

Participant Information Sheet

Date Information Sheet Produced:

14/01/2017

Project Title

“What is the experience for women requiring hospitalisation for an extended time in their pregnancy?”

You have been invited to participate in research exploring your experience of been in hospital during your pregnancy.

My name is Michele Lomax, I am a Registered Midwife and I am working towards completing a Masters in Midwifery.

To complete this I will be conducting a research project that will be listening to your stories and interpreting the experiences that women, such as yourself, may have had after spending a lengthy time in hospital during their pregnancy.

What is the purpose of this research?

I am conducting this research in the hope that by talking to women who have experienced a lengthy hospital stay during their pregnancy I will uncover any adverse or positive effect of this experience.

This research will be reported at Midwifery Research Forums, Midwifery Journals and the Biannual Midwifery conference. I am expecting to inform midwifery practice in better ways to support women in this situation and the best way to support women and their families in the weeks after baby is born.

How was I identified and why am I being invited to participate in this research?

You may have spent more than 2 weeks at any time during your pregnancy in hospital and may have had your baby or be about to soon. The interviews will be held in the postnatal period when your baby/babies will be over 4 weeks old.

How do I agree to participate in this research?

You will be given contact details of the researcher (below) and will contact her if you would like to participate. If you choose to participate you will need to sign a Consent Form, which will be done at the beginning of the interview.

After your initial contact I will then email or phone, whichever is easiest for you, to arrange suitable times to meet.

Your participation in this research is voluntary (it is your choice) and whether or not you choose to participate will neither advantage nor disadvantage you. You are able to withdraw from the study at any time. If you choose to withdraw from the study, then you will be offered the choice between having any data that is identifiable as belonging to you removed or allowing it to continue to be used. However, once the findings have been produced, removal of your data may not be possible.

What will happen in this research?

To gather the data for this research I will be conducting one to one interviews with you. This will involve semi-structured questions as a prompt that will give you the opportunity to talk about your experience. I envision these interviews to take up to 1 hour and will be flexible in that it may require more or less time.

The interviews will be recorded and I will also be taking brief notes. These recordings will then be transcribed and I will then read these to determine if any themes emerge from your stories. These transcriptions will be individually sent to you by email for you to also read and add to or make changes if you need to.

What are the discomforts and risks?

Depending on your experience while an inpatient talking about this may become uncomfortable or upsetting. If this is the case we can stop at any time and reschedule or do not need to continue.

How will these discomforts and risks be alleviated?

If any of the questions cause any distress you are not under any obligation to answer and will not be disadvantaged in any way.

AUT Health Counselling and Wellbeing are able to offer three free sessions of confidential counselling support for adult participants in an AUT research project. These sessions are only available for issues that have arisen directly as a result of participation in the research, and are not for other general counselling needs. To access these services, you will need to:

- Drop into our centres at WB219 or AS104 or phone 921 9992 City Campus or 921 9998 North Shore campus to make an appointment. Appointments for South Campus can be made by calling 921 9992
- let the receptionist know that you are a research participant, and provide the title of my research and my name and contact details as given in this Information Sheet

You can find out more information about AUT counsellors and counselling on <http://www.aut.ac.nz/being-a-student/current-postgraduates/your-health-and-wellbeing/counselling>.

If you require Māori cultural support talk to your whānau in the first instance. Alternatively, you may contact the administrator for He Kamaka Waiora (Māori Health Team) by telephoning 09 486 8324 ext 2324.

If you have any questions or complaints about the study you may contact the Auckland and Waitematā District Health Boards Maori Research Committee or Maori Research Advisor by phoning 09 4868920 ext 3204.

What are the benefits?

I am hoping that this research will reveal any potential changes or support systems that could be made available to women required to spend an extended time in hospital.

As this time in hospital may have an impact on your postnatal experience I am hoping that by analysing the experiences of women after having their babies may provide insight of the best care in this time.

This research is also to complete a Masters in Health Science in Midwifery.

How will my privacy be protected?

Your privacy will be protected by assigning a pseudonym, chosen by you, known only to the yourself and the researcher, no identifying features will be published in any written material

Only the researcher and the supervisor will read the transcriptions of the interviews.

What are the costs of participating in this research?

I would expect up to 1 hour participation for the interview will be the only cost.

What opportunity do I have to consider this invitation?

I would hope to hear from you within 1 week of receiving this invitation to participate, however as I am planning to interview in the 4 weeks to 4 months after you have your baby there is plenty of time to consider participating.

Will I receive feedback on the results of this research?

You will receive a copy of your personal transcript notes to read and comment on.

A copy of the outcome of the research can be provided to you if required.

What do I do if I have concerns about this research?

Any concerns regarding the nature of this project should be notified in the first instance to the Project Supervisor,

Dr Andrea Gilkison:

P 09 921 9999 ext 7720 M 021905369 E andrea.gilkison@aut.ac.nz

Concerns regarding the conduct of the research should be notified to the Executive Secretary of AUTEK, Kate O'Connor, ethics@aut.ac.nz, 921 9999 ext. 6038.

Whom do I contact for further information about this research?

Please keep this Information Sheet for your future reference. You are also able to contact the researcher as follows:

Researcher Contact Details:

Michele Lomax.

Email: mlomaxmasters@gmail.com

Phone: 0212481141

Project Supervisor Contact Details:

Dr Andrea Gilkison

P; 09 921 9999 ext. 7720 M 021905369 E andrea.gilkison@aut.ac.nz

Approved by the Auckland University of Technology Ethics Committee on **21/3/2017**,
AUTEK Reference number **17/9**.