



ADVERTISEMENT

**As a carer/parent, have you had
your child become more unwell while in hospital?**

**Have they needed their care escalated, urgent treatment or
intensive care?**

*If so, are you interested in contributing to important health research
regarding the role of parents/caregivers in helping clinical staff
recognise when their child is getting sicker?*

Monash University researchers are recruiting consumers who are parents or carers of children (0-17 years old), to assist in designing research that will be performed in paediatric Emergency Departments across Australia.

Your role will be to provide a critical consumer perspective into research investigating how parents or caregivers can have a more active role in their child's healthcare by helping to earlier identify and alert clinical staff to when the child may be getting worse. The research is planned to occur across a number of major hospitals in Australia and New Zealand.

For more detailed information, please read the documentation below and if you are interested, write an expression of interest, and email it to:
simon.craig@monash.edu

DETAILED INFORMATION

ABOUT THE RESEARCH

Professor Simon Craig is planning a research study to investigate how we can improve the care for children in Emergency Department who become sicker and consequently need urgent treatment or transfer to intensive care. The research will be undertaken in **6** major hospitals from the PREDICT (Paediatric Research in Emergency Departments International Collaborative) research network across Australia and New Zealand.

Planned project where we are seeking consumers:

Prospective study – co-design of a smartphone app for parents and caregivers to record their concern regarding their child's clinical condition at multiple times throughout being in hospital or after an Emergency Department visit. There will then be advice embedded in the app for how the carer can raise concerns about their child if believed to be necessary. This measure of concern along with patient-identifying information will then be useful to assess the ability of caregiver concern to predict their child becoming sicker.

ABOUT THE CONSUMER POSITIONS

We are wanting to recruit up to 12 consumers who are parents or caregivers of children, to provide a critical consumer perspective for the research we are planning.

In the first phase (study planning) we would value your ideas and involvement in our research planning. This will include

- An online meeting with the lead investigator (Prof Simon Craig) to hear more about the study and provide your perspectives
- Participation in an online discussion / focus group with other consumers to discuss the study design and the best way to plan the research – 1-2 hours.

We will then seek funding for the study, which will take a number of months.

If we are successful with obtaining funding, we will ask you to participate in further meetings over the next 1-2 years to have ongoing input into the research project, and to help design a smartphone app for parents / carers attending the emergency department.

WHAT SKILLS OR EXPERIENCE DO I NEED?

Required skills/experience

- Experience as a parent or caregiver who has at some point attended the Emergency Department with their child and the child has become more unwell (**requiring urgent treatment or transfer to intensive care**)
- Ability to use email and time availability to participate in meetings (**e.g. Zoom**) in April and May 2022.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

- 2-3 hours over April-May 2022.

WHERE WILL MEETINGS BE HELD?

Meetings will be held online or by telephone, at a time convenient to you.

WHAT SUPPORT IS OFFERED?

\$50 per hour (up to \$200) will be paid to cover potential expenses to participate in online meetings and discussions.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: April 29th 2022

Expression of interest:

1. Please write an expression of interest and email it to: simon.craig@monash.edu
2. In your expression of interest, please explain briefly:
 - What attracts you to this role
 - Your experience of emergency care in relation to your child
 - Any prior experience in consumer groups for planning research
 - Any experience you have in relation to health research