PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

SuSTAInX - Supporting Successful Transition to Adult belts In Cars: examining effectiveness of eXisting tools

A/Prof Julie Brown

1. What is the research study about?

You are invited to take part in a research study. The SuSTAInX study is a research study examining the information that parents and carers need to make safe and correct decisions when it comes to restraining children using adult seat belts while travelling in a car.

We will use the information we collect in this study to develop easy-to-understand information resources and materials to support parents and carers. We are hoping that the study will help to reduce the level of incorrect use of adult seat belts and thereby reduce the risk of injury to children in the event of a crash.

We will be asking you to observe your child in three different passenger seat conditions and decide whether your child is appropriately restrained when using an adult seat belt in each condition.

Before you decide whether or not you wish to participate in this study, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take the time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish.

2. Who is conducting this research?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers:

Role	Name	Organisation
Chief Investigator	A/Prof Julie Brown	Neuroscience Research Australia The George Institute for Global Health
Co-Investigator	Prof Lynne Bilston	Neuroscience Research Australia
Study personnel	Amy Bestman Catherine Ho Yaojia (Wennie) Dai Stacie Powell Anvay Parab	The George Institute for Global Health University of New South Wales
	Bianca Albanese	Neuroscience Research Australia University of New South Wales

Research Funder: This research is being funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC).

3. Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

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

1. Over 18 years of age
2. Parents (or primary carers) of children aged 7-12 years
3. Read English well enough to understand the information in this Participant Information Statement
4. Licenced driver of own car
5. Travel in your car with your child at least weekly

Individuals who meet the following criteria will be excluded from the study:

1. Those who do not meet the above inclusion criteria.

4. **Do I have to take part in this research study?**
   Participation in this research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the study at any stage.

   If you decide you want to take part in the research study, you will be asked to:
   - Read the information carefully (ask questions if necessary);
   - Use an iPad to sign consent form if you decide to participate in the study;
   - You will also be given a physical copy or emailed a copy of this form to keep.

5. **What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks involved?**
   If you agree to participate you will be asked to complete the following research procedures.

   Screening: A screening questionnaire confirming you meet the inclusion criteria (listed above); this will determine if you are eligible to take part. We will also provide you with some information on the study and answer any questions you may have. Completing the screening measures will take approximately 5 minutes. The screening questionnaire will be administered to you over the phone. If the screening questionnaire shows that you meet the criteria for inclusion, then we will organise a time for us to conduct the research study activities with you. If the screening questionnaire shows that you cannot be in the research project, we will ask you if you give consent for us to save your contact details and contact you for a future study you may be eligible for.

   Data collection: After you have completed the screening and you are eligible to participate in the study, we will organise a time for you to attend the lab. The study activities are as follows:

   1. **Anthropometry:** When you attend, your child's standing height, seated shoulder height, neck width, and leg length will be measured by a trained researcher.

   2. **Demographics questionnaire:** Parents and carers will be asked to answer questions which will be read aloud by a researcher about themself and their family as well as their previous experience using child restraints.

   3. **Decision-making activity:** We will present you with some informational material, and then you will be asked to 'think aloud' while observing your child in three different seating conditions and deciding whether it is appropriate for your child to use the seat belt in each condition. Photos will be taken and videos will be recorded for the duration of the session and these will be used to guide the design and development of information resources and/or materials about safely transitioning children to use adult belts.

   4. **Post-activity questionnaire**: Researchers will ask you questions about the key elements to consider when it comes to deciding whether it is safe and correct for a child to use an adult seat belt. We will also ask for your feedback on the informational material you were provided with prior to the decision-making activity. Finally, we will ask about your parenting styles and attitudes.

   It is expected that the total session will be no longer than 60-90 minutes including a short break.

If the State government has any advisory warnings about the spread of Covid-19 at that time, we will follow all advice. We will also follow any site-specific Covid-safe policies or regulations that are over and above those put forth by the Government. This could include ensuring many infection control precautions are in place during your attendance to the lab, recommended hygiene practices before, during, and after your attendance to the lab, social distancing measures where possible, as well as the use of personal protective equipment (masks and surgical-style gloves) (PPE). If you request PPE, then at the end of your participation you will be required to seal your removed PPE in a garbage bag and leave it for 72 hours before disposing of it. These garbage bags will be provided by research officers. This could also include checking in at the study site via QR code and providing evidence of vaccination status (or medical exemption, as required). You will also be given the option of delaying or discontinuing your involvement with the study.

Additional Costs and Reimbursement: There are no costs associated with participating in this research project, nor will you be paid. However, you will receive a $25 gift voucher to reimburse you for any reasonable travel, parking, meals and other expenses while completing the study.

Aside from giving up your time to participate, we do not expect that there will be any risks associated with taking part in this study. However, through participation in the study you may learn that you are unsure of whether a seat belt provides appropriate protection for your child under different settings, and this may cause you some distress. If you experience discomfort or feelings of distress while participating in the research, you can stop participating at any time. You can also tell a member of the research team and they will provide you with assistance, or alternatively a list of support services and their contact details are provided below in section 10.

6. What will happen to information about me?

By signing the consent form, you consent to the research team collecting and using information about you for the research study.

The research team will store the data collected from you for this research project for a minimum of 5 years after the publication of the research results.

The information about you will be stored in a re-identifiable format where any identifiers such as your name, address, date of birth will be replaced with a unique code.

Optional consent: You will be asked to provide your consent for the research team to share or use the information collected from you in future research that will be an extension of, or closely related to, the original project; or is in the same general area of research. If you choose to provide this consent, your information will only be used in a format that will not identify you.

How we store study information:

- Information collected from you in an electronic format will be stored on a UNSW (The George Institute) password-protected OneDrive only accessible to the approved research investigators.

- Information collected from you using paper-based measures will be stored in the following address- Level 5/1 King St, Newtown NSW 2042, and only the approved research investigators will have access to this information.

- Audio or video recordings will be stored on a UNSW password-protected OneDrive only accessible to the approved research investigators.

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**.

7. 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 research. All Information will be published 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 providing your email or mailing address in the consent form. We will only use these details to send you the results of the research.

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

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time. You can do so by completing the 'Withdrawal of Consent Form' which is provided at the end of this document or you can ring the research team and tell them you no longer want to participate. Your decision not to participate or to withdraw from the study will not affect your relationship with UNSW Sydney or The George Institute for Global Health. If you decide to leave the research study, the researchers will not collect additional information from you. You can request that any identifiable information about you be withdrawn from the research project.

9. 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

Position	UNSW Human Research Ethics Coordinator
Telephone	+ 61 2 9385 6222
Email	humanethics@unsw.edu.au
HC Reference Number	HC210754

10. 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 members of the research team:

Research Team Contact Details

Name	Wennie Dai
Position	Research Officer
Telephone	+61 2 8052 4828
Email	wdai@georgeinstitute.org.au

Name	A/Prof Julie Brown
Position	Chief Investigator
Telephone	+61 2 8052 4420
Email	jbrown@georgeinstitute.org.au

If at any stage during your participation in the study you become distressed or require additional support from someone not involved in the research please call:

Support Services Contact Details

Beyond Blue	1300 224 636	Open 3pm to midnight, 7 days a week
NSW Mental Health Line	1800 011 511	Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
SANE Australia	1800 187 263	Open 10am - 10pm, weekdays

Consent Form – Participant providing own consent and consent for child participation

Declaration by the participant

- ☐ I understand I am being asked to provide consent **for myself and my child to** participate in this research study;
- ☐ I have read the Participant Information Statement, or someone has read it to me in a language that I understand;
- ☐ I understand the purposes, study tasks and risks of the research described in the study;
- ☐ I understand that the research team will audio-video record the observation session at the lab; I agree to be recorded for this purpose.
- ☐ I provide my consent for the information collected about me and my child to be used for the purpose of this research study.
- ☐ I have had an opportunity to ask questions and I am satisfied with the answers I have received;
- ☐ I freely agree to participate in this research study as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the study and withdrawal will not affect my relationship with any of the named organisations and/or research team members;
- ☐ I understand that I will be given a signed copy of this document to keep.
- ☐ I understand that the results of the research will be published academic journals; PhD/Masters/Honours thesis; and conference presentations.
- ☐ I would like to receive a copy of the study results via email or post, I have provided my details below and ask that they be used for this purpose only.
  Name: _____
  Address: _____
  Email Address: _____

Optional Consent for reuse of data and future research:

- ☐ I provide my consent for the information collected about me to made available to other researchers as described in section 6 of this document.
- ☐ I provide my consent for my name and contact details to be retained in a register so I can be contacted about other research projects in the future.

Participant (Parent/Guardian) Signature

Name of Participant (please print)	
Signature of Research Participant	
Date	

Declaration by Researcher*

- ☐ I have given a verbal explanation of the research study; its study activities and risks and I believe that the participant has understood that explanation.

Researcher Signature*

Name of Researcher (please print)	
Signature of Researcher	
Date	

⁺An appropriately qualified member of the research team must provide the explanation of, and information concerning the research study.
Note: All parties signing the consent section must date their own signature.

Form for Withdrawal of Participation

I wish to **WITHDRAW** my consent to participate in this research study described above and understand that such withdrawal **WILL NOT** affect my relationship with The University of New South Wales or The George Institute for Global Health.

☐ I am withdrawing my consent and I would like any identifiable information collected about me which I have provided for the purpose of this research study withdrawn.

☐ I am withdrawing my consent to participate in further components of this research and provide my permission for the research team to retain and/or use information collected about me which I have provided for the purpose of this research.

☐ I am withdrawing my consent and I understand that any information already published and/or not linked to my identity cannot be withdrawn from the research.

Participant Name

Name of Participant (please type)	
Date	

The section for Withdrawal of Participation should be forwarded to:

CI Name:	A/Prof Julie Brown
Email:	jbrown@georgeinstitute.org.au
Phone:	+61 2 8052 4420
Postal Address:	PO Box M201 | Missenden Rd | NSW 2050 Australia