ARIA, SEIFA, LHD and PHN. Anything below SA2 will only be available in the geospatial area on SURE.
- **SEEF questionnaire dataset on 60,389 participants** and geocodes and associated geographic information for 83% of the participants.
- **5 year follow-up questionnaire dataset for 2012 and 2013 on 77,237 participants.**
- **MBS and PBS data to December 2014.** As many are aware the PBS dataset now includes items where there was no co-payment, which makes it more complete.

The following datasets will be available soon:

- **5 year follow-up questionnaire dataset for 2014** (available early 2016).
- **5 year follow-up (2012 and 2013) geocodes** and associated geographic information.

## Collaborators' Meeting

The 45 and Up Study's 12th Annual Collaborators' Meeting was well attended and there were some great presentations on what has been and will be undertaken using the 45 and Up Study data with/without linkage to other datasets. There are now some pictures from the event on our website at: <https://www.saxinstitute.org.au/events/45-and-up-study-collaborators-meeting/>

If you were not able to attend a full list of the abstracts is available on the website at: <http://www.saxinstitute.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Full-program-and-abstracts.pdf>

## Medical Genomics Reference Bank (MGRB)

As presented at the Collaborators Meeting around 2000 biospecimens from the 45 and Up Study cohort will be whole genome sequenced by the Garvan Institute and included in the MGRB. Researchers will be able to access the MGRB from early 2017. Please contact us or the Garvan Institute for more information.

## Our partners

The Study is managed by the Sax Institute in collaboration with major partner Cancer Council NSW; and partners: the National Heart Foundation of Australia (NSW Division); NSW Ministry of Health; NSW Government Family & Community Services – Carers, Ageing and Disability Inclusion; and the Australian Red Cross Blood Service.

## Contacting the 45 and Up Study team

For more information about the Study, using the Researcher Portal, conducting research using the Study, or to share news about achievements, please contact us on 1300 45 11 45 or email [45andUp.research@saxinstitute.org.au](mailto:45andUp.research@saxinstitute.org.au)