

School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Head of School

Professor Louise Hickson BSpThy(Hons), MAud, PhD

Division of Speech Pathology

Head: Professor Deborah Theodoros BSpPath, PhD

## **Information Sheet For professionals who work with people who have a communication difficulty**

**TITLE:** Communication Research Registry

**CHIEF INVESTIGATOR:** Professor Linda Worrall

**CO-INVESTIGATORS:** Professor Louise Hickson, Professor Deborah Theodoros, A/Professor Joseph Kei, Dr Carly Meyer, Dr Tanya Rose.

School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences  
The University of Queensland

### **You are invited to join the Communication Research Registry**

#### **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY?**

The Communication Research Registry is a database of people who are interested in participating in communication research.

The aim of the Registry is to support local and national communication research that will help to increase the evidence-base for services for people with communication difficulties, their family members, and friends.

It is important that research is done with:

- people who are directly and indirectly affected by communication difficulties
- professionals who work with people with communication difficulties.

#### **WHAT PROFESSIONALS CAN JOIN THE REGISTRY?**

Anyone who is paid to work with a person who has a communication difficulty is invited to join the Registry. This may include health professionals such as speech pathologists, audiologists, occupational therapists, social workers, nursing staff, and doctors. It may also include teachers, early childcare educators and psychologists.

## **WHAT DOES JOINING THE RESEARCH REGISTRY INVOLVE?**

If you register with the Communication Research Registry you are indicating that you are interested in being informed of opportunities to participate in communication research.

You will be asked to provide us with demographic information about yourself and information about your professional role. This information will be considered when inviting you to participate in research projects.

The Communication Research Registry is a national registry. Therefore you may be invited to participate in both local and national research projects, such as national surveys.

It is always your choice to be involved. You will be provided with information about various research projects and asked to contact the researchers directly if you wish to participate in their research.

All research projects that recruit through the Communication Research Registry have ethical clearance from a human research ethics committee, approved by the Australian Government's National Health and Medical Research Council.

The Registry will keep a record of studies that you choose to participate in. This is to find out which research topics are important to you. This information will be stored in the Communication Research Registry.

Each year, you will also be sent a Communication Research Registry questionnaire. The questionnaire will for example, confirm your contact details, ask for feedback, and ask you to let us know about communication issues that concern you. This will also let us know the research topics that are important to you. It will be your choice to complete this questionnaire. Your responses will be stored in the Communication Research Registry. Any publications arises from this data will not identify you.

## **HOW WILL WE KEEP YOUR INFORMATION CONFIDENTIAL?**

All information collected by the Communication Research Registry will be stored securely and kept strictly confidential.

Information about you stored in the Communication Research Registry, including your contact details, will not be released to any parties, including other researchers, without your consent. If, for example, you would like any information to be given to another researcher you will need to:

- consent to join their ethically approved study, and
- provide written consent for the Communication Research Registry to release specific information to the researchers.

Any findings, reports, or publications that come from the Communication Research Registry will not identify you.

## **WHY SHOULD I JOIN THE COMMUNICATION RESEARCH REGISTRY?**

Joining the Communication Research Registry may not benefit you personally. However, as a member of the Registry you may have the opportunity to:

1. contribute to communication research,
2. engage with researchers working in your area of interest,
3. inform the development of research agendas according to your needs and priorities, and that of your workplace.

## **ARE THERE ANY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH JOINING THE COMMUNICATION RESEARCH REGISTRY?**

There are no risks to your health in participating in this study. Using an online registration process to join the Registry poses a small confidentiality risk. However, the Registry takes every precaution to ensure your information is kept securely and safely.

## **ARE THERE ANY COSTS TO JOINING THE COMMUNICATION RESEARCH REGISTRY?**

There is no cost to join and be a member of the Communication Research Registry.

## **WHAT IF I DO NOT WANT TO PARTICIPATE OR PROVIDE MY INFORMATION?**

Participation in the Communication Research Registry is entirely voluntary. You are under no obligation to join the Registry, answer questions or participate in any research project in the future. You are free to withdraw from the Registry at any time without having to give a reason and without consequence. This will not affect your relationship with The University of Queensland.

## **PROJECT FEEDBACK**

You will receive a free annual research newsletter. The newsletter will contain information about the Registry and updates, including research findings, from researchers who have used the Communication Research Registry.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION AND CONTACT DETAILS:**

This study has been cleared by one of the human research ethics committees of The University of Queensland in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's guidelines. You are of course, free to discuss your participation in this study with project staff (Prof Linda Worrall on telephone 07 3365 2891 or email: [l.worrall@uq.edu.au](mailto:l.worrall@uq.edu.au)).

If you would like to speak to an officer not involved in the study, you may contact the Ethics Officer on 07 3365 3924.

***Thank you for your interest in the Communication Research Registry.***

School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

**Head of School**

Professor Louise Hickson BSpThy(Hons), MAud, PhD

**Division of Speech Pathology**

Head: Professor Deborah Theodoros BSpPath, PhD

**Consent Form**  
**For professionals who work with people who have**  
**a communication difficulty**

**Title of Project:** Communication Research Registry

**Chief Investigator:** Professor Linda Worrall

**Co-Investigators:** Professor Louise Hickson,  
Professor Deborah Theodoros,  
A/Professor David Copland,  
A/Professor Joseph Kei,  
Dr Carly Meyer,  
Dr Tanya Rose.  
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences  
The University of Queensland

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (please print name of person joining the registry) consent to join the Communication Research Registry.

I acknowledge that:

- I have read the information sheet provided and that I have had the research, so far as it affects me, fully explained to my satisfaction by the investigators. I freely consent to my participation in the project.

I understand that:

1. I will be asked to provide some personal details to the Communication Research Registry.
2. All data in the Communication Research Registry will be kept strictly confidential and stored securely.
3. I will be contacted by the Communication Research Registry and told about other research projects that may be of interest to me. I will be

provided with information about the study. If I wish to participate in the study I will contact the researchers directly.

4. I will be asked to complete an annual Communication Research Registry questionnaire. It will be my choice to complete the questionnaire. My responses will be stored in the Communication Research Registry.
5. Findings and publications from Communication Research Registry projects, e.g., the annual questionnaire, will not reveal my identity.
6. Participation is voluntary. I have the right to remove my name from the Registry and withdraw any data (up to the point of analysis / publication) without reason or consequence.
7. This project may not be of any direct benefit to me.

Full name of person joining the Communication Research Registry:

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Signed by person joining the Communication Research Registry:

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Date signed:

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## Personal details form

For professionals who work with people who have a communication difficulty

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Thank you for your interest in joining the Communication Research Registry.

This form is for professionals who work with people who have a communication difficulty including, for example, speech pathologists, audiologists and educators.

Please complete this form and return it along with your signed consent form to:

The Communication Research Registry  
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences  
The University of Queensland  
ST LUCIA QLD 4072

Please contact us if you have any questions:

The Communication Research Registry Coordinator

Phone: (07) 3365 2089

Email: [crregistry@uq.edu.au](mailto:crregistry@uq.edu.au)

## Contact details

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**Title:** Mr Ms Mrs Miss Dr Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**First name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gender:** Male / Female

**Postal Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Postcode:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact phone 1:** (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact phone 2:** (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_

In what year were you born? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you speak a language other than English at home? Please tick one box.

Yes. Please specify which language(s) you speak:

\_\_\_\_\_

No

What is the highest level of formal education you have completed e.g., certificate course, bachelors degree?

\_\_\_\_\_

How would you prefer to receive information from the Communication Research Registry?  
Please tick one box.

Email

Postal mail

How did you find out about the Communication Research Registry?

Please tick all boxes that apply:

- A member of the Communication Research Registry
- Through a research project:  
Name of research project (if known): \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and institution of researcher (if known): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- The Internet
- A newspaper advertisement
- Other: (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_



## Details of your professional role

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1. What is your current profession? Please tick one box.

- Speech pathologist
- Audiologist
- Teacher / Early childhood educator
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

2. In what year did you receive your qualification for this profession?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Where do you work? Please tick all that apply.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Queensland                   | <input type="checkbox"/> South Australia    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New South Wales              | <input type="checkbox"/> Tasmania           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Victoria                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Territory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Capital Territory | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Australia  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                 |   |

4. What is the postcode of your workplace? If you work in more than one workplace, please provide a postcode for each place that you work.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Which of the following best describes your current place of employment? Please tick all that apply.

- Public health
- Public education
- Private health
- Private education
- Private practice
- Tertiary education facility
- Not-for-profit organisation: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

6. Which of the following best describes the services that you provide as a professional who works with people who have a communication difficulty?

Please tick all that apply.

- |                          |                               |                          |                    |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Acute care                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Long term care     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Rehabilitation                | <input type="checkbox"/> | Domiciliary        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Community-based               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Clinical education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | School-based                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Research           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Special school / unit         |                          |                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please specify): _____ |                          |                    |

7. Which of the following describes the age groups of people that you work with? Please tick all that apply

- |                          |            |                          |             |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 0-3 years  | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13-17 years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 4-6 years  | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18-64       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7-12 years | <input type="checkbox"/> | >64 years   |

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Thank you for completing this form.

You can remove your name from the Communication Research Registry at any time.

To do this, please contact:

Address: Professor Linda Worrall  
The Communication Research Registry  
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences  
The University of Queensland, St LUCIA QLD 4072

Email: [l.worrall@uq.edu.au](mailto:l.worrall@uq.edu.au)

Phone: (07) 3365 2891