**Participant Information Sheet**

St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital

**Title** Exploring the impact on Emergency Department (ED) vertical stream patient flow metrics of the Advanced Scope Physiotherapy (ASP) service at St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital (SJGMPPH) ED. To determine whether an additional ASP and expansion of hours in SJGMPPH ED influences these metrics.

**Short Title** Impact on patient flow of additional Advanced Scope Physiotherapist on St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital Emergency Department

**Project Number** #2201

**Project Sponsor** SJGMPPH Health Management Committee Seed Funding Grant

**Principal Investigator** Aedin Shannon

**Co-Investigators** Kenny Kessler, Karen Richards, Susan Brooker, Faye Johnston, Michelle Quinn, Julie Bayliss

**Location** St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital Emergency Department

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**1. What does my participation involve?**

You are invited to take part in this research project, which is called ‘Exploring the impact on Emergency Department (ED) vertical stream patient flow metrics of the Advanced Scope Physiotherapy (ASP) service at St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital (SJGMPPH) ED. To determine whether an additional ASP and expansion of hours in SJGMPPH ED influences these metrics.

You have been invited because you have presented to SJGMPPH ED and been triaged into the vertical stream for your health concern. The vertical stream is designed for patients seeking care for less serious illness and injury in ED. Your contact details were obtained when you provided this information to the ED triage nurse and ED clerk.

This Participant Information Sheet tells you about the research project. It explains the processes involved with taking part. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research.

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you don’t wish to take part, you don’t have to.

If you decide you want to take part in the research project, you do not have to do anything. If you do not want to take part in the research project, let a health worker know, and you will be provided with an Opt Out Consent Form.

Information about the research project is found on a poster in the Vertical Waiting Room. Further information is contained within this Participant Information Sheet.

**2. What is the purpose of this research?**

The aim of this research is to explore the impact Advanced Scope Physiotherapists (ASP) have on patient flow in vertical stream of SJGMPPH ED and to determine whether additional ASP staffing influences patient flow metrics associated with ED over-crowding.

The research project is funded by the SJGMPPH Health Management Committee Seed Funding Grant. Results of the study may be used for future research to guide appropriate levels of ASP staffing and hours of service in SJGMPPH ED.

This research has been initiated by the researcher, Kenny Kessler, Advanced Scope Physiotherapist, Emergency Department.

**3. What does participation in this research involve?**

All patients who present to St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital (SJGMPPH) Emergency Department (ED) and triaged into the vertical stream over the ten-week study period will be included in the study. Your de-identified health data for this specific ED visit will be collected to assist in answering the questions posed by the research study. You may opt out at any time up to when the study data is analysed to not participate in the study. Your inclusion and participation in the study will not inconvenience or place any burden on you. Your journey and experience in SJGMPPH ED will not be impacted due to your participation or decision to not participate in the study. There are no costs associated with participating in this research project, nor will you be paid.

**4. Do I have to take part in this research project?**

Participation in any research project is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to not take part and later change your mind, you are free to participate in the study up to when data analysis has been performed.

If you do decide to not take part, you will be given a Participant Information Sheet and Opt Out Consent Form to sign and you will be given a copy to keep.

Your decision whether to take part or not to take part, or to take part and then withdraw, will not affect your routine care, your relationship with professional staff or your relationship with St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital.

**5. What are the possible benefits of taking part? What are the potential risks or disadvantages of taking part?**

We cannot guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this research; however, possible benefits may include more timely, efficient care that improves your experience through St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital (SJGMPPH) Emergency Department (ED). Timely and efficient care is associated with less risk of morbidity and adverse outcomes in ED’s.

There may be no clear benefit to you from your participation in this research. The above benefits may accrue to future patients of SJGMPPH ED.

There are no possible risks or disadvantages should you participate or not participate in the research study.

**6. What if I withdraw from this research project?**

If you decide to withdraw from the project, please notify your health professional or member of the research team. If you do withdraw, you will be asked to complete and sign an ‘Opt Out Consent’ form; this will be provided to you by the research team.

If you decide to leave the research project, the researchers will not collect additional personal information from you, although personal information already collected will be retained to ensure that the results of the research project can be measured properly and to comply with law. You should be aware that data collected up to the time you withdraw will form part of the research project results. If you do not want your data to be included, you must tell the researchers when you withdraw from the research project.

**7. What happens when the research project ends?**

The final deadline for this research project is 31st December 2025. Results and study reports will be finalised by June 2025. Potential publications such as conference poster and/or journal article may be published in allied health/medical conferences and/or journals. As a participant, if requested, you will be provided with a summary of results when the research project is completed.

**Part 2 How is the research project being conducted?**

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

By participating in the research study, the research team will be collecting and using personal information about you for the research project specific to this ED visit. Your health data will be de-identified for data analysis and reporting. Any information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you will remain confidential. Only members of the research project will have access to the data reports. Your information will only be used for the purpose of this research project and it will only be disclosed with your permission, except as required by law.

The personal information that the research team collect and use is your unique medical record number, age in years and gender.

Your health records and any information obtained during the research project are subject to inspection (for the purpose of verifying the procedures and the data) by the relevant authorities and authorised representatives, St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital, the institution relevant to this Participant Information Sheet or as required by law. By participating in the research project, you authorise release of, or access to, this confidential information to the relevant research personnel and regulatory authorities as noted above.

It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided only in non-identifiable format.

In accordance with relevant Australian and/or Western Australian privacy and other relevant laws, you have the right to request access to the information about you that is collected and stored by the research team. You also have the right to request that any information with which you disagree be corrected. Please inform the research team member named at the end of this document if you would like to access your information.

Any information obtained for the purpose of this research project that can identify you will be treated as confidential and securely stored. It will be disclosed only with your permission, or as required by law.

**9. Complaints and compensation**

If you suffer any distress or psychological injury because of this research project, you should contact the research team as soon as possible. You will be assisted with arranging appropriate treatment and support.

**10. Who is organising and funding the research?**

This research project is being conducted by Aedin Shannon, Advanced Scope Physiotherapist employed by St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital (SJGMPPH). The research project is funded by the SJGMPPH Health Management Committee seed funding grant.

You will not benefit financially from your involvement in this research project even if, for example, knowledge acquired from your information proves to be of commercial value to St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital.

In addition, if knowledge acquired through this research leads to discoveries that are of commercial value to St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospital, the researchers or their institutions, there will be no financial benefit to you or your family from these discoveries.

No member of the research team will receive a personal financial benefit from your involvement in this research project (other than their ordinary wages).

**11. Who has reviewed the research project?**

All research in Australia involving humans is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC).

The ethical aspects of this research project have been approved by the HREC of St John of God Health Care.

This project will be carried out according to the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2023)*. This statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies.

**12. Further information and who to contact**

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you want any further information concerning this project or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the project, you can contact the researcher on 9462 5321 or any of the following people: Aedin Shannon, Susan Brooker, Karen Richards, Michelle Quinn

 **Research contact person**

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| --- | --- |
| Name | Aedin Shannon |
| Position | Advanced Scope Physiotherapist  |
| Telephone | 9462 5321 |
| Email | Aedin.shannon@sjog.org.au |

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| --- | --- |
| Name | Dr Karen Richards |
| Position | Advanced Scope Physiotherapist  |
| Telephone | 9462 5321 |
| Email | Karen.richards@sjog.org.au |

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| --- | --- |
| Name | Susan Brooker |
| Position | Advanced Scope Physiotherapist  |
| Telephone | 9462 5321 |
| Email | Susan.Brooker@sjog.org.au |

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| --- | --- |
| Name | Michelle Quinn |
| Position | Advanced Scope Physiotherapist  |
| Telephone | 9462 5321 |
| Email | Michelle.Quinn@sjog.org.au |

For matters relating to research at the site at which you are participating, the details of the local site complaints person are:

**Complaints contact person**

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| --- | --- |
| Name | Aedin Shannon |
| Position | Advanced Scope Physiotherapist  |
| Telephone | 9462 5321 |
| Email | Aedin.shannon@sjog.org.au |

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted or any questions about being a research participant in general, then you may contact:

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| Name | Patient Experience Team |
| Telephone | 08 9462 4901 |
| Email | MI.PatientExperienceTeam@sjog.org.au |

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| Reviewing HREC name | St John of God Health Care Research Ethics Committee |
| HREC Executive Officer | Gorette De Jesus |
| Telephone | 6116 0542 |
| Email | Gorette.De.Jesus@sjog.org.au |

**Reviewing HREC approving this research** **and HREC Executive Officer details**

**Local HREC Office contact**

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| --- | --- |
| Name | Karen Roberts |
| Position | Research Ethics Officers  |
| Telephone | 6116 0542 |
| Email | Karen.roberts@sjog.org.au |