

## **PATIENT AND CAREGIVER INFORMATION SHEET**

**Project title:** Attitudes of patients, caregivers and health care professionals towards deprescribing in older adults with life-limiting illness and limited life expectancy.

*You are invited to take part in this survey to help us understand your attitude and beliefs towards deprescribing in older patients with life-limiting illness and limited life expectancy.*

### **What is deprescribing?**

Deprescribing is a process that involves withdrawal (or dose reduction) of an inappropriate medication, supervised by a healthcare professional.

### **What is this the purpose of this survey?**

People aged 65 years and above are considered older adults. This population in Australia is rising and so is life-limiting illnesses such as cancer and dementia, and consequently the use of medication. However, evidence suggests that they continue to receive medications that are considered inappropriate. Therefore, a potential approach to minimise the risks associated with medications and consequently improve their quality of life is 'deprescribing'. But implementation in clinical practice is challenging. Hence, understanding the attitudes and beliefs of patients and patient parties could assist in developing effective deprescribing strategies. Therefore, this survey aims to understand your attitude and beliefs towards deprescribing in older patients with life-limiting illness and limited life expectancy.

### **Who can take part in this survey?**

<i>Participants</i>	<i>Inclusion criteria</i>
Patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aged 65 years and above</li><li>• Taking one or more prescription medication</li><li>• Under palliative care</li><li>• Able to consent</li></ul>
Caregivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Currently an informal caregiver for an older adult (defined as having any role in a family member or friend's management of health and /or medications)</li><li>• Care recipient must be 18 years and above</li><li>• Regardless of place of care</li></ul>

### **Is my participation voluntary?**

Yes, your participation in the survey is entirely voluntary. You can even withdraw anytime you wish during the survey without any consequence.

### **Do I have to provide any personal information?**

No, not at all. This survey does not require you to put any information that would identify yourself such as name, date of birth or any other identifiers.

### **What information do I provide?**

This survey includes questions and you will have to select one of the five responses to the questions. Each time you select a response to a question the next question will automatically appear on your screen and you will be notified to submit your responses at the end.

### **What will happen to the data?**

The data from the survey will be dealt with confidentially. This data will be automatically stored on the server of The University of Queensland after completion of the online survey, accessible only by members of the research team. If you are providing response through a paper questionnaire, it will be transcribed into electronic format and saved in the same location. We will store any completed paper questionnaires in a locked cabinet at the university for 7 years. Electronic data files will be stored indefinitely and available upon request to other researchers. Data will be solely used for research purposes.

### **How can I participate in the survey?**

You can use the link <https://survey.app.uq.edu.au/ATD.survey> in your mobile, PC or tablet to participate in this survey.

### **How long does the survey take to complete?**

The survey should take approximately 15-20 minutes for completion.

### **What else do I need to know?**

By completing this survey online or in paper, you are telling us that you:

- Agree to participate in this survey
- That you have read and understood what you have read
- That you consent to take part in this survey

*“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 the principal investigator (email: [shakti.shrestha@uq.edu.au](mailto:shakti.shrestha@uq.edu.au) or on +61402981389), 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 / 07 3443 1656 or email [humanethics@research.uq.edu.au](mailto:humanethics@research.uq.edu.au).”*

**Thank you for participating in this project.**

### **Team members**

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