

An opportunity for you to participate in an important initiative:

Project Title	Perth North Metropolitan Foot Initiative (NMFI)
Project Lead	<i>Mr Robert Ma, Vascular Surgeon at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital</i>
Project Coordinator	<i>Shona Vigus, Credentialed Diabetes Educator (CDE) at Diabetes WA (shona.vigus@diabeteswa.com.au)</i>

What is this project about?

We want to understand what makes it harder and easier for people who have diabetes to receive or access the health checks they need. We also want to understand what makes it harder and easier for doctors, nurses, health care workers, podiatrists, dietitians, diabetes educators and other healthcare professionals to help people to manage their diabetes. If we can better understand these things, we can improve timely access to appropriate care.

Who is funding this project?

Diabetes WA has been funded by WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA) with a grant for this project.

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

We are seeking to recruit any health professional that are involved in the care of people with diabetes that reside in the suburbs of Balga and Mirrabooka.

If this is you, then we hear about your experiences in caring for these people and particularly what you feel the barriers are for accessing services. This will involve an interview (which will be recorded) with a CDE from Diabetes WA that we expect will take about 15 minutes and can be done face to face or over the phone at a time suitable to you.

We are also looking for input into developing training materials for health professionals that may be made available to doctors, practice nurses, health care workers etc. later in 2021.

Who will have access to my information?

The audio recording of your interview will be kept under secure conditions at Diabetes WA and identified with your first name and initial and the date of your interview only. This is just to allow us to distinguish between different interviews, it is not intended to make you identifiable.

The recordings will be stored only until the completion of the project according to the data management policy of Diabetes WA, and then destroyed.



Rationale

Balga-Mirrabooka has rates of potentially preventable hospitalizations from chronic conditions that are 1.5 times the state average, including a relatively high population of individuals admitted with a high-risk foot diagnosis. Diabetes foot ulcer admissions are five times more common in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people than the non-Aboriginal population and this is thought to contribute to the higher rates of foot ulcer admissions from Balga-Mirrabooka.

Who is organizing this project?

The Perth North Metropolitan Foot Initiative is being conducted by doctors and podiatrists from SCGH, as well as project staff from Diabetes WA - Robert Ma (SCGH Vascular Surgeon), Shona Vigus (Credentialed Diabetes Educator and Project Coordinator), Mendel Baba (SCGH Podiatry), and Sophie McGough (Diabetes WA).

Will you tell me the results of the project?

If you are interested in obtaining a summary of the project outcomes, please contact the project coordinator by email shona.vigus@diabeteswa.com.au after October 2021.

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

If you have any questions about this project you can contact Shona Vigus Project Coordinator Diabetes WA:
Phone: 1300 001 880
Email: shona.vigus@diabeteswa.com.au