# Participant Information Sheet and Consent Form

*Adult providing own consent*

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| **Title** | External acceptability, appropriateness, and feasibility of implementing the Transdisciplinary Initial Neurological Screening Assessment (TINSA): A Focus Group |
| **Short Title** | Acceptability, appropriateness, and feasibility of the TINSA |
| **Protocol Number** | 87960 |
| **Coordinating Principal Investigator** | Aleysha Martin |
| **Associate Investigator(s)** | Liisa Laakso, Alexandra McCarthy, Theresa Green, Marcin Sowa |
| **Location** | Online |

**1 Introduction**

You are invited to take part in this research project because you are a healthcare professional. The aim of the research project is to understand the acceptability, appropriateness, feasibility of transdisciplinary approaches, e.g., like the Transdisciplinary Initial Neurological Screening Assessment (TINSA) being used on the Mater Hospital Brisbane (MHB) Acute Stroke Unit (ASU).

This document tells you about the research project. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in a Focus Group regarding the research. Please read this information carefully and ask questions about anything that you don’t understand, or you want to know more about.

You can keep and save a copy of this Participant Information and Consent Form. If you decide you want to take part in the Focus Group, you will be asked to provide written and/or verbal consent before participating. By providing consent you are telling us that you:

* Understand what you have read
* Consent to take part in the Focus Group
* Consent to the use of your personal information and responses as described.

**2 What is the purpose of this research?**

The aim of the research is to evaluate the acceptability, appropriateness, and feasibility of the TINSA in settings external to the MHB ASU. The TINSA has replaced discipline-specific stroke assessments (occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech pathology, and social work) at the MHB ASU. Instead, either the occupational therapist or physiotherapist administer the TINSA. This approach allows for improved use of staff time and associated cost savings, while maintaining a high quality of care and staff/patient satisfaction. We are interested to explore how the TINSA (or a similar transdisciplinary approach) could be used in other healthcare settings, and what guidance or changes would be needed. We hope the results of the study will help to develop “translation recommendations” or an “implementation manual” which will help us share the TINSA (or similar transdisciplinary approach) with other healthcare professionals to implement (or modify for use) in their settings.

**3 What does participation in this research involve?**

If you agree to participate, you will be asked to provide written consent prior and/or verbal consent at the start of your Focus Group/interview. Any information collected for the research will be recorded using a unique research identifier number. As a participant you will have one responsibility: partake in an online Focus Group or individual interview (up to 60 minutes). If you agree to take part, prior to the Focus Group, we will send you a copy of the questions, so that you may be better prepared.

As part of the Focus Group/interview, you will see a confidential copy of the TINSA. The TINSA is confidential intellectual property of the Mater, and you are not granted permission to download, photograph, record, save or share the TINSA in anyway. You have permission to view the TINSA while participating in the online Focus Group/interview.

**4 Do I have to take part in this research project? What if I decide to withdraw?**

Participation in any research project is voluntary. If you decide to take part, you can download a copy of this Participant Information and Consent Form and provide written/verbal consent prior to participating in the Focus Group/interview. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any stage. If you decide to withdraw later, please notify a member of the research team. We will discuss any special requirements linked to withdrawing and may ask you to sign a Withdrawal of Consent Form. We will not collect additional information from you although information already collected will be retained (with your permission) to ensure that the results of the research project can be measured properly and to comply with law.

**5 What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

We cannot guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this research however, possible benefits might include knowledge of transdisciplinary approaches and access to the study results, which could assist you to implement the TINSA or a similar transdisciplinary approach in your setting. Apart from an hour of your time, there are no costs associated with participating in this research project, nor will you be paid.

**6 What are the possible risks and disadvantages of taking part?**

No risks or burdens are anticipated, beyond the commitment of time to complete the Focus Group/interview (up to 60 minutes) and time to review the transcription for the Focus Group/interview (about 10 minutes). When we transcribe the Focus Group/interview, we will remove all references to your name and use a unique research identifier number instead.

**7 What happens when the research project ends?**

You will be provided with the contact details of the Principal Investigator (listed on this document). When your involvement in the research project ends, you will be able to initiate follow-up or request results using these details. Results will be available on the completion of the study (approximately late 2023). You also have the opportunity to provide us with your email address at the end of the focus group, so we can send you the study results.

**8 What will happen to information about me?**

By signing the consent form, you consent to the research staff collecting and using personal information about you for the research project. Any information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you will remain confidential. Only the Principal Investigator will be able to access your information. The information will be stored for the duration of the project (estimated until late 2023) and data will be kept as per the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007, updated 2018). The information that you provide to us will be recorded using a research identifier number in a password-protected file at the Mater Hospital Brisbane. Your information will only be used for the purpose of this research project. Your identity will be anonymous during the study, your name/email address will not be matched to your answers, and we will delete any private information you have provided us (i.e., your email address) when the study ends.

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 and data sets will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified.

**9 Who is organising and funding the research?**

This research project is being conducted by Aleysha Martin. There are no conflicts of interest, although the research is expected to form part of the PhD studies of the principal investigator (Aleysha Martin). No member of the research team will receive a personal financial benefit from your involvement in this research project (other than ordinary wages). You will not benefit financially from your involvement in this research project even if, for example, your personal information (the knowledge acquired from analysis of your personal information) proves to be of commercial value to Mater Health Services.

**10 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 Mater Misericordiae Limited Human Research Ethics Committee, which is the institution responsible for supervising the standard of care where the research will be carried out. This project will be carried out according to the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007, updated 2018).* This statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies.

This study has been reviewed and approved by the Mater Misericordiae Ltd Human Research Ethics Committee (EC00332).  Should you wish to discuss the study in relation to your rights as a participant, or should you wish to make an independent complaint, you can contact the HREC Liaison Officer or HREC Chairperson, Human Research Ethics Committee, Mater Misericordiae Ltd, Raymond Terrace South Brisbane 4101, or telephone (07) 3163 1585, or email research.ethics@mater.uq.edu.au

**11** **Further information and who to contact**

If you wish to speak to someone at Mater, please contact the Research Governance Officer on 07 3163 3769 or research.governance@mater.uq.edu.au

If you want any further information concerning this project or your involvement, you can contact the Principal Investigator (Aleysha Martin) on 07 3163 6000 or aleysha.martin@mater.org.au

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| **Consent Form**

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| **Associate Investigator(s)** | Liisa Laakso, Alexandra McCarthy, Theresa Green, Marcin Sowa |
| **Location** | Online |

Note: All parties signing the consent section must date their own signature.**Declaration by Participant**I have read the Participant Information Sheet. I understand the purposes, procedures and risks of the research described in the project.I give permission for my information provided through the Focus Group to be kept at Mater Hospital Brisbaneand used for the purposes of this project. "I understand that my personal information will remain confidentialI have had an opportunity to ask questions and I am satisfied with the answers I have received.I freely agree to participate in this research project as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the study without affecting my future relationship with Mater Group staff or entities. I understand that I will be given a signed copy of this document to keep.

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| Name of Participant (please print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**Declaration by Principal Researcher**I have given a verbal explanation of the research project, its procedures and risks and I believe that the participant has understood that explanation.

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| Name of Researcher (please print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

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| **Withdrawal of Participation Form**

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Note: All parties signing the consent section must date their own signature.**Declaration by Participant**I wish to withdraw from participation in the above research project and understand that such withdrawal will not affect my relationship with those involved in the research project or Mater Group entities.

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| Name of Participant (please print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

In the event that the participant’s decision to withdraw is communicated verbally, the Researcher must provide a description of the circumstances:

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**Declaration by Researcher**I have given a verbal explanation of the implications of withdrawal from the research project and I believe that the participant has understood that explanation.

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| Name of Researcher (please print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

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