Participant Information Sheet

Study title: Knowledge and attitudes of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) of judges and lawyers in New Zealand

Principal Investigator: Dr Joanna Chu

Co-Investigators: Prof Chris Bullen, Prof Warren Brookbanks, Dr Samantha Marsh, Dr Jessica McCormack, Dr Valerie McGinn

You are invited to take part in a study to understand the knowledge, attitudes, and awareness of FASD in judges and lawyers conducted by researchers at the University of Auckland, Auckland University of Technology, and FASD Centre Aotearoa. The goal of this study is to identify gaps in knowledge and training needs to inform guidelines, policy, and practices for the treatment of FASD in the Justice sector.

This Participant Information Sheet will help you decide if you would like to take part. You do not need to decide today. Before you decide you may want to talk about the study with other people, such as family, whānau, friends, or healthcare providers.

You may download a copy of this Information Sheet to keep.

On submission of the survey, you are giving your consent for your answers to be used as data for this project.

What is the purpose of the survey?
We are wanting to understand what judges and lawyers in New Zealand know about FASD and what information and training they need to understand FASD.

We are inviting all front-line Judicial staff to take part in an online survey about FASD and hope to collect 150 responses.

Who can take part?
The Judicial staff can take part if they:

- Are aged 18 years or older
- Able to speak and read English, and
- Are front line judges and lawyers – i.e. have contact with incarcerated adults.

Do I have to take part?
Participation in this survey is entirely voluntary (your choice). The information you share with us will be anonymous (you will not be identified) and kept private. Individual responses will not be shared – only a summary of our findings – and we will not identify participants in our reports.

What is involved if I take part?
If after reading this information sheet you decide that you would like to take part, we will need you to complete a short (10-15 min) online survey. If you want to take part now, but change your mind later, you can stop any time up until the point that the survey is complete. It will not be possible to withdraw any data as it is an anonymous survey. On submission of the survey, your answers will be used as data for this project.

What are the benefits and risks of this survey?
We do not expect any risk to you from completing the survey. However, taking part in the survey will take some of your time. The total time involved for you will probably be around 15 minutes. Your participation will help us better understand the information and training needs of judges and lawyers on FASD.

**Will the information about me be kept confidential (private)?**

You and all other front-line Judicial sector staff responses will be anonymous (you will not be identified) and kept confidential (private). Only the researchers will have direct access to information that you provide. The researchers will not know the identities of those who participated.

The information will be kept securely by the National Institute for Health Innovation, The University of Auckland, New Zealand for 6 years. All electronic data will be stored on a University of Auckland server. All computer records will be password protected. All future use of the information collected will be strictly controlled in accordance with the New Zealand Privacy Act 2020.

**What happens after the survey?**

The data will be analysed and a report will be written. These data will be presented in scientific journals and through presentations at scientific conferences. We will keep your information for 6 years after the study is completed.

Our findings will be shared with the Ministry of Justice and other policymakers. We will only share the overall findings and no individual survey responses. If you would like to receive a summary of the research findings you can leave your email address at the end of the survey (available December 2022).

**Who is conducting this survey?**

The research is conducted by researchers at the National Institute for Health Innovation, University of Auckland, Auckland University of Technology, and FASD Centre Aotearoa. The research team includes Dr Joanna Chu, Professor Warren Brookbanks, Professor Chris Bullen, Dr Samantha Marsh, Dr Jessica McCormack, and Dr Valerie McGinn.

If you have any questions or concerns about this research, please contact fasdresearch@auckland.ac.nz

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**Mēnā he pakirehua tāu, whakapāngia mai a He Kamaka Waiora** (For Māori health support, please contact the administrator for Māori Health Team)  
Telephone: 09 486 8324 ext 232

For concerns of an ethical nature, you can contact the Chair of the Auckland Health Research Ethics Committee at ahrec@auckland.ac.nz or at +64 (0)9 373 7599 ext 83711, or at Auckland Health Research Ethics Committee, The University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142

Please download and keep this sheet for your information.  
Thank you for taking the time to read about this survey  
Approved by the Auckland Health Research Ethics Committee on 05/04/2022 for three years. Reference number AH24111