

## **Healthy Adults for Emotional Inhibition in Parkinson's Disease Study**

We invite healthy adults to participate in our research and help us understand more about how emotions are controlled in Parkinson's disease (PD). This PD study seeks healthy adults to act as a comparison group for people with PD. If you are a right handed healthy adult over 50 years, who is free of PD, and have no history of any other brain conditions (e.g. Alzheimer's, dementia, stroke, etc.), brain injuries, brain surgery, depression, anxiety or related conditions, you are invited to participate in this PD research project.

### **Background and Aims of the Project**

PD is a chronic and disabling brain disease affecting 80,000 Australians. People with PD experience problems with their movement such as uncontrollable tremor, stiffness, slowness and loss of balance. Other problems like emotional disturbances such as anxiety and depression are common in PD patients. It is estimated that up to 90% of patients experience anxiety and depression and these problems significantly reduce their quality of life. Emotional disturbances in PD are poorly identified and therefore are untreated. The purpose of this study is to understand how PD alters one's ability to identify relevant stimuli and inhibit irrelevant stimuli. In order to do this, we have developed a computer task that you will perform while we simultaneously record your brain waves using a non-invasive technique called electroencephalography or EEG.

### **What is required of you?**

#### **Completing a questionnaire in your own time**

We would like you to complete a questionnaire. We will mail/email this questionnaire to you. This questionnaire will take approximately 30 minutes of your time to complete.

#### **Completing a brief assessment**

Secondly, we will ask you to participate in a brief assessment that will take approximately 30 minutes. We will conduct this assessment at the University of Queensland Centre for Clinical Research located at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. During this assessment we will ask you questions about your cognition (eg: attention, memory), and mood. We would like to video record the interview for learning purposes and future reference, if you consent to do so.

#### **Recording brain waves while doing a language task**

On the same day of the assessment we would like you to also participate in an EEG in which you will perform a language task where we will record your brain waves. A netted cap which holds electrodes will be placed on your head to record brain waves. These electrodes only record electrical activity over the scalp and you will not feel any discomfort like electrical impulses. The language task involves looking at words on a computer screen and making decisions about them. It will approximately take 2 hours in total to complete this part of the project. We will reimburse you with \$30 to cover some of your travel or parking costs involved with assisting us with this research project.

### **Are there any risks?**

There are no major risks involved with completing this study. If you feel tired when completing the brief assessment or the language task, you may request to stop and conduct it another day. If you feel uncomfortable at any point you may choose to withdraw from the study. This will not affect your future care or relations with the staff at the University of Queensland or hospital you are attending.

### **Additional information can be obtained by contacting:**

Ms Tiffany Au

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