

INFORMATION STATEMENT

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**Information Statement for the Research Project:
“Reliability in age estimation in forensic odontology”
Document Version 2; dated 28/07/18**

The Research Team

Dr Russell Lain. OAM, BDS, Grad Dip For Odont, FFOMP(RCPA)
Dr Mark Page. BScDent(Hons), GradDipClinDent, GCEd, MHAP, PhD
Dr Sher-lin Chiam. BDS, ADC cert, GDipForOdont, FRACDS
Professor Jane Taylor. OAM, BDS, BScDent(Hons), MScDent, Grad Cert PTT PhD, FICD

You are invited to participate in the research project identified above which is being conducted by the research team identified above.

Why is the research being done?

This study will examine reliability and reproducibility in assigning Demirjian stages to developing teeth. The information collected will contribute to validation studies in age estimation in forensic odontology.

Who can participate in the research?

We are looking for dentists with or without formal qualifications in forensic odontology who are currently practicing forensic odontology

What will you be asked to do?

If you agree to participate, you will be asked to participate in 1 web-based exercise.

The exercise will contain a number of de-identified dental panoramic radiographs which represent the range of genders and ages.

You will be asked to review and provide a Demirjian stage to each of the teeth in the lower left quadrant.

This study will be conducted on-line and access is via a link to the website. You will be given an index number to de-identify you. This index number will also allow you to log back in and continue with the study where you have left off. This means that you can do this study over a few sessions if it is more convenient for you.

At the end of the tasks, there will be a short questionnaire about professional and practice experience and educational history.

What choice do you have?

Participation in this research is entirely your choice. Those who give their informed consent will be included in the project. Whether or not you decide to participate, your decision will not disadvantage you in any way.

If you do decide to participate, you may withdraw from the project at any time without giving a reason and have the option of withdrawing any data related to previous engagement with the project.

How much time will it take?

The exercise should take about 45-60 minutes to finish, however, you can complete the task over multiple sittings if this is more convenient. There is no time limit for the completion of each task.

What are the risks and benefits of participating?

There are no risks anticipated from participation. The only graphic content in the case information are the dental radiographs.

There will be no direct benefit to you participating, although participation may contribute to continuing professional development.

How will your privacy be protected?

Individual index numbers will be provided to each participant to allow repeated access to the web based tasks. Coding of participant data and results will be via this index number only. Individual participants will not be identified in any publication resulting from this research.

The collected data will be stored securely (on a password protected computer / in a locked filing cabinet) in the Chief Investigator's office, at the Ourimbah Campus of the University of Newcastle. Data will be retained for a minimum of 5 years as per University of Newcastle requirements.

The survey for this research will be conducted using Qualtrics software, Version [2018] of Qualtrics. Copyright © [2018] (Qualtrics, Provo, UT, USA).

Qualtrics is certified under the ISO/IEC 27001:2013 information security management system standard. Qualtrics uses Transport Layer Security (TLS) encryption (also known as HTTPS) for all transmitted data. Data at rest is also encrypted.

Surveys may be protected with passwords and HTTP referrer checking. Services are hosted by trusted data centres that are independently audited using the industry standard SSAE-16 method. The Qualtrics servers are protected by Web Application Firewalls and Qualtrics employs an Intrusion Detection System (IDS) to monitor system access for unauthorized uses. For more information please see: <https://www.qualtrics.com/security-statement/>

How will the information collected be used?

Results of this study will be presented at the national and international conferences, published in scientific journals. Individual participants will not be named or identified in any reports arising from the project although individual anonymous responses may be quoted.

Non-identifiable data may be also be shared with other parties to encourage scientific scrutiny, and to contribute to further research and public knowledge, or as required by law.

You can access a summary of the results of the research by contacting Professor Jane Taylor Jane.Taylor@newcastle.edu.au.

What do you need to do to participate?

Please read this Information Statement and be sure you understand it before you consent to participate. If there is anything you do not understand, or have questions, please contact the researcher.

If you would like to participate, please access the website by following this link to consent page

https://survey.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0GsqqCk4nph2Fzn

Further information

If you would like further information on this research project please contact **Dr Russell Lain**
Russell.Lain@sydney.edu.au

Thank you for considering this invitation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "janetaylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Professor Jane Taylor OAM
Chief Investigator

Complaints about this research

This project has been conditionally approved by the University's Human Research Ethics Committee,
Approval Number is **H-2018-0140**.

Should you have concerns about your rights as a participant in this research, or you have a complaint about the manner in which the research is conducted, it may be given to the researcher, or, if an independent person is preferred, to the Human Research Ethics Officer, Research Services, NIER Precinct, The University of Newcastle, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308, Australia, telephone (02) 4921 6333, email Human-Ethics@newcastle.edu.au.