Welcome to the UQ Medical Program

The UQ Faculty of Medicine (FOM) aspires to excellence in medical education. Working in partnership with a dedicated community of clinicians and researchers, we constantly strive to evaluate and improve the quality of education delivered throughout every component of your MD degree.

The Office of Medical Education invites you to participate in the Training Tomorrow’s Doctors (TTD): Longitudinal Medical Education Study, which aims to investigate the factors that facilitate the academic success and personal wellbeing in medical students. The TTD study was established for the broad purpose of undertaking evidence-based medical education evaluation and research that will be used to review the quality of and lead to improvements in the medical program delivered at UQ. The TTD also aims to contribute to the broader literature concerned with enhancing the life-long mental and physical well-being of medical students.

What your participation will involve: Over the next four years of your MD degree you will be invited to participate by completing surveys, or volunteering for an interview or focus group to provide your opinion on topics related to your perceptions of the MD program, and your educational environment.

Time Commitment: Collecting these data over time is vital to the longitudinal nature of the study. Therefore you may be invited to participate in surveys or provide your opinions in each year of your MD. All data collection will occur at a time which is most convenient and least disruptive to your program. No survey will take more than 20 minutes to complete, and focus groups or interviews will last no more than one hour.

Confidentiality and Data Security: The data you provide each year will be linked with your previous data to provide information on student trends and help us understand relationships between measures of well-being, academic performance, and progression throughout your medical degree.

You will be asked to provide your student ID number which will be re-coded by an independent researcher, who is not part of the Medical Program, into an individual ‘project code’. This project code will be used for all analyses and acts as an anonymous identifier throughout the study. This process will ensure that your identity and any data associated with you is kept completely confidential at all times. Only the study investigators will have access to this coded data.

It will be necessary on occasion to make use of student academic results. From time to time researchers may need to use student academic data, such as GPA, or analytical data such as usage of resources, e.g. Blackboard, for research purposes to help answer questions regarding the best ways to improve the curriculum or inform changes to courses.
Additionally survey data may be linked with academic / analytical data to answer questions about relationships between personal well-being characteristics and academic performance.

All reporting of any data associated with this study will be in a strictly aggregate de-identified format so there is no possibility that any individual can be identified. Only trend data will be reported for publication purposes.

**Participation and Withdrawal:** Your participation is voluntary. You will be presented with specific invitations and separate Participant Information and Consent Forms for each study activity. This means you have the opportunity to participate or not in each individual study activity.

You can refuse to participate without any prejudice or penalty. Furthermore you may withdraw you participation at any time and this will not affect your relationship with the researchers. You may withdraw even after consenting to participate by contacting the Principal Investigator of your decision. A/Prof Diann Eley d.eley@uq.edu.au; 0439516342. If you decide to withdraw and wish to have any of your previous data removed, an independent researcher, who is not part of the Medical Program, will re-identify your project code and remove your data.

**Benefit:** While there will be no direct benefits to your participation, you may derive indirect benefit from the satisfaction in knowing that you are taking an active part in your educational experience through providing your opinions and perceptions of your educational environment. Your views and responses will be acted upon and are vital to making the right decisions and/or changes in the medical program. In this way you will be directly involved in the enhancement / improvement of the educational experience for future medical students.

**More Information:** This research project has been approved through The University of Queensland Human Research Ethics Committee (Clearance #2017001468). Please do not hesitate to contact A/Prof Diann Eley, d.eley@uq.edu.au; 0439516342, if you would like more information. If you would like to speak to a person about this study who is not associated with the Faculty of Medicine, you may contact the UQ Ethics Coordinator on 3343 2102.

If you agree to be invited to participate in surveys or focus groups on occasion throughout your MD degree, and to have your data contribute to any aggregate or trend information for possible publication purposes, please sign the attached consent form.

This Information Sheet is for you to keep.
Training Tomorrow’s Doctors: Longitudinal Medical Education Study
Consent Form

Investigators:
A/Professor Diann Eley Faculty of Medicine, The University of Queensland (UQ)
Dr Janni Leung School of Public Health, The University of Queensland

This study has been approved through The University of Queensland, Human Research Ethics Committee. The investigators conducting this research project abide by the principles governing the ethical conduct of research and vow to protect the interests of all participants. This form and the accompanying Participant Information Sheet have been given to you for your own protection, and contain an outline of the proposed study.

Your signature below will indicate that you agree to participate in the study, and that;

1) You have received the Participant Information Sheet and that you have read and understand its contents;

2) You understand the procedures and you have been given the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the contents of the Participant Information Sheet with the Principal Investigator or the Ethics Coordinator at any time;

3) You understand that participation is entirely voluntary, you have the right to refuse involvement, and that you may withdraw without penalty of any kind after signing the consent agreement by advising A/Prof Diann Eley, the Principal Investigator, of your decision.

4) You understand that all data relating to you will be treated as confidential, and all data will be de-identified and analysed only in aggregate format so there is no possibility of an individual being identified.

5) You understand that the data from this study may be published or presented for research purposes and that only trend data will be reported.

6) You are free to discuss your participation in this study at any time by contacting the Principal Investigator, and if you wish to speak to someone not associated with the Faculty of Medicine, you may contact the UQ Ethics Coordinator.

I have read and understand the above information. Yes or No

Student Name (printed please):

UQ ID Number:

Date: