

**ONLINE PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT**  
Pathways of Alcohol Change Survey

**1. What does participation in this online survey require?**

If you decide to take part in this study, we will ask you to complete an online questionnaire. The survey will ask you questions about your past and present alcohol use, any interactions you have had with treatment, and also questions about you as a person. It should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

**2. What is the study about?**

The study aims to understand the various ways people reduce their alcohol consumption. You have been invited because you responded to an advertisement.

**3. Who is conducting this study?**

The study is being carried out by the following researchers: Professor Alison Ritter, Dr Kari Lancaster, and Mr Richard Mellor.

Research Funder: This research is being funded by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre.

**4. Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria**

Before you decide to participate in this study, we need to ensure that it is ok for you to take part. The study is looking recruit people who are:

- Over 18 years of age
- Live in Australia
- Have had an alcohol problem in the past, but not currently

**5. Do I have to take part in this study?**

Participation in any study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to.

If you decide you want to take part, you will be asked to:

- Read the information carefully (ask questions if necessary);
- Complete the online survey.

**6. Are there any risks involved?**

We don't expect this survey to cause any harm or discomfort, however if you experience feelings of distress as a result of participation you can contact the Alcohol and Drug Information Service on 1800 600 602.

**7. What are the possible benefits to participation?**

We hope to use the results to benefit others who experience alcohol related problems.

**8. What will happen to information about me?**

By clicking the 'I agree to participate' button you are providing your permission for the research team to collect and use information about you for the study. We will not be asking you for any identifying information (it is anonymous), except you have the option to provide an email address if you want to go into the draw to win 1 of 15 \$100 Coles Myer Gift Cards, receive a copy of the study results, and/or receive information about being involved in an in-depth interview. To ensure your responses to the survey remain anonymous, your email address will be stored separately to the rest of your responses. Your data will be kept for a period of 7 years after the project's completion. We will store the anonymous information about you on a password protected folder and it is backed up on the UNSW server. Your information will only be used for the purpose of this study.

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**9. How and when will I find out what the results of the research study are?**

The research team intend to publish and report the results of the study in a variety of ways. All information published will be done in a way that will not identify you. If you would like to receive a copy of the results you can let the research team know by giving your email address at the end of the survey. We will only use these details to send you the results of the research.

**10. What if I want to withdraw from the research study?**

If you wish to stop completing the survey you can do so by closing the browser at any time. As the data are saved as you complete each page of the survey (and this is done so anonymously) it is not possible for you to withdraw your responses once you agree to participate.

The information you provide is personal information for the purposes of the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* (NSW). You have the right of access to personal information held about you by the University, the right to request correction and amendment of it, and the right to make a complaint about a breach of the Information Protection Principles as contained in the PPIP Act. Further information on how the University protects personal information is available in the [UNSW Privacy Management Plan](#).

**11. Can I save the survey and continue later?**

Yes, by closing the browser your responses will automatically be saved. To continue the survey you will need to be on the same device you started the survey on, and it will need to be within 4 weeks of when you started the survey. The link which you used to initiate the survey is the same link you use to continue the survey.

**12. What should I do if I have further questions about my involvement in the research study?**

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you require further information regarding this study or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the study, you can contact the following member/s of the research team:

**Research Team Contact**

Name	Prof Alison Ritter
Position	Lead Researcher, National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of New South Wales
Telephone	02 9385 0236
Email	alison.ritter@unsw.edu.au

If at any stage during the study you become distressed or require additional support from someone not involved in the research please call the Alcohol and Drug Information Service (ADIS) on 1800 600 602

**What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the research study?**

If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of the study or the way it is being conducted, please contact the UNSW Human Ethics Coordinator:

**Complaints Contact**

<b>Position</b>	Human Research Ethics Coordinator
<b>Telephone</b>	+ 61 2 9385 6222
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:humanethics@unsw.edu.au">humanethics@unsw.edu.au</a>
<b>HC Ref No</b>	HC17851