Transportation safety of Australian children with disabilities Survey

Previous research in other countries has found that parents struggle to transport their child with a disability for a variety of reasons, and are often worried about their child being inside the vehicle. No such study has been conducted in Australia and therefore it is unknown how Australian parents are transporting their children with disabilities and how they perceive the risks included with that. This project, conducted by Miss Angela Downie, Professor Torbjorn Falkmer, Dr Sharmila Vaz and Miss Belinda Cuomo, aims to understand the travel habits of Australian children and the associated concerns their parents' experience. The information gathered may contribute to changes in policy, content included in health science degrees and the development of a parent friendly handbook to aid in the safe transportation of children with disabilities.

Who can participate in the survey?

If you are a parent or a primary care giver of a 0-17 year old child / young person with a diagnosed disability, and live in Australia, you are eligible to participate in the survey.

What will you be asked to do?

You will be asked to complete a survey on the travel habits of your child, the use of child safety restraints and the safety risks and concerns you have associated with these travels. The survey can be completed online, by telephone or paper and pencil. The survey will take approximately 20-30 minutes to complete and only needs to be completed once. You will be given the choice to provide us with your personal details so that we can contact you in the future. You can also participate in the survey and choose NOT to provide us with your personal details.

Are there any benefits to being in the research project?

Your participation in this project will provide us with important information to understand how Australian children with disabilities are travelling. The results of this research will allow us to:

- Gain a greater understanding of how Australian children with disabilities are being transported
- Develop an informational handbook on how to safely transport children with disabilities.
- Develop educational programs for health professionals who work with families of children with disabilities
- Promote greater safety of all children with disabilities when being transported in a vehicle

Will you tell me the results of the research?

The results will be made available in publications, on websites and in newsletters should you wish to look these up. You or your child will NOT be identifiable in the results that are published. Feel free at any point to contact the researchers who will direct you to where to find the results of this research.

How do I access the survey?

Please click the following link to access the survey: https://curtin.asia.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_e51X4NdVX98Fgs5

Thank you for considering participating in the first study towards safety for our children. Together, with your help, we can improve the road safety of all Australian children with disabilities. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the primary investigators directly on the details listed below.

This study has ethics approval from the Curtin Human Research Ethics Committee, approval number RDHS-261-15

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