



SWSLHD CAT Clinic Research Summary

Liverpool Hospital offers a state of the art Communication and Assistive Technology Clinic for those diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease (MND) and living within the Sydney South West Local Health District (SWSLHD). Within the clinic a research project has been established and will commence in January 2019. This project is a collaboration between SWSLHD, The University of Sydney and The University of Technology Sydney.

The aim of this project is to identify if assessment and intervention within the Communication and Assistive Technology clinic within 12 months of MND diagnosis improves quality of life, function and decreases carer burden. Participants within this project will complete surveys and interviews in addition to standard care by specialised Occupational Therapists and Speech Pathologists.

The benefit of the project is to provide people with MND early access to assessment and intervention using Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) such as electronic tablets, switches and eye gaze and Environmental Control Units (ECU) such as controlling the television or air conditioner. This will allow improved choice and control while living with MND.

This project will be completed over a 12 month period. There are no costs to participate in this research study, nor will you be paid to participate.

We are seeking volunteers to participate in a research project for people with Motor Neurone Disease (MND). The eligibility criteria are as follows:

- If you have a definitive diagnosis of MND
- Your MND diagnosis is within 12 months of the baseline assessment
- You are aged 18 years and over
- If you reside in South Western Sydney Local Health District
- If you are able to communicate in English

If you would like more information or are interested in being a part of this study please contact one of the Clinic Coordinators (Alicia Gibb, Manasi Thornley and Monique Signorelli) on (02) 8738 4701 or (02) 8738 4702 or via email at swsld-catclinic@health.nsw.gov.au.