

## Parent/Guardian Information/Consent Form

*Parent/Guardian consenting on behalf of participant*

<b>Title</b>	Type1Screen: Diabetes autoantibody screening to identify individuals at risk for type 1 diabetes
<b>Project Sponsor</b>	Melbourne Health
<b>Protocol Number</b>	Version 5, May 10, 2022
<b>Coordinating Principal Investigator</b>	Professor Peter Colman; A/Prof John Wentworth
<b>Site Principal Investigators</b>	Professor Peter Colman; A/Prof John Wentworth
<b>Location</b>	Royal Melbourne Hospital
<b>Version</b>	May 10, 2022

This Participant Information and Consent Form is 10 pages long. Please make sure you have all the pages.

### 1. Your consent

Your child is invited to take part in this research project, called *Type1Screen: Diabetes autoantibody screening to identify individuals at risk for type 1 diabetes*. This is because your child has a relative with type 1 diabetes or has previously had a blood test that suggests they are at increased risk of developing type 1 diabetes.

This Information/Consent Form tells you about the research project. It explains the tests and research involved. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want your child to take part in the research.

Please read this information carefully. Ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about. Before deciding whether or not to take part, you might want to talk about it with a relative, friend or local doctor.

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you don't wish for your child to take part, your child doesn't have to. Your child will receive the best possible care whether or not you take part.

If you decide you want your child to take part in the research project, you will be asked to provide your consent. When you consent for your child to join this study you are telling us that you:

- Understand what you have read
- Consent for your child to take part in the research project
- Consent to the tests and research that are described
- Consent to the use of your child's personal and health information as described.

### 2. Purpose and background

Type 1 (or juvenile) diabetes is an important health problem that affects many people and requires life-long insulin treatment to control blood sugar levels. We know that people with a close family member (blood relative) with type 1 diabetes have a 10 to 15 times greater risk of developing type 1 diabetes than those without. Close family members can include brothers, sisters, parents, children, cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandchildren.

Type 1 diabetes is now understood as a disease that starts many years before insulin injections are first needed to control blood sugar levels. This 'pre-clinical' phase of the disease can be detected by measuring proteins in the blood called antibodies. By identifying people at increased risk of developing type 1 diabetes we can provide monitoring and support that aims to prevent

serious illness if type 1 diabetes develops. People who test positive for antibodies may also wish to participate in other research studies that aim to delay or prevent the need for insulin treatment.

This research project aims to perform antibody testing to identify children and young adults who are at increased risk of developing type 1 diabetes. It has been initiated by the project doctors Peter Colman and John Wentworth and is being performed in collaboration with a network of diabetes researchers located in Australia and New Zealand. The project is supported by Melbourne Health and funded by Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF).

### **3. What is involved?**

There are no costs associated with participating in this research project, nor will you or your child be paid. You may be reimbursed for any reasonable travel, parking, meals and other expenses associated with the research project visits.

It is desirable that your child's local doctor be advised of your decision for them to participate in this research project. If your child has a local doctor, we recommend that you inform this doctor of your child's participation in this research project.

#### Registration and getting screened

You can arrange screening by speaking to a member of the research team or through our online consent and registration platform by scanning the QR code on the right or by visiting:  
<https://biredcap.mh.org.au/surveys/?s=YXCRYEK74H488MCE>.

Your child has to provide a blood sample to be screened. They can do this either by having a finger prick test onto a blood spot card or by having a formal blood sample collected at a local blood collection centre.

If you opt for the finger prick sample, we will provide you with written instructions on how to do it and let you decide if you would like to take the sample by yourself or with the assistance of another family member, a health worker or a Type1Screen researcher. The blood spot test takes about 10 minutes and requires less than 1ml (one fifth of a teaspoon) of blood. You will need to mail your sample to the laboratory in Melbourne to be tested.



If you opt to have a formal blood test, we will provide you with a request form to take to a local blood collection centre. A blood test will take up to 60 minutes. The blood collector will place a needle into a vein in your child's arm and remove 5ml (1 teaspoon) of blood. The blood sample will then be sent to Royal Melbourne Hospital to be tested for diabetes antibodies.

We will communicate results to you within 2 months of receiving your child's sample.

#### Procedure if the antibody result is negative

If the result of the antibody test is negative, we will email you to let you know. Children who screen negative are at low risk of type 1 diabetes. However, because children can develop antibodies at any time, we recommend that those who screen negative repeat the test every year up to age 5, every 2 years from ages 5 to 10, and every 5 years thereafter. In the years following a negative test we may contact you to enquire about your current health and communicate information about other relevant research.

#### Procedure if the antibody result is positive

If the result of the antibody test is positive, the risk of type 1 diabetes is increased. In this event, we will contact you by telephone to discuss the result. You will be asked to complete a 10-minute online survey to record details of your child's medical history and their family history of type 1

diabetes and other immune diseases. We will help you arrange further blood tests (requiring up to 30ml or 1½ tablespoons of blood) at your local blood collection centre. This blood test visit may take up to 3 hours. Your child will be asked to fast from midnight (with the exception of water) and arrive at the blood collection centre between 7am and 11am the following morning. Blood samples will be collected to measure blood glucose, glycated haemoglobin (a long-term measure of blood glucose) and C-peptide (a measure of pancreas function). Your child will then be asked to drink a sugary drink (up to 200ml containing up to 75 grams of glucose). After 2 hours, another blood sample will be collected to measure glucose and C-peptide. A sample will also be collected and sent to Royal Melbourne Hospital for antibody testing. These tests will help confirm that your child tested positive to antibodies and will clarify their risk of developing type 1 diabetes. All test results will be sent to the Melbourne researchers who are coordinating the study. They will communicate these results to you by mail or email within two months of the blood samples being collected.

To meet our aim of supporting people who test positive for antibodies, researchers based in Melbourne will ask your permission to be introduced to researchers based at a local diabetes centre. If you agree for this to occur, researchers at the local diabetes centre will contact you and may arrange to meet you and your child to discuss the findings of the antibody tests and the results of the glycated haemoglobin, glucose and C-peptide tests. The local researchers will answer any questions you may have and help address any concerns that may arise. If you would not like to be introduced to your local diabetes team, researchers based in Melbourne would be happy to discuss the blood test results and resolve any questions or concerns that you may have.

Participants who test positive for antibodies will be offered annual retesting for antibodies and glycated haemoglobin as well as glucose and C-peptide before and 2 hours after the sugary drink. As before, these tests will require your child to fast from midnight and will take up to 3 hours. The researchers will contact you every year to arrange these tests. The researchers will also ask you about any illnesses that your child may have developed since their last blood test. These annual blood tests will be used to monitor their antibody levels and clarify their risk of type 1 diabetes. The results will be sent to the Melbourne coordinating team and, if applicable, the researchers based at your local diabetes centre. You will also receive results of the annual blood tests by mail or email within 2 months of these tests.

The researchers may be running other studies to determine if experimental treatments can help people who test positive for antibodies. They will communicate information about any of relevant studies as it becomes available.

#### **4 What does my child have to do?**

Your child will not need to change their lifestyle if you permit them to participate in this project. You must notify the study doctor if your child feels unwell during this study so that they can determine if the illness is related to participating.

You must notify the researchers if your child has a predisposition to bleeding or allergy to latex or medical tape. These issues might make blood testing unsafe or may influence the test results.

#### **5 Other relevant information about the research project**

This project is anticipated to run for many years and will recruit about 1,000 Australians and New Zealanders every year.

#### **6 Does my child have to take part in this research project?**

Participation in any research project is voluntary. If you do not wish for your child to take part, your child does not have to participate. If you decide for your child to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw your child from the project at any stage.

If you do decide to agree for your child to take part, you will be asked to sign the Consent Form 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 child's routine treatment, their relationship with those treating them or your relationship with Royal Melbourne Hospital.

## **7 What are the alternatives to participation?**

You can decide not to allow your child to participate in this research project. In this event, your child will continue to receive their usual medical treatment.

## **8. Possible Benefits**

We cannot guarantee or promise that your child will receive any benefits from this research. However, possible benefits may include access to support services and monitoring provided by the researchers as described above.

## **9. Possible Risks**

There are no major risks associated with giving blood. Your child could have discomfort and/or a bruise when they have a finger prick or have blood drawn from their arm. When having blood drawn, once in a while, some people may faint. Although it is rare when having blood taken from a vein, some people may get an infection, a small blood clot, swelling of the vein and surrounding tissue or bleeding where the needle enters the skin.

There is a very small risk that some of your child's information may not remain confidential. However, we have protections in place to prevent such breaches, which are detailed in Section 16.

This research is measuring antibodies that can predict getting diabetes and therefore knowing your child's results may mean you or your child have to disclose this when questions are asked about your child's health by, for example, insurance companies and/or employers. You may also need to consider whether you tell your child his/her results. This information may need to be disclosed in the future to their employer or insurance company.

Finally, finding out that your child is at increased risk of developing type 1 diabetes can cause psychological distress for you and your child. If participation in this research project causes distress, the researchers will discuss this with you and help you obtain further support through your local doctor or your local diabetes centre.

## **10. What will happen to the test samples?**

The blood samples will be used for the purposes described in Section 3 above. Blood that is sent to Melbourne for antibody testing may be stored for the duration of this project to help develop new antibody assays or other tests for type 1 diabetes. With your consent, your child's samples may be forwarded to another antibody testing laboratory to determine if your child is eligible for another diabetes research project. The researchers will need to receive evidence that you have consented for your child to join this other research project before your child's sample will be sent to that study's laboratory. Your child's de-identified stored samples may also for additional unspecified research provided that ethical approval for this research has been obtained.

If you withdraw your consent to participate in this research it will be possible to destroy your child's stored samples. To arrange this, please complete the *Withdrawal of Consent Form* (page 10).

Blood samples used to measure glycated haemoglobin, glucose and C-peptide will be sent to a local laboratory and destroyed after the results are determined. Typically, these samples are destroyed within 14 days of testing.

#### **11. What if new information arises during this research project?**

Sometimes during the course of a research project new information becomes available about the tests being studied. If this happens, the study doctor will tell you about it and discuss with you whether you want your child to continue in the research project. If you decide to withdraw your child, the study doctor will arrange for their regular health care to continue. If you decide for your child to continue in the research project you will be asked to sign an updated consent form.

Also, on receiving new information, your project doctor might consider it to be in your child's best interests to withdraw from the research project. If this happens, the doctor will explain the reasons and arrange for your child's regular health care to continue.

#### **12. Can my child have other treatments during this research project?**

Whilst your child is participating in this research project, they may not be able to take some or all of their usual medications or treatments. It is important to tell the researchers about any treatments or medications your child may be taking, including over-the-counter medications, vitamins or herbal remedies, acupuncture or other alternative treatments. You should also tell your study doctor about any changes to these during your child's participation in the research project. Your study doctor will also inform you if any treatments or medications need to be stopped for the time your child is involved in the research project.

#### **13. What if I withdraw my child from this research project?**

If you decide to withdraw your child from this research project, please notify a member of the research team before they withdraw. A member of the research team will inform you if there are any special requirements linked to withdrawing.

If you do withdraw your consent during the research project, the study doctor and relevant study staff will not collect additional personal information from you or your child, 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 by the sponsor up to the time you withdraw your child will form part of the research project results. If you do not want them to do this, you must tell them before your child joins the research project.

#### **14. Could this research project be stopped unexpectedly?**

This research project may be stopped unexpectedly for a variety of reasons. These may include lack of ongoing funding or a change in routine medical practice such that antibody testing is performed as part of routine clinical care.

#### **15. What happens if the research project ends?**

If this project ends, you will be notified by mail or email and, if relevant, given written recommendations about your child's ongoing medical needs to show to their usual doctor.

After the project ends, summaries of the overall findings can be obtained by contacting one of the researchers.

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

#### **16 What will happen to information about my child?**

By signing the consent form you consent to the study doctor and relevant research staff collecting and using personal information about your child for this research project. Any information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify your child will remain confidential.

Your child's identifying details (e.g. name, date of birth) will be stored in a password-protected file on a computer server located at Royal Melbourne Hospital. These data will be stored for up to 15 years after this project ends. Access to your child's identity will be restricted to researchers based at Royal Melbourne Hospital. These researchers may ask to share your child's identity with other health workers to arrange appropriate care. They will not provide any identifying information without your permission.

Your child will be assigned a unique study number that will be linked to all of their other information, including questionnaire responses and blood test results. All researchers on this project will have access to this 'de-identified' dataset. At the completion of this project, de-identified data may be stored indefinitely for use by researchers who have obtained ethical approval to use them.

Your child's 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.

Information about your child may be obtained from their health records held at this and other health services for the purpose of this research. By signing the consent form you agree to the research team accessing health records if they are relevant to your child's participation in this research project.

Your child's health records and any information obtained during the research project are subject to inspection for the purpose of verifying the procedures and the data. This review may be done by the relevant authorities and authorised representatives of the Sponsor, Melbourne Health, the institution relevant to this Information Form, Royal Melbourne Hospital, or as required by law. By signing the Consent Form, 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 or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that your child cannot be identified.

Information about your child's participation in this research project may be recorded in their health records.

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

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

#### *Australasian Diabetes Data Network*

ADDN is a type 1 diabetes registry that captures health information about Australians and New Zealanders who have diabetes as they visit their diabetes clinic. ADDN aims to improve understanding of diabetes treatment and how diabetes affects the health of Australians and New Zealanders.

Hospitals participating in this research project also participate in ADDN. ADDN researchers at your hospital may ask you to consent for your child to participate in ADDN using a separate consent

form. Their identifying information as described in Section 16 above, will be used to link data from this project to ADDN. ADDN staff will have access to your child's identifying information for the sole purpose of performing data linkage. Once linkage is established, a unique number will be assigned to your child's records held by ADDN. Researchers who gain ethical approval to use your child's information will only have access to 'de-identified' data and will not be able to identify your child or their data. Further information about ADDN can be found at [www.addn.org.au](http://www.addn.org.au).

### BioGrid Australia

In addition to being used in this research project your child's research information will also be used in the BioGrid project. BioGrid links participant information from multiple sources, allowing researchers to better understand how individuals' characteristics affect the way in which they respond to a disease and to its various potential treatments.

Your child's research information will be included in a computer system, controlled by Royal Melbourne Hospital, comprising data from various studies conducted at this site. Your child's basic personal information will be communicated to a separate computer system, run by Royal Melbourne Hospital as part of the BioGrid project and which will assign a unique subject code by which your child's research information will be linked, coded and stored. Your child's coded research information will be made available for possible use in future research to specialist researchers, from Royal Melbourne Hospital and other hospitals or research organisations participating in BioGrid. At this time we cannot say exactly what this future research will comprise, but all studies will require prior approval by a Human Research Ethics Committee. Data will be stored for an indefinite period of time and access will be restricted to authorised researchers, with all requests logged and audited.

Researchers using BioGrid data will only see coded information which does not identify your child. Only the institution at which this study was conducted will have the key from which your child can be identified. All users of BioGrid will be bound by an obligation of confidentiality, and information will only be used for the purpose of BioGrid.

If you require further information regarding BioGrid and the storage, use and disclosure of your child's personal and health information as part of that Project, please advise the Principal Researcher, who will provide you with further information. Also, the BioGrid web site ([www.biogrid.org.au](http://www.biogrid.org.au)) has Frequently Asked Questions under Patient Information.

## **17 Complaints and compensation**

If your child suffers any injuries or complications as a result of this research project, you should contact the study team as soon as possible and you will be assisted with arranging appropriate medical treatment. If your child is eligible for Medicare, they can receive medical treatment to treat the injury or complication, free of charge, as a public patient in any Australian public hospital.

## **18 Who is organising and funding the research?**

This research project is being conducted by researchers in Australia and New Zealand who are interested in finding ways to prevent type 1 diabetes.

You will not benefit financially from your child's involvement in this research project even if, for example, their samples (or knowledge acquired from their analysis) prove to be of commercial value. In addition, if knowledge acquired through this research leads to discoveries that are of commercial value to the study doctors or their institutions, there will be no financial benefit to you or your child from these discoveries.

The research centre that your child attends will receive a payment for undertaking this research project from JDRF. No member of the research team will receive a personal financial benefit from your child's involvement in this research project other than their ordinary wages.

### **19 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 Melbourne Health HREC.

This project will be carried out according to the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007)*. This statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies.

### **20 Further information and who to contact**

If you require further information, the person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query.

#### General contact

If you want any further information concerning this project or if your child has any medical problems which may be related to their involvement in the project, please speak to the research nurse.

Position: Project Manager

Telephone: 03 9342 7063

Email: [type1screen@mh.org.au](mailto:type1screen@mh.org.au)

#### Clinical contact

If you want any further information about any medical problems which may be related to your child's involvement in the project you can contact:

Name: A/Prof John Wentworth

Position: Consultant Endocrinologist

Telephone: 03 9342 7000

Email: [type1screen@mh.org.au](mailto:type1screen@mh.org.au)

For medical enquiries outside business hours, please call 03 9342 7000 and ask to speak with the endocrinologist on call.

#### Complaints / Human Ethics contact

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 the manager of the ethics committee responsible for approving this study:

Position: Manager, Melbourne Health Human Research Ethics

Telephone: 03 9342 8530

Email: [research@mh.org.au](mailto:research@mh.org.au)

**PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT FORM**

**Version:** May 10, 2022

**Site:** Royal Melbourne Hospital

**Full Project Title:** Type1Screen: Diabetes autoantibody screening to identify individuals at risk for type 1 diabetes

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I have read, or have had read to me in my first language, and I understand the Information Statement dated May 10, 2022.

I freely agree for my child to participate in this project according to the conditions in the Information Statement.

I will be given a copy of the Information Statement and Consent Form to keep.

The researcher has agreed not to reveal my child's identity and personal details if information about this project is published or presented in any public form.

I agree to the collection and use of the tissue samples collected for the project as outlined in Information Statement.

I consent for my child..... (print name) to participate in this project.

Consenting parent/guardian's name (printed) .....

Signature ..... Date .....

Participant signature (if aged over 7 years) ..... Date .....

Name of Witness (printed).....

Signature ..... Date .....

Researcher's Name (printed) .....

Signature ..... Date .....

*Note: All parties signing the Consent Form must date their own signature.*

**WITHDRAWAL OF CONSENT FORM FOR PARENT/GUARDIAN**

**Full Project Title:           Type1Screen: Diabetes autoantibody screening to identify individuals at risk for type 1 diabetes**

I hereby wish to WITHDRAW my consent for my child.....to participate in the research proposal described above and understand that such withdrawal WILL NOT jeopardise my child's treatment by, or relationship with Royal Melbourne Hospital.

With respect to any stored samples collected from me (initial relevant box):

Destroy my child's stored samples

OR

Do not destroy my child's stored samples – I am happy for these to be used as described in the participant information form.

Parent/Guardian Name (printed) .....

Signature ..... Date .....