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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



BC WOMEN'S  
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HEALTH CENTRE

An agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority



MICHAEL SMITH FOUNDATION  
FOR HEALTH RESEARCH

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## Canadian Sexual Health Survey Survey Introduction Letter

The Canadian Sexual Health Survey will ask how people plan and space their pregnancies in order to help women and families access the appropriate health services. The survey has questions related to sexual and reproductive health and your experience accessing services, specifically on sexual history, sexual orientation, pregnancy history, pregnancy outcomes and contraception use.

Unlike other countries, Canada has not collected most of this information, but, answers to these questions are necessary to make health policy decisions. The goal of this survey is to collect information to guide government policy on contraceptive and reproductive health issues in Canada. As an individual participating in the study, you may benefit from these policies in the future. As well, you will be offered \$20 in appreciation of the time you spend to complete the survey. Yourself, women and girls in your community and other Canadians, may all benefit from these policies. Your contribution is appreciated.

Participation is entirely voluntary. If you agree to participate, you may refuse to answer any question and you may withdraw from the study at any point, without penalty. As well, the surveyor, helpline and website ([www.cart-grac.ubc.ca](http://www.cart-grac.ubc.ca)) can suggest resources for counselling, should you feel any distress. If you are an adult, or age 16 to 18 and living on your own, you may consent to the survey on your own behalf. If you are living at home with a parent or guardian, or are 14 or 15 years of age, your parent or guardian will need to give consent. In the event that during the survey you, the participant, discloses that an offense has occurred for which there is mandatory reporting protocol as dictated by the Child, Family and Community Service Act, including sexual assault, child abuse and statutory rape, the surveyor has a duty to disclose this to a social worker and may have to break confidentiality to make sure that you are safe.

***You can expect a trained public health nurse, or similar health professional to come to your home sometime over the next 1-4 weeks, explain the study, answer your questions and see if you are interested and eligible. Then, if you are interested and eligible, they will conduct the survey with you over a 10-40 minute period. Your answers will be completely confidential and anonymous.***

WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO TAKE PART IN THIS SURVEY.



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This study is about sexual health and how people plan and space their pregnancies.  
Will you help us understand how you access family planning knowledge, services and methods?

## The Canadian Sexual Health Survey

- This survey collects the answers on a tablet computer.
- You will be offered an honorarium of \$20 in appreciation of the time you contribute to answer the survey questions.
- Conducted by trained public health care nurses or sexual health educators, with some able to speak Punjabi, Cantonese or Mandarin
- The survey questions about sexual health and how women plan and space pregnancies.
- Some of the questions are of a personal nature and are asked privately, so only you hear while you wear headphones.
- Women and girls 14 to 49 years of age can participate.
- Can be completed in 10–40 minutes.
- Completely voluntary.
- Anonymous.
- No cost to any participant.
- You may refuse to answer any question, or withdraw from the survey at any time.
- Your results will be used to help guide public policy.

If you have any questions about the study please contact: Dr. Wendy V. Norman, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FCFP, Principal Investigator (toll free) 1-877-922-7890 [cart.grac@ubc.ca](mailto:cart.grac@ubc.ca)

If you have any concerns about your rights as a research subject and/or your experiences while participating in this study, contact: Research Participant Complaint Line, University of British Columbia Office of Research Services (Toll Free) 1-877-822-8598 [RSIL@ors.ubc.ca](mailto:RSIL@ors.ubc.ca)