

Student perspectives on information/resource needs for travelers visiting friends and relatives outside of Canada

Thank-you for accessing the Visiting Friends and Relatives Travelers Survey on the internet.

Who we are: Researchers from the University of Manitoba (Dr. Michelle Driedger), the University of the Fraser Valley (Dr. Cindy Jardine, Dr. Martha Dow, Dr. Satwinder Bains), the University of Ottawa (Dr. Charles Hui), the University of New South Wales, Australia (Dr. Anita Haywood), and the University of Otago, New Zealand (Dr. Lesley Gray) are conducting a survey about travel health information and resources. We are also working with public health knowledge users: Dr. Bonnie Henry (Provincial Health Officer for BC Ministry of Health), Dr. Alexander Choi (Fraser Valley Health Authority), and Dr. Brent Roussin (Provincial Health Officer for Manitoba Health).

Purpose of Study: The containment of an emerging virus, such as the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (causing the COVID-19 disease), is dependent on controlling transmission of the disease between countries. Travelers are a primary factor in the spread of infectious diseases across borders and have been instrumental in spreading COVID-19 around the world. This survey is being conducted to understand university student travel health knowledge and practices. We are interested in understanding traveler knowledge, risk perceptions, information needs, barriers to pre-travel care and advice, and access to protective measures for people who visit friends and relatives outside of Canada. The survey is open to any UM student, both domestic and international.

Implications for your time: Your feedback will be collected through an online survey that will take about 10-15 minutes to complete. You can do this survey in one sitting, or provided that you do not close your browser window, can return to complete your responses later. The survey asks a series of questions – some demographic (including country of birth) and university program questions, knowledge and awareness of COVID-19, information-seeking behaviours, self-reported vaccination history, travel experience in the last 12 months, history of pre-travel advice, exploration of attitudes and risk perceptions related to pre-travel preparation and compliance with advice, and perceived benefits/barriers to accessing and complying with pre-travel advice. The survey also includes specific questions on your knowledge and practices for COVID-19, and on university communications on COVID-19.

What your participation involves: Your participation on this line survey is completely voluntary. You don't have to answer any questions that you do not want to. If there are questions you wish to not answer, there are options to indicate that the absence of a response for a given question is intentional.

In acknowledgement of your time to complete this survey, you will be eligible to enter a draw to win a MacBook Air (value approximately \$1500). Your chance of winning depends on the number of survey participants. The draw will occur within one week of the survey closing. If you wish to enter the draw, you will be directed to a separate webpage to enter your name and contact information (email and/or telephone). This personal identifying information will not be used to link to your survey responses in any way, and will be immediately destroyed once the prize has been awarded. Only completed surveys are eligible to be entered for the draw. Rest assured that intentionally not answering some questions would still be considered a completed survey eligible for the draw. However, please note that once you submit your survey responses you will NOT be able to withdraw them as we cannot link the survey responses back to you.

At the end of the survey, you will also have the option to participate in a future focus group which may be conducted using a virtual channel (e.g. online through zoom or by telephone). If interested, you will be asked to provide your name and contact information. Again, this information will not be linked to your survey responses. We will retain this information until after the focus groups are complete. If you are selected to participate in a focus group, you would receive a gift of \$50, either in the form of an electronic gift card or a cash honoraria, depending whether or not physical distancing measures have been lifted at the time of the focus groups.

Risks and Benefits: The risks of participating are low. While participating in this research may not directly benefit you, we hope that what we learn from this research can benefit others in the future.

Privacy/Confidentiality: This survey is done through SimpleSurvey which collects and stores all data in Canada. The survey system will not record your email address or IP (Internet protocol) address. The only metrics captured through our operation of the survey through SimpleSurvey is the browser type, operating system, and survey completion time. Further, once the survey data has been downloaded, and verified, SimpleSurvey will delete all data off its Microsoft Canada data centres at the request of Dr. Cindy Jardine (University of the Fraser Valley) in whose name the SimpleSurvey licenses operate.

The University of the Fraser Valley will be conducting the analysis of all anonymized participant survey data. The University of the Fraser Valley will also have access to personally identifying information collected for the purpose of the draw and/or volunteering for focus groups. Any information with personal identifiers will be destroyed immediately following the distribution of the draw prize (in the case of the survey) and/or contacting volunteers for a future focus group from both research sites.

Information gathered in this research study will be published or presented in public forums in an aggregated and anonymized fashion. Non-identifiable information (anonymized survey responses, de-identified interview and/or focus group transcripts) will NOT be destroyed in order to have the possibility of using this data in the future to compare to other infectious disease outbreaks. Further, a condition of this CIHR funding states that for the duration of an international public health emergency, like COVID-19, requires that the World Health Organization (WHO) has rapid access to emerging findings that could aid in the global response. While we need to share interim and final research data related to the outbreak, as well as pre-published and published papers, any data shared will be non-identifiable. Long-term non-identifiable data will be stored on secure password protected university servers and/or on Dataverse at the University of Manitoba. The PI can control who has access to this information.

Your participation is important to us and will help the university and government agencies better contain infectious disease outbreak in the future. If you have any questions about this study, please contact Dr. Michelle Driedger, Community Health Sciences at michelle.driedger@umanitoba.ca.

Research Funders: The study is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

This study has been approved by the University of Manitoba Health Research Ethics Board.

By continuing on and completing the on-line survey you are consenting to participate in the on-line survey.

Notice Regarding Collection, Use, and Disclosure of Personal Information by the University

Your personal information and personal health information is being collected under the authority of *The University of Manitoba Act*. The information you provide will be used for the purpose of this approved research study. Your personal information and personal health information will not be used or disclosed for other purposes, unless permitted by *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA) and *The Personal Health Information Act* (PHIA). If you have any questions about the collection of your information, contact the Access & Privacy Office (tel. 204-474-9462), 233 Elizabeth Dafoe Library, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2N2.