

Project Number:	4869		
Full Name of Project:	Diagnosis and management of paediatric odontogenic facial cellulitis: A global survey of dental practitioners		
Principal Investigator:	A/Prof Mihiri Silva		
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Thank you for taking the time to read this **Participant Information and Consent Form**. We are inviting you to take part in a project about the diagnosis and management of odontogenic facial cellulitis in children.

This form is [4] pages long. Please make sure you have read all the pages.

What is an Information and Consent Form?

An Information and Consent Form tells you what the project involves. It helps you decide whether or not you want to take part in the project. Please read it carefully. Before you make a decision, you can ask us questions.

Taking part in the project is up to you.

You get to choose whether you take part in the project. If you decide you do not want to take part, this is ok. It will not affect your relationship with the affiliated institutions.

Agreeing to participate

If you want to take part in the project, please select "I consent to participate by completing this survey" at the beginning of the survey. This assumes you:

- understand what you have read.
- had a chance to ask questions and received satisfactory answers.
- consent to taking part in the project.

You are able to download this Information and Consent Form to keep.

1. What is the project about?

We are inviting you to take part in a project called “Diagnosis and management of paediatric odontogenic facial cellulitis: A global survey of dental practitioners” (‘the project’).

Odontogenic facial cellulitis refers to a rapidly spreading infection of the facial soft tissues that originates from an infected tooth and/or its supporting structures. It often develops from untreated dental caries leading to pulp necrosis and abscess formation. Clinical presentation may include facial swelling, erythema, and tenderness; trismus and pain on mouth opening; fever and systemic signs of infection; and in severe cases, spread into deep fascial spaces of the head and neck, which can compromise the airway and become life-threatening.

Odontogenic facial cellulitis requires prompt and effective management. Specialist paediatric dentists, oral and maxillofacial surgeons, general dentists and oral health therapists with a particular interest in paediatric dentistry, play a central role in the diagnosis and treatment of affected children.

This project aims to explore dental practitioners’ perceptions, experiences, and current practices in managing odontogenic facial cellulitis in children. The results will help address barriers to the timely and accurate diagnosis of odontogenic facial cellulitis, as well as identify variations in practice across different regions and clinical settings. The findings may also inform future research, consensus statements and guideline development.

2. Who is running the project?

This project is being run by Murdoch Children’s Research Institute. The research team is comprised of dental health professionals and researchers.

3. Why are we asking you to take part?

We are asking you to take part in this research project because you:

- are a qualified dental practitioner.
- currently manage children with facial cellulitis of odontogenic origin.

4. What do you need to do in this research project?

If you agree to participate in this project, you will be asked to complete a survey consisting of 25 questions. There will be questions around:

- Respondent demographics (Questions 1-5)
- Defining and assessing facial cellulitis of odontogenic origin in children (Questions 6-8)
- Antibiotic Management (Questions 9-14)
- Hospitalisation Decisions (Questions 15-17)
- Surgical Management (Questions 18-20)
- Clinical Scenarios (Questions 21-22)
- Guidelines and practice challenges (Questions 23-25)
- Additional information (Optional)

It is expected that the survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete.

Optional consents

If you decide to take part in this project, we would like you to consider letting us share your responses to the survey so we can share the data publicly. All data will be de-identified and any access to data will only be permitted after a successful approval process. You can say no to this and still take part in the project.

5. Can you withdraw from the project?

You can stop taking part in the project at any time. You just need to tell us so. You do not need to tell us the reason why.

If consent is withdrawn, no more data will be collected. Data collected prior to withdrawal of consent will be discarded as long as analysis has not been completed.

6. What are the possible benefits?

We are doing this study for research purposes. Our aim is to progress our knowledge of odontogenic facial cellulitis assessment and management. The findings may also inform future research, consensus statements and guideline development.

7. What are the possible risks, side effects, and inconveniences?

There is minimal risk involved for participants. However, the brief survey may present a time burden to participants.

Participants will receive a certificate of completion after submitting their survey.

8. How will we keep your child's information confidential?

Survey responses will be stored at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute's REDCap database system and in network file servers.

These people may access your identifiable information:

- Murdoch Children's Research Institute Research Team involved with this project
- Royal Children's Hospital of Melbourne Human Research Ethics Committee

We will not share your identifiable information with anyone else except as required by law. During the study your information will be re-identifiable. We will remove all personal identifiers from your survey responses. Only the researchers who are working on this project will be able to re-identify you by linking your code number to your name and email.

Storage of information

We are required to keep information collected as part of a research project for a certain length of time. The data collected from this study will be kept for 5 years after completion of the study. The research information will be destroyed after this time.

9. How will you find out the project results?

A webinar will be held at the conclusion of the project to present the findings. You can opt into this webinar by responding "Yes" to "Would you like to receive a summary of study findings?".

10. Who should you contact for more information?

If you would like more information about the project, please contact:

Study Coordinator: Dr Rachelle Welte

Email: rachelle.welte@mcri.edu.au

Principal Investigator: A/Prof Mihiri Silva

Email: mihiri.silva@mcri.edu.au

You can contact the Director of Research Operations at The Royal Children's Hospital if you:

- have any concerns or complaints about the project.
- are worried about your rights as a research participant.
- would like to speak to someone independent of the project.

You can phone the Director on (03) 9345 5044 or email them at rch.ethics@rch.org.au.