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User Information Statement for the eCliPSE Project

Mental health, alcohol use and substance use problems are among the top 10 causes of disease burden in young Australians and can have a significant lifelong impact. One in four people experience a mental health problem in any 12-month period that is severe enough to warrant treatment, and many experience alcohol or substance use problems at the same time (known as comorbidity). Despite the increase in comorbidity among Australians, the current treatment options are insufficient. To address these issues, the eCliPSE online portal was created by Professor Frances Kay-Lambkin and Professor Maree Teesson, along with the NSW Ministry of Health.

We invite you to take part in a research study based at the University of Newcastle, NSW, that is currently assessing the eCliPSE online portal. We are looking at how people find out about eCliPSE, how often people use eCliPSE, and how user's symptoms improve using eCliPSE.

What does eCliPSE do?

eCliPSE is an online portal (www.eclipse.org.au) that facilitates access to a variety of evidence-based treatments for people experiencing comorbid mental health and alcohol/substance use issues. The eCliPSE portal is available 24/7 and allows registered users to complete validated screening questionnaires that help link users to the appropriate online treatment program. Users will also have access to tailored factsheets about comorbidity, drugs and alcohol, as well as mental health and coping during the COVID-19 pandemic. The eCliPSE portal provides users with self-help tools to manage a variety of symptoms including distress and cravings. Lastly, the eCliPSE portal has an interactive map to help users find mental health, alcohol, and drug related services in their area, as well as general practitioners.

What would you be asked to do?

For Clients: We invite you to complete registration to become an eCliPSE user. This involves providing your postcode, first and last name, and your email address. Once you are registered with eCliPSE, you will be prompted to complete a screening questionnaire about your mental health and substance use history. This will help eCliPSE to decide what online treatment program will be most appropriate for you. You will be able to complete the recommended treatment program in your own time and track your progress. You will have access to your own user console, which will allow you to track and review your questionnaires and courses, view any clinicians that you have been securely linked to, access information if you require urgent assistance, generate a letter for your GP that features your assessment results, and access the factsheets, self-help tools and interactive map to find services in your area. Periodically, you may receive an email from eCliPSE to prompt you to complete a new questionnaire,

For Clinicians: We invite you to complete registration to come an eClipSE user. This involved providing your postcode, first and last name, email address and a registration code. At the registration phase, you will also be able to select whether you would like service users to be able to search for you and link themselves to your account. You will have access to your own user console, which will allow you to track and review your securely linked clients, reviewing their questionnaire results and treatment program progress. You are able to invite clients to be linked to your account from this console. In addition to the provided factsheets and self-help tools, you will be provided with user guides for the provided treatment programs, as well as details and scoring information about the questionnaires used within eClipSE.

You will not be asked to do anything beyond using the eClipSE portal in the way it was intended for clients and clinicians. Upon registration, you will be asked for your agreement to participate in this research project, where your personal information and identify will remain completely anonymous.

What choice do you have?

Your involvement in this study is completely voluntary and we respect your right to withdraw at any time. You may discontinue your participation in this study at any time without explanation. Should you wish to withdraw from the study, you will have the choice to have any information provided to be excluded from analysis. If you would like to withdraw from this study, please email info@eclipse.org.au.

How will your privacy be protected and how will the information be used?

Your personal information and identity will be kept anonymous. While eClipSE requires you to provide your name and email address for registration, these details will not be used as any part of this research project. Information you provide in questionnaires, or your use of treatment programs, may be included in scientific publications, journals and conference proceedings, your personal information will never be included, and you will never be identified in any way.

Any information throughout this study will be managed and stored in accordance with the University of Newcastle's Research Data and Materials Management Guideline. In keeping with these requirements, data will be retained securely for a minimum period of five years from the completion of the research and using password protected software. Any potential identifying information will be removed from the research data. Data from this study will only be accessible by members of the research team unless disclosure is required by law in order for us to comply with our regulatory obligations. At the appropriate time, all data will be destroyed in line with the University of Newcastle's research policy provisions.

Who is involved in conducting this study?

You are invited to participate in the research project identified above, which is being conducted by Professor Frances Kay-Lambkin (University of Newcastle), Professor Milena Heinsch (University of Tasmania), Professor Jamie Carlson, Dr Jessica Wyllie and Mr Alex Taylor (University of Newcastle); Professor Maree Teesson, Dr Matthew Sunderland, Associate Professor Kristen Morley, Professor Tim Shaw (University of Sydney); Professor Catherine Mihalopoulos (Monash University); Professor Helen Christensen (Black Dog Institute); and Professor Andrew Baillie (Sydney Health District and University of Sydney). This project has been funded by a research grant from the National Health and Medical Research Council and a partnership grant from Beyond Blue.

Further questions?

If you would like further information, please contact one of the Chief Investigators of this project, Professor Frances Kay-Lambkin or Professor Milena Heinsch (see contact details below).

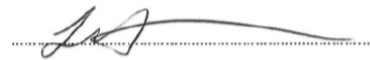
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Thank you for considering this invitation.



Professor Frances Kay-Lambkin
Chief Investigator



Professor Milena Heinsch
Chief Investigator

If, after reading this information statement or participating in eClIPSE, you feel distressed, we urge you to contact your GP or the NSW Health Mental Health Line on 1800 011 511. Alternatively, you can contact Lifeline on 13 11 14, Beyond Blue on 1300 22 4636, or the Suicide Call Back Service on 1300 659 467.

Ethics and Governance:

This research has been approved by the Hunter New England Human Research Ethics Committee of Hunter New England Local Health District, Reference [2021/ETH00035].

Complaints about this research:

Should you have concerns about your rights as a participant in this research, or you have a complaint about the manner in which the research is conducted, it may be given to the researcher, or, if an independent person is preferred, please contact the HNE Research Office, Hunter New England Local Health District, Level 3, POD, HMRI, Lot 1 Kookaburra Circuit, New Lambton Heights NSW 2305. Telephone: 02 4921 4140. Email: HNELHD-ResearchOffice@health.nsw.gov.au and quote the reference number: [2021/ETH00035].