

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT**

HREC Project Number:	HRE2020-0257
Project Title:	Transporting Children with Disabilities and Medical Conditions
Chief Investigator:	Dr Melissa Black
Co-Investigators:	Professor Torbjorn Falkmer
Version Number:	2
Version Date:	20.07.2020

What is the project about?

Transport (such as driving and public transport) enables individuals and families to participate in community life. It is important that all children, including those with disability and medical conditions travel in the safest way possible. This research seeks to understand the experiences, perceptions and knowledge of parents/guardians, health professionals and organisation/government representatives about transport for children with disability and medical conditions.

Who is doing the research?

This project is being conducted by Dr Melissa Black and Professor Torbjorn Falkmer from the School of Occupational Therapy, Social Work and Speech Pathology, Curtin University, in association with Helen Lindner, Emma Clarkson and Lisa Vale from Mobility and Accessibility for Children in Australia (MACA Inc.).

Who is eligible to participate?

We are looking for three groups of people to participate:

1. Parents/guardians of children (under 16 years) with disability and/or medical conditions.
2. Health professionals with experience working with clients (under 16 years) with car seating/transport needs.
3. Organisation/government representatives with an interest in or responsibility/accountability for the safe transport of children with disability and medical conditions.

Why am I being asked to take part and what will I have to do?

We want to understand your experiences, perceptions and knowledge of transporting children with disability and/or medical conditions. If you choose to participate in this study, you will be asked to complete a short survey. This survey will ask you about your experiences and/or knowledge about transport for children with disability and medical conditions. This survey should take about 10 minutes.

We will also ask you to provide a contact email address. We will use this email address to contact you with a link to new resources (when they are developed) providing information about safely and legally transporting children with disability/medical conditions. We will also ask you to complete another survey about your experiences at a later time.

Your participation in this research project is entirely voluntary and you do not have to participate. If you choose to participate and change your mind, that is OK. Just let us know and you can withdraw from the study at any point in time. Not participating in this study or withdrawing will not affect your relationship with Curtin University or MACA Inc.

Are there any benefits to being in the research project?

In appreciation for your time, you will automatically be entered into a draw to win one of five \$50 Coles/Myer gift vouchers. Your input will help us to develop tools and resources to ensure that children with disability and medical conditions are being transported in the safest way possible.

Are there any risks, side-effects, discomforts or inconveniences from being in the research project?

Aside from your time, we do not anticipate any negative effects or risks of participating in this research project.

Who will have access to my information?

Only approved researchers will have access to the information collected from the survey. Identifiable data (i.e. name, email address) will only be accessible by approved members of the research team. Your information will be used for identification and contact purposes only and will not be associated with the answers you provide. The data you provide may also be accessed by the Curtin Ethics Office if an audit of data is required. Electronic information from the survey will be stored confidentially on Curtin University's secure password-protected computer server.

Will you tell me the results of the research?

If you would like to be kept up to date with the progression of the research, then please let us know. The research team will write to you at the end of the study and inform you of the results. Results may also be available through publication in professional journals or presentation at conferences.

Do I have to take part in the research project?

Participation in this research project is completely voluntary and you may withdraw from the study at any time. Please inform us immediately if you wish to remove yourself from

the study. If you choose to remove yourself, the researchers will not use your information until they have received your written consent. This decision will in no way impact your relationship with Curtin University or MACA Inc., or your participation in any future research projects.

What happens next and who can I contact about the research?

If you have any queries or concerns about the study, please contact: Dr. Melissa Black on (08) 9266 5893 or melissa.black@curtin.edu.au

Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) has approved this study (HREC number HRE2020-0257. Should you wish to discuss the study with someone not directly involved, in particular, any matters concerning the conduct of the study or your rights as a participant, or you wish to make a confidential complaint, you may contact the Ethics Officer on (08) 9266 9223 or the Manager, Research Integrity on (08) 9266 7093 or email hrec@curtin.edu.au.