Pride in Prevention: Cancer Prevention Behaviours in the South Australian LGBTIQA+ Community v3

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

What is the study?
This study aims to understand how South Australian LGBTIQA+ community members think about cancer-related risk factors and take actions to reduce their risk of cancer. This includes vaccination, cancer screening, and cancer-related behaviours like smoking, alcohol, nutrition and physical activity.

The study is partly funded by Preventive Health SA. Focus groups will be held to gather insights into experiences, perceptions, barriers, and enablers related to cancer prevention and health promotion. Your participation in this focus group is very important to Cancer Council SA, as it will help us understand how to make prevention programs more inclusive and supportive. Your feedback will shape future initiatives and engagements with the community.

All contributions will be kept confidential and de-identified. Data collected will be summarised in a report to Preventive Health SA and used in research papers, conference presentations, and other ways of sharing the study findings with the community and wider audiences.

Who is eligible to participate?
You may be eligible to participate if you:

- Identify as a member of the LGBTIQA+ community
- Currently live in South Australia
- Are 18 years or older

You will also need to confirm that you are acting in good faith and providing your own genuine information, without misrepresenting yourself (for example, you are not a bot, using AI, or pretending to be someone else). We understand privacy is important, especially in the LGBTIQA+ community; however, to help us confirm people are eligible, we may need to speak with you before focus group enrolment. Individuals can only participate in the study once.

What does participation involve?
Your participation involves:

- Completion of a short eligibility and demographic survey and, if eligible
- Participation in a focus group of approximately 3 hours (with breaks), and
- An optional post-group survey if you would like to add anything you were not able to share during the focus groups

You may request a copy of the main focus group questions before participation. Participation is completely voluntary and the information you provide will be treated with confidence. We ask questions about gender identity and sexuality to help ensure many types of people and groups are included, and to make sure we understand the needs and experiences of participants.

Focus groups will be **audio and video recorded** to help us accurately transcribe what is said. If you prefer, you may **turn off your camera during online sessions** or **sit out of frame during in-person sessions**. For online participation you may be asked to respond to questions or briefly turn your camera or audio on, to ensure you are actively participating. There is also an optional post-group survey if you would like to add anything you were not able to share during the focus groups

What in it for me?
Participation in this study will not provide personal medical advice or affect your individual health outcomes. While your experiences will help inform future health promotion programs and services, the study does not provide direct clinical or diagnostic benefits. However, to thank you for your time, participants will receive $120 in vouchers (e.g. EFTPOS, VISA) for taking part in the focus group. Vouchers can only be provided as hard copies, given either in person (e.g. at the end of in-person focus groups or picked up from Cancer Council SA office on Greenhill Road) or posted to a South Australian postal address only. Digital gift cards or cards sent through email or a photo of the card are not available.

Refreshments and light snacks will be provided at in-person focus groups. Participants can indicate any dietary requirements or allergies in the screening form so these can be accommodated where possible.

Can I stop participating?
Participating in this study means attending a focus group. Yes, you can stop participating at any time by leaving the session and you do not have to give a reason. There will be no negative consequences with your relationship with Cancer Council SA or the project team for your decision. If you stop participating in the focus group, you are still eligible to receive a proportion of the EFTPOS voucher.

Can I withdraw my data?
In this study, your data refers to your responses to demographic and screening questions, information you share during focus groups, and the survey after the group. Withdrawing means requesting that the information you shared will not be used in the project.

Because focus groups involve group discussions, any information you share during focus groups or in the survey after the group may still be included in the study results. However, if you choose to withdraw your data, you can request that your individual demographic information and questionnaire responses be removed by contacting the lead researcher (Dr. Daniel Coro dcoro@cancersa.org.au) up until the point that data analysis begins. Participants who attend a focus group but stop participating or withdraw will still be entitled to receive a proportion of the voucher honorarium (pro-rata, per study lead discretion)

What will happen to the information collected, and is privacy and confidentiality assured?
Cancer Council SA are responsible for the security of data. Data stored electronically is secure and accessible by password-only or stored in a restricted access folder. You can request a summary of findings on completion of the study.

If you would like more information about the study, or have any questions about taking part you can contact the project lead, Ms. Steph Brauer at sbrauer@cancersa.org.au or T: 08 8291 4169. For questions specifically about the research process, your rights as a participant, or ethical aspects of the study, you can contact the research lead, Dr Daniel Coro at dcoro@cancersa.org.au or T: 08 8291 4327.

Cancer Council Victoria's Human Research Ethics Committee / Institutional Research Review Committee has approved this project so that it meets ethical standards and ensures the confidentiality of participants' information is protected. If you have any complaints or concerns

about the manner in which this research is being conducted, please contact the Research Governance Unit at email rgu@cancervic.org.au.

Discussion of personal experiences with healthcare, discrimination or cancer-related behaviours may result in emotional discomfort. If you experience distress as a result of participating in this study, you can contact the following services for support:

Emergency and Crisis Support:

- Lifeline Australia: 13 11 14, www.lifeline.org.au
- Mental Health Triage – SA Health: 13 14 65
- 13YARN – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Crisis Support: 13 92 76, www.13yarn.org.au

LGBTIQA+ Support Services:

- QLife – *Provides free, anonymous and confidential counselling and referral services for LGBTQIA+ people and their loved ones:* 1800 184 527, https://qlife.org.au
- Thorne Harbour Health – *A community-controlled health organisation providing mental health, drug and alcohol services to LGBTIQA+ people in Adelaide*: (08) 7078 4128, thhsa@thorneharbour.org
- Bfriend – *Offers free peer support for LGBTIQA+ peer support for people in South Australia*: 1800 615 677, Bfriend@unitingcommunities.org, www.unitingcommunities.org/services/community-support/lgbtiqa-support

Yours Sincerely,

Ms. Steph Brauer (Project Lead) - sbrauer@cancersa.org.au or T: 08 8291 4169
and Dr. Daniel Coro (Lead Researcher) - dcoro@cancersa.org.au or T: 08 8291 4327
Cancer Council SA

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CONSENT FORM v3

This study aims to explore how members of the South Australian LGBTIQA+ community think about, access, and engage in behaviours and interventions that help prevent cancer, such as vaccination, screening, and cancer-related behaviours like smoking, alcohol, nutrition and physical activity.

Your participation in this study will involve:

- Completing a screening questionnaire
- Taking part in an approximately 3 hour focus group (with breaks)
- An optional post-group survey if you would like to add anything you were not able to share during the focus groups

For participating, you will receive $120 in vouchers (e.g. EFTPOS, VISA). This will be provided in-person or posted to a South Australian postal address.

Consent:

I agree to participate in the 'Pride in Prevention Focus Group' carried out by Cancer Council SA's Prevention and Research teams.

- I have read the participant information sheet and understand the aims of the project.
- I confirm I meet the eligibility criteria
- I am aware of the topics to be discussed in the focus group.
- I understand that my contributions will remain anonymous in any reporting and that I can leave the focus group at any time.
- I am fully aware that data collected will be stored securely, safely and in accordance with the Data Collection Act (1998).
- I understand that I am not obliged to answer any question, but that I do so of my own free will.
- I agree to have the focus group audio/video recorded so it can be transcribed afterwards.
- I confirm that the information I provide is accurate, that I am participating honestly as myself and in good faith, and I understand that researchers may contact me to confirm my eligibility before enrolment, exclude me if there is reason to believe otherwise, or reduce my honorarium if my participation is very limited (e.g. minimal responses, or disconnecting early/repeatedly from an online session).
- I understand that my eligibility to take part will be based on my answers to the screening questions, and the project team will let me know if I am eligible.
- I understand a member of the project team may contact me to provide links to wellbeing and mental health support services if I appear distressed during the focus group, and I can decline this contact if I wish.