

Appendix A: Participant Information Sheet

Title: Co-production of an ASD friendly website: Development of Processes and Usability Testing

Lay Title: What makes a website autism friendly?

Who is doing this study?

Researchers at Autism CRC – Sylvia Rodger, Tess Cosgrove, Marita Falkmer, Torbjorn Falkmer, Helen Darch, Joel Wilson, Kitty Rose Foley, Julian Trollor, Amanda Richdale, Mirko Ujracic, Kate van Dooren, Nick Lennox.

What is the study about?

We need your help to determine the features of websites that make them easy to access, navigate and read for individuals on the autism spectrum so that we can build our ASD Hub Connect website to be as autism friendly as possible. This will involve:



Tick which one you are interested in or both if you would like to be involved with both

Participating in a **90 minute focus group** with other adults on the spectrum and some of our researchers. You will be asked to identify an example of a 'good' website (one that is autism friendly) and a 'bad' website and bring these examples to the group. The focus group questions will focus on understanding your perspectives of the features of these websites.

Completing a **20 minute online anonymous questionnaire** once a year as we further develop the website. This survey will ask questions about how you find the website in terms of its ease of access, format, graphics, navigation etc.

What else do I need to know?

Participation and withdrawal

Participation is completely voluntary and you are free to stop participating at any time without judgement or penalty. If you wish to withdraw, simply let one of the project team members know. There are no benefits for participation in the group other than assisting us to develop better tools for adults on the spectrum.

Risks

Participation involves minimal risk. You do not have to answer any question, if you don't want to. Although you cannot be anonymous in the focus group, your contact details will not be shared with the other participants unless you choose to do so yourself.



Confidentiality and security of information

All information (also referred to as data) collected in this study will be stored confidentially. All data will be de-identified, that is, your name will not be attached to it. If direct quotes are used in reports, they will be reported in such a way that responses will not be able to be linked to any individual. The data you provide will only be used for the specific purpose of improving our website.

Ethics clearance and contacts

This study adheres to the Guidelines of the ethical review process of The University of Queensland and the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research. Whilst you are free to discuss your participation in this study with project staff (Sylvia Rodger contactable on (07) 3377 0606 or srodger@autismcrc.com.au), if you would like to speak to an officer of the University not involved in the study, you may contact the Ethics Coordinator on (07) 3365 3924.

Access to results, questions and the project staff

The project team consists of Sylvia Rodger, Tess Cosgrove, Marita Falkmer, Torbjorn Falkmer, Helen Darch, Joel Wilson, Kitty Rose Foley, Julian Trollor, Amanda Richdale, Mirko Ujrvic, Kate van Dooren, Nick Lennox.

If you would like to know the results of the evaluation, or have any questions, please contact Sylvia Rodger on (07) 3377 0606 or srodger@autismcrc.com.au.



Title: Co-production of an ASD friendly website: Development of Processes and Usability Testing - STAGE 2

Lay Title: What makes a website autism friendly - Stage 2?

Who is doing this study?

Researchers at Autism CRC – Sylvia Rodger, Tess Cosgrove, Marita Falkmer, Torbjorn Falkmer, Helen Darch, Joel Wilson, Kitty Rose Foley, Julian Trollor, Amanda Richdale, Mirko Ujrvic, Kate van Dooren, Nick Lennox.

What is stage 2 of this study about?

We need your help to determine the features of websites that make them easy to access, navigate and read for individuals on the autism spectrum so that we can build our ASD Hub Connect website to be as autism friendly as possible. This will involve:

Participating in an eye tracking session where you navigate on the ASD Hub Connect website while wearing eye-tracking glasses.

What will be involved?

You will be asked to wear a special pair of eye-tracker glasses that will record where you are looking and what you are looking at on the screen. These glasses can be worn over your normal glasses and won't make it any harder for you to see normally. The recording will not comprise any pictures that can identify you.

What else do I need to know?

Participation and withdrawal

Participation in the focus group is completely voluntary and you are free to stop participating at any time without judgement or penalty. If you wish to withdraw, simply let one of the project team know. There are no benefits for participation in the group other than assisting us develop better tools for adults on the spectrum.

Risks

Participation in the eye-tracking session involves minimal risk. Eye tracking is a well-used research method, without any known side effects, and wearing the eye tracker equipment will not impede your vision. If, however, you do not wish to answer any question, you do not have to answer it.



Confidentiality and security of information

All information (also referred to as data) collected in this study will be stored confidentially. All data will be de-identified, that is, your name will not be attached to it. If direct quotes are used in reports, they will be reported in such a way that responses will not be able to be linked to any individual. The data you provide will only be used for the specific purpose of improving our website.

Ethics clearance and contacts

This study adheres to the Guidelines of the ethical review process of The University of Queensland and the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research. Whilst you are free to discuss your participation in this study with project staff (Sylvia Rodger contactable on (07) 3377 0606 or srodger@autismcrc.com.au), if you would like to speak to an officer of the University not involved in the study, you may contact the Ethics Coordinator on (07) 3365 3924.

Access to results, questions and the project staff

The project team consists of Sylvia Rodger, Tess Cosgrove, Marita Falkmer, Torbjorn Falkmer, Helen Darch, Joel Wilson, Kitty Rose Foley, Julian Trollor, Amanda Richdale, Mirko Ujrvic, Kate van Dooren, Nick Lennox.

If you would like to know the results of the evaluation, or have any questions, please contact Sylvia Rodger on (07) 3377 0606 or srodger@autismcrc.com.au.

