

From: [Sarah El-wahsh](#)
To: [Emily Smith](#)
Subject: Recruitment of persons with multiple sclerosis (MS)
Date: Friday, 13 September 2019 9:27:07 AM
Attachments: [Flyer.pdf](#)
[Participant Information Statement.pdf](#)

Dear Emily,

This email is to request the assistance of your organisation in recruiting persons with multiple sclerosis (MS) internationally for a research study we are running at The University of Sydney.

The aim of this study is to better understand the communication experiences of persons living with MS. We are interested in understanding how often communication difficulties are experienced, what these communication difficulties may be, and how they impact on quality of life and everyday activities. Findings of this study will help us raise awareness and improve our knowledge of communication problems in MS. This will help us design more specific and effective treatments to help persons with MS maintain participation in the community and workforce. We are looking both for people with MS who do and who do not experience communication problems in their daily life.

This study requires participants to complete an anonymous online questionnaire with questions about communication, memory and thinking, quality of life, and social support and networks. All potential participants will be invited to go to the questionnaire's website. Upon opening the website, the participant will be asked to read a Participation Information Statement and to provide consent to proceed with the questionnaire. The questionnaire will take approximately 30 to 45 minutes to complete (with the option to complete the questionnaire over multiple sessions).

If the participant leaves their email address, we will contact them after 2 weeks and ask them to complete a shorter 10-minute questionnaire. Please find attached a flyer and the Patient Information Statement for more detailed information. Participants have the opportunity to win 1 of 4 \$25 gift vouchers if they complete the 2 questionnaires.

The questionnaire can be found on: <https://redcap.sydney.edu.au/surveys/?s=PCR8ND4T9D>.

We would like to ask you to assist us in circulating this information to persons with MS (e.g. e-mail the flyer to your mailing list, upload the flyer onto your website, include the flyer in your newsletter etc.). Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions by emailing Ms Sarah El-Wahsh at selw5849@uni.sydney.edu.au.

Kind regards,

Professor Kirrie Ballard, PhD

Speech Pathologist

Dr. Hans Bogaardt, PhD

Speech Pathologist

Clinical Epidemiologist

Dr. Fiona Kumfor, PhD

Clinical Neuropsychologist

Sarah El-Wahsh

Speech Pathologist

PhD student

Faculty of Health Sciences

THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

75 East Street | Lidcombe | NSW | 2141