

45 and Up Study

The 45 and Up Study is the largest population-based program of health-related research ever conducted in Australia. More than 267,000 people aged 45 and over are part of the Study and are being followed over time through routine follow-up questionnaires and linkage to health and other records.

The 45 and Up Study has been approved by the University of New South Wales Research Ethics Committee.

Study participants also gave permission to be invited to participate in further research projects. All of these research projects have been through a stringent review process prior to approval. Participation in these research projects is optional.

Study governance

The 45 and Up Study is owned and managed by the Sax Institute, in collaboration with our major partner Cancer Council NSW and partners The National Heart Foundation (NSW Division); NSW Ministry of Health; NSW Government Family & Community Services – Ageing, Carers and the Disability Council NSW; and the Australian Red Cross Blood Service.



Sax Institute

The Sax Institute is an independent, not-for-profit organisation whose mission is to improve health, health services and programs by increasing the use of research in policy making. We want to achieve wiser decisions for a healthier Australia.

The Sax Institute's objectives are to: generate new research for use in policy; improve policy makers' access to existing research; and develop and test innovative new ways to increase the use of research evidence in policy making. See www.saxinstitute.org.au

Confidentiality

The 45 and Up Study, and any research projects from it, is bound by Commonwealth and State privacy legislation and guidelines: Privacy Act 1988 (Cth), Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002 (NSW); and the NSW Health Privacy Manual for Health Information. The 45 and Up Study has strict procedures and systems to safeguard confidentiality.

The Study is also bound by strict scientific ethical accountability to the University of New South Wales:

Ethics Secretariat, University of New South Wales,
Sydney NSW 2052
Telephone: (02) 9385 6222
Email: humanethics@unsw.edu.au

Contact the Sax Institute about the 45 and Up Study

For any questions, comments or complaints about the 45 and Up Study or this research project, to withdraw consent for participation, or for further communication, please contact us by:

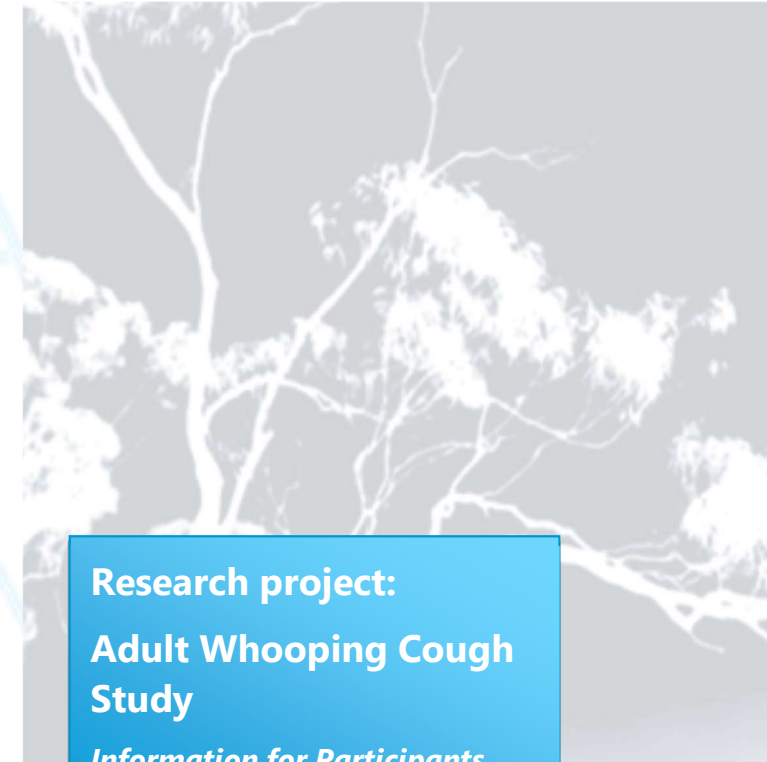
Telephone: 1300 45 11 45 (toll-free Study Infoline)
Email: 45andUp@saxinstitute.org.au

In writing, addressing your correspondence to:

Professor Emily Banks, Scientific Director
The 45 and Up Study
GPO Box 5289, Sydney NSW 2001

Thank you

We could not conduct the 45 and Up Study without the generosity of our participants. We are immensely grateful to all of you.



Research project:
Adult Whooping Cough Study
Information for Participants



Adult Whooping Cough Study

This research project is conducted in addition to the main 45 and Up Study.

Participation is voluntary and does not change your involvement in the main 45 and Up Study.

Information collected by this research project will become part of the 45 and Up Study in the future.

Purpose of this research

Whooping cough (pertussis) is a common infection that affects children and adults and is prevented by vaccination. Children and babies routinely receive the vaccine but in the last few years the vaccine has also been recommended to adults caring for babies. This research project is looking at what prevents whooping cough infection in adults and the effects of whooping cough on adults.

Eligibility for participation

Researchers are looking for two groups of people: those who may have been diagnosed with whooping cough and those who have not. This is so that things like whether people have been vaccinated can be compared between the two groups. When you joined the 45 and Up Study you agreed to be followed through your health records. It is based on these health records that you have been invited to participate in this research.

What participation involves

If you choose to take part in the research project you will be asked to:

- Complete the enclosed short questionnaire about whether you have received the whooping cough vaccine and other vaccines and who gave the vaccine to you. You will also be asked if you have been diagnosed with whooping cough, about how it affected you, and some questions about your general health.
- Provide your doctor's contact details so that they can be contacted to verify the details provided in your questionnaire on vaccination and whooping cough.

Risks for participants

There are no risks in participating in this research project. However if you have concerns please contact our Infoline 1300 45 11 45, or by email 45andUp@saxinstitute.org.au

Benefits of the research project

There will be no immediate personal benefit to you from your participation in this research project. The research project will however improve our understanding of the role of adult vaccination in the prevention of whooping cough in the community.

Costs and payments

Participation in this research project will not cost you anything and you will not receive any payment for your involvement in the research project.

Information the researchers will receive from the Sax Institute

By agreeing to be a part of this research project, you agree to the Sax Institute providing the research project researchers with:

- Information relevant to this research project that you have previously provided to the 45 and Up Study.
- Questionnaire data and/or information that you provide as part of this research project
- Information from your doctor about whether you have received whooping cough vaccine or other vaccines and if you have been diagnosed with whooping cough.

Research project management and funding

This research project is being conducted by researchers from the University of New South Wales, the National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance and the Sax Institute. The research project investigators include:

- Associate Professor Bette Liu (UNSW)
- Professor Peter McIntyre (National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance)

Data collection is being managed by the Sax Institute. The study is funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

Ethics approval and contact information

This research project has been approved by the New South Wales Population and Health Services Research Ethics Committee.

Any person with concerns or complaints about the conduct of this research project should contact the Ethics Coordinator of this ethics committee, who is the person nominated to receive complaints from research participants. You can contact them on 02 8374 5600 (ask for Ethics Manager) or by email at ethics@cancerinstitute.org.au. Please quote reference number 2010/12/292.