



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET
DCE Survey for the general public
The Surgical Management of Obesity
ETHICS NUMBER: MED/09/13/HREC

About this research project

This project is being undertaken by researchers from Griffith University in Queensland and Flinders University in South Australia, in collaboration with Queensland Health, Southern Adelaide Local Health Network Inc., Queensland University of Technology, and the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (United Kingdom). The project is funded by an Australian Research Council Linkage Grant, and contributions from Queensland Health and Southern Adelaide Local Health Network.

Why is the research being conducted?

There is high demand for services such as surgery to help people manage their obesity and its associated health risks. There are waiting lists for obesity surgery; therefore, health services have to decide which patient groups should be prioritised for access to surgical treatment. This project will explore and measure public preferences surrounding some of the controversial issues in the surgical management of obesity. These issues have significant profiles in the media, and sound solutions arising from community engagement will be highly valued. This part of the project focuses on identifying preferences of the general public, clinicians and decision-makers around the criteria that should be used to decide who should be prioritised for the surgical management of obesity.

What you will be asked to do?

If you agree to take part and you are 18 years or over, you are asked to complete a survey containing a series of hypothetical choices to indicate your views on who should be prioritised for the surgical treatment of their obesity, and also some information about yourself and your general health. This will include some questions taken from a standard health questionnaire called the AQL 8D. We will ask these questions so we can describe the characteristics of the people who complete the survey and to understand whether opinions about prioritising people for obesity surgery differ between different groups of people who complete the survey. We anticipate that the survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

The basis by which participants will be selected or screened

We are inviting adults aged 18 years or over and who live in Queensland or South Australia to participate. To ensure we have broad representation of the community, we will be surveying men and women across all age groups in proportion to the number of people living in each state. You will be asked some screening questions at the start of the survey. The survey will only continue past these questions if you are eligible to participate.

The expected benefits of the research

It is not expected that there will be any benefits or risks to you personally as a result of participating in this research (other than what is provided by PureProfile). However, we hope the views of consumers, clinicians and decision-makers coming out of this research will be used by health care providers to assist with the design of better models of care for service provision.

Your participation is voluntary

Your participation in this research project is completely voluntary. You will be asked to provide an answer for every choice question. However, you do not need to answer every question about yourself and your health unless you wish to do so. Your decision to participate will in no way impact on any relationship you might have with Griffith University, Queensland Health, or any health care services that you might be receiving. You can withdraw from the process at any point prior to completion of the survey. However, after you have completed the survey, your responses will be stored anonymously and so it is not possible to withdraw.

Mechanism for distribution and return

This survey link has been distributed via email to individuals who are registered with PureProfile on behalf of Griffith University, and survey responses will be collected online.

Privacy and confidentiality

Data collected will be stored securely by the university for 5 years. The data will be used for academic research, conferences, reports and publications. Your details will be kept confidential and you will not be identified in any publication or report arising from this research project.

A de-identified copy of this data will may be used for other research purposes. However, your anonymity will at all times be safeguarded.

The conduct of this research involves the collection, access and/or use of your personal information by Griffith University. The information collected is confidential and will not be disclosed to third parties without your consent, except to meet government, legal or other regulatory authority requirements. For further information consult the University's Privacy Plan at <http://www.griffith.edu.au/about-griffith/plans-publications/griffith-university-privacy-plan> or telephone (07) 3735 5585.

The ethical conduct of this research

Griffith University conducts research in accordance with the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007). This study has been reviewed by the Centres for Research, Metro South Hospital and Health Service, and the Griffith University Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have any concerns or complaints about the ethical conduct of this research project you should contact the Human Research Ethics Coordinator, Metro South Hospital and Health Service by phone on (07) 3443 8049 or by email on PAH_ethics_research@health.qld.gov.au or the Manager, Research Ethics, Griffith University by phone on (07) 3735 4375 or by email on research-ethics@griffith.edu.au .

Expressing consent

If you complete the online survey in full or in part, you will be deemed to have consented to your participation in the research. Please print this sheet and retain it for your later reference.

Questions/further information

If you have any further questions about this research project, please contact the leader of the research team at Griffith University, Professor Paul Scuffham by email, on p.scuffman@griffith.edu.au or by telephone on (07) 3382 1367.

If you would like a copy of the summary of findings please email the research team on cjproject@griffith.edu.au

Thank you for your interest in undertaking this survey!

Screening

This survey was developed for the adult population of Queensland and South Australia, and aims for broad representation by age and gender.

If you do not fit the criteria, or the quota for your age/gender group is full, your browser will be directed back to PureProfile.

Please answer all three questions on this page.

What is your age?

Are you:

Female

Male

Other

Are you a resident of Queensland or South Australia?

Yes - Queensland

Yes - South Australia

Neither

Intro

The next two pages provide some information about obesity, BMI, and the management of obesity.

Please read this information before starting the survey, as it will help you with the questions.

OBESITY

- 1/3 of adult Australians are overweight and 1/4 of adult Australians are obese.
- People with a high body mass are more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes, coronary heart disease, stroke, colorectal cancer, breast cancer, and uterine cancer.
- Being overweight or obese is the largest risk factor for premature death and disability in Australia.
- On average, life span is reduced by 2-4 years for obese people, and by 8-10 years for people who are severely obese.
- For many people, surgery is the way to manage their obesity and reduce the risk factors.
- However, the public health system cannot afford to provide this surgery for everyone who needs it.
- Criteria are needed to decide who gets surgery first, and who has to wait.

The role of this survey is to explore which criteria people might think are important for prioritising access to surgery for obesity.

The use of BMI to Measure Obesity

Body Mass Index (BMI) is an effective way to measure the amount of fat a person is carrying, and therefore if they are at an increased risk for disease. The BMI does this by comparing an individual's weight to that which would be considered a healthy weight for an average person who is of the same height. The BMI is the most commonly used measure for overweight and obesity in adults.

An individual's BMI can give an indication of the health risks they might be likely to suffer as a result of their weight. People who are considered to be of healthy weight have a BMI between 18.5 kg/m² and 24.9 kg/m². If an individual's BMI is above 25 kg/m², the risk of them developing a range of diseases increases, and they are considered to be overweight compared to another person of the same height. We also know that as BMI increases the risk and number of diseases and conditions increases, and that a BMI of 30 kg/m² is associated with a sharp increase in the risk of diseases – that is why a BMI of 30 kg/m² is considered the cut-off for obesity. People with a BMI of 40 kg/m² or higher are considered to be severely obese. In Figure 1, we have summarised the different levels of obesity and how they relate to BMI.



PLEASE NOTE:

The information provided here is for the purpose of this survey only.

It is not medical advice related to weight management, which should be obtained from a doctor if required.

What Causes Obesity?

A lack of balance between energy intake (food and drinks) and energy expenditure (including physical activity) will lead to weight changes over time. While genetics contribute to individual susceptibility to obesity, widespread changes in lifestyle and our environment have resulted in a rapid increase in the number of people who are obese.

Reference for further information: Queensland Health: Overweight and Obesity 2011 Fact sheet. Division of the Chief Health Officer, Queensland Health, Brisbane, 2011.

Bariatric Surgery (Surgery for Obesity)

Regardless of how weight is gained, once a person is obese it can be very difficult to permanently lose the excess weight. Most obese people try many diets and exercise programmes. However being obese changes the way our bodies function, particularly how it deals with food, making it difficult to return to a healthy weight by diet and exercise alone. For some people, bariatric surgery (surgery for obesity) is the only intervention available that is likely to be successful in helping them reduce their weight and control their illnesses.

The average amount of weight loss following surgery is half of excess weight (that is, half of the weight above the recommended weight for height). However, there are a range of possible outcomes. Many people will succeed in losing more than half of their excess weight, but some will lose less. One of the great benefits of surgery is that most of the weight lost is sustained. Studies that have followed people for 15 years after surgery have shown that most of the weight lost in the first 2 years stays off. As a result of the weight loss, it is possible to control obesity-related conditions.

Bariatric surgery is usually performed by keyhole surgery, which makes the recovery quicker than for a traditional open procedure. Around one in five patients have complications after surgery, but these are usually minor and/or easily remedied. The additional benefit of this intervention is that many of the obesity-related conditions (and their associated costs) are prevented, and the individual has a good chance of maintaining a much healthier body weight.

Criteria for selecting who receives surgery

Health resources are limited, and it is not possible for the public health system to provide bariatric surgery for everyone it would help. Therefore, criteria are needed to prioritise who will be chosen to received government-funded surgery.

This survey explores which factors people might think are important for prioritising access to surgery for the management of obesity.

This survey has two parts - Part A and Part B.

Part A presents a series of choices, and Part B collects demographic data.

The demographic data collected will never be used in a way that can identify individuals - it is used only to determine if different groups of people have different priorities.

YOUR INFORMATION IS ALWAYS CONFIDENTIAL

PART A

In this part of the survey we ask you to make 19 choices between two people.

In each choice, we ask you to imagine that two people have been clinically assessed as in equal need of surgery to manage their obesity. However, demand for the surgery is very high, and only one person can have their surgery now. The other person will have to wait at least 12 months for surgery.

For each choice, you decide who should receive surgery based on the following characteristics:

A copy of this table is available as a pop-up window by clicking [here](#)

Surgical Management of Obesity

Current level of obesity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obesity (BMI 30 to less than 40 kg/m²) Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m²) Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m²)
Obesity-related conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Already has obesity-related conditions Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 years 35 years 50 years
Family history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood No family history of obesity
Chance of maintaining a substantial (at least half) reduction in excess weight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30% 50% 70%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention (i.e. physical activity and diet)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 months 1 year 2 years

This is an example of the questions you will be asked

CHOICE

Who should have their surgery now?

Click one of the buttons under the table to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available here for your reference

The scenario is available here for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Obesity (BMI 30 to < 40 kg/m ²)	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age	35 years	35 years
Family history	No family history of obesity	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	50%	50%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	2 years	6 months
Who should have their surgery now?	Person A	Person B

The next 19 questions relate to the following scenario

A pop-up window with this scenario is available [here](#)

Two people have been clinically assessed as in equal need of surgery to manage their obesity.

Surgery is likely to be the only way to reduce their body weight and their health risks.

Both people meet the hospital's clinical criteria for surgery, and the surgery has been recommended by their doctors.

However, demand for the surgery is very high, and only one person can have their surgery now.

The other person will have to wait at least 12 months for surgery.

PLEASE CLICK NEXT TO BEGIN THIS PART OF THE SURVEY

DCE block 9

CHOICE 1**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	20 years	50 years
Family history	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood	No family history of obesity
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	30%	30%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	2 years	6 months

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

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CHOICE 2**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	50 years	20 years
Family history	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood	No family history of obesity
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	30%	70%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	1 year	1 year

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

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CHOICE 3**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Obesity (BMI 30 to less than 40 kg/m ²)	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	35 years	35 years
Family history	No family history of obesity	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	50%	50%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	1 year	1 year

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

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CHOICE 4**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	50 years	20 years
Family history	No family history of obesity	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	70%	70%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	2 years	6 months

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

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CHOICE 5**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	35 years	50 years
Family history	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood	No family history of obesity
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	50%	30%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	6 months	2 years

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

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CHOICE 6**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	50 years	20 years
Family history	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood	No family history of obesity
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	50%	30%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	2 years	6 months

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

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CHOICE 7**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	20 years	50 years
Family history	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood	No family history of obesity
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	70%	70%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	2 years	6 months

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

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CHOICE 8**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Obesity (BMI 30 to less than 40 kg/m ²)	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	50 years	20 years
Family history	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood	No family history of obesity
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	70%	70%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	2 years	6 months

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

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CHOICE 9**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	50 years	20 years
Family history	No family history of obesity	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	70%	30%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	1 year	1 year

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

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CHOICE 10**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)	Obesity (BMI 30 to less than 40 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	35 years	35 years
Family history	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood	No family history of obesity
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	50%	50%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	1 year	6 months

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

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CHOICE 11**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	35 years	35 years
Family history	No family history of obesity	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	50%	50%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	1 year	1 year

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

These page timer metrics will not be displayed to the recipient.

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Last Click: 0 seconds.

Page Submit: 0 seconds.

Click Count: 0 clicks.

CHOICE 12**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	35 years	35 years
Family history	No family history of obesity	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	50%	50%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	1 year	1 year

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

These page timer metrics will not be displayed to the recipient.

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Last Click: 0 seconds.

Page Submit: 0 seconds.

Click Count: 0 clicks.

CHOICE 13**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	20 years	50 years
Family history	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood	No family history of obesity
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	70%	70%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	2 years	6 months

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

These page timer metrics will not be displayed to the recipient.

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Last Click: 0 seconds.

Page Submit: 0 seconds.

Click Count: 0 clicks.

CHOICE 14**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Obesity (BMI 30 to less than 40 kg/m ²)	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	20 years	35 years
Family history	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood	No family history of obesity
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	30%	50%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	6 months	2 years

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

These page timer metrics will not be displayed to the recipient.

First Click: 0 seconds.

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Page Submit: 0 seconds.

Click Count: 0 clicks.

CHOICE 15**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Obesity (BMI 30 to less than 40 kg/m ²)	Obesity (BMI 30 to less than 40 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	20 years	50 years
Family history	No family history of obesity	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	70%	30%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	2 years	6 months

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

These page timer metrics will not be displayed to the recipient.

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Page Submit: 0 seconds.

Click Count: 0 clicks.

CHOICE 16**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Obesity (BMI 30 to less than 40 kg/m ²)	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	50 years	20 years
Family history	No family history of obesity	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	70%	70%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	2 years	6 months

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

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CHOICE 17**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)	Obesity (BMI 30 to less than 40 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	35 years	35 years
Family history	No family history of obesity	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	50%	50%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has not maintained a healthy lifestyle plan and has had no weight loss	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	1 year	1 year

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

These page timer metrics will not be displayed to the recipient.

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CHOICE 18**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	20 years	35 years
Family history	No family history of obesity	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	30%	50%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	6 months	2 years

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

These page timer metrics will not be displayed to the recipient.

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Last Click: 0 seconds.

Page Submit: 0 seconds.

Click Count: 0 clicks.

CHOICE 19**Who should have their surgery now?**

Click on either Person A or Person B to indicate your choice

The table of characteristics is available [here](#) for your reference

The scenario is available [here](#) for your reference

	Person A	Person B
Current level of obesity	Very Severe Obesity (BMI greater than 50 kg/m ²)	Severe Obesity (BMI 40 to less than 50 kg/m ²)
Obesity-related conditions	Already has obesity-related conditions	Is at risk of developing obesity-related conditions
Age of person needing surgery	50 years	20 years
Family history	No family history of obesity	At least one parent or sibling is obese, has had weight issues since childhood
Chance of maintaining a substantial reduction in excess weight	70%	70%
Has shown commitment by responding to prescribed lifestyle intervention	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery	Has maintained a healthy lifestyle plan for several months, resulting in some weight loss, however is still in need of surgery
Time already spent on surgery waiting list	6 months	2 years

Who should have their surgery now?

Person A

Person B

These page timer metrics will not be displayed to the recipient.

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Click Count: 0 clicks.

How difficult did you find it to answer the last 19 questions?

Not difficult



Slightly difficult



Moderately difficult



Very difficult

**AQoL****PART B**

Now we would like to ask you some questions about yourself and your general health.

For each question, choose the answer that appears most appropriate.

Your answers will remain completely confidential.

How many times have you been admitted to hospital in the last 12 months?

None



1-3 times



4 or more times



How many times have you visited an Emergency Department in the last 12 months?

None



1-3 times



4 or more times



How many times have you visited a General Practitioner in the last 12 months?

None



1-3 times



4 or more times



Which of the following best describes you:

- Underweight
- Healthy weight
- Overweight
- Obese
- Prefer not to answer

What is your height in centimeters?

**What is your weight in kilograms?
(If pregnant, please enter your pre-pregnancy weight)**

Have you ever been treated for any of the following?

	No	Yes
Diabetes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Heart disease	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
High blood pressure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Osteoarthritis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Weight management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Surgery to help manage weight	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Has a close family member ever been treated for any of the following?

	No	Yes
Diabetes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Heart disease	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
High blood pressure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Osteoarthritis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Weight management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Surgery to help manage weight	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

For the following questions, please click the circle that best describes your situation as it has been over the past week

Thinking about how much energy you have to do the things you want to do:**I am**

- always full of energy
 - usually full of energy
 - occasionally energetic
 - usually tired and lacking energy
 - always tired and lacking energy
-

How often do you feel socially excluded or left out?

- never
 - rarely
 - sometimes
 - often
 - always
-

Thinking about how easy or difficult it is for you to get around by yourself outside your house (e.g., shopping, visiting):

- getting around is enjoyable and easy
 - I have no difficulty getting around outside my house
 - a little difficulty
 - moderate difficulty
 - a lot of difficulty
 - I cannot get around unless somebody is there to help me
-

Thinking about your health and your role in your community (that is to say neighbourhood, sporting, work, church or cultural groups):

- my role in the community is unaffected by my health
 - there are some parts of my community role I cannot carry out
 - there are many parts of my community role I cannot carry out
 - I cannot carry out any part of my community role
-

How often do you feel sad?

- never
 - rarely
 - some of the time
 - usually
 - nearly all the time
-

Click on the circle that best describes your situation as it has been over the past week

Thinking about how often you experience serious pain:

I experience it

- very rarely
 - less than once a week
 - three to four times a week
 - most of the time
-

How much confidence do you have in yourself?

- complete confidence
 - a lot
 - a moderate amount
 - a little
 - none at all
-

When you think about whether you are calm and tranquil or agitated:

I am

- always calm and tranquil
 - usually calm and tranquil
 - sometime calm and tranquil, sometimes agitated
 - usually agitated
 - always agitated
-

Thinking about your health and your relationship with your family:

- my role in the family is unaffected by my health
 - there are some parts of my family role I cannot carry out
 - there are many parts of my family role I cannot carry out
 - I cannot carry out any part of my family role
-

Your close relationships (family and friends) are:

- very satisfying
 - satisfying
 - neither satisfying nor dissatisfying
 - dissatisfying
 - unpleasant
 - very unpleasant
-

When you communicate with others, e.g., by talking, listening, writing or signing:

- I have no trouble speaking to them or understanding what they are saying
 - I have some difficulty being understood by people who do not know me. I have no trouble understanding what others are saying to me
 - I am only understood by people who know me well. I have great trouble understanding what others are saying to me
 - I cannot adequately communicate with others
-

Click on the circle that best describes your situation as it has been over the past week**How often do you have trouble sleeping?**

- never
 - almost never
 - sometimes
 - often
 - all the time
-

How often do you feel worthless?

- never
 - almost never
 - sometimes
 - usually
 - always
-

How often do you feel angry?

- never
 - almost never
 - sometimes
 - often
 - all the time
-

Thinking about your mobility, including using any aids or equipment such as wheelchairs, frames, sticks:

- I am very mobile
 - I have no difficulty with mobility
 - I have some difficulty with mobility (for example, going uphill)
 - I have difficulty with mobility. I can go short distances only.
 - I have a lot of difficulty with mobility. I need someone to help me.
 - I am bedridden
-

How often do you feel like hurting yourself?

- never
 - rarely
 - sometimes
 - often
 - all the time
-

How enthusiastic do you feel?

- extremely
 - very
 - somewhat
 - not much
 - not at all
-

And still thinking about the last seven days, how often did you feel worried?

- never
 - occasionally
 - sometimes
 - often
 - all the time
-

Thinking about washing yourself, toileting, dressing, eating or looking after your appearance:

- these tasks are very easy for me
 - I have no real difficulty carrying out these tasks
 - I find some of these tasks difficult, but I manage them on my own
 - many of these tasks are difficult, and I need help to do them
 - I cannot do these tasks by myself at all
-

How often do you feel happy?

- all the time
 - mostly
 - sometimes
 - almost never
 - never
-

How much do you feel you can cope with life's problems?

- completely
 - mostly
 - partly
 - very little
 - not at all
-

How much pain or discomfort do you experience:

- none at all
 - I have moderate pain
 - I suffer from severe pain
 - I suffer unbearable pain
-

How much do you enjoy your close relationships (family and friends)?

- immensely
 - a lot
 - a little
 - not much
 - I hate it
-

Click on the circle that best describes your situation as it has been over the past week

How often does pain interfere with your usual activities?

- never
 - rarely
 - sometimes
 - often
 - always
-

How often do you feel pleasure?

- always
 - usually
 - sometimes
 - almost never
 - never
-

How much of a burden do you feel you are to other people?

- not at all
 - a little
 - a moderate amount
 - a lot
 - totally
-

How content are you with your life?

- extremely
 - mainly
 - moderately
 - slightly
 - not at all
-

Thinking about your vision (using your glasses or contact lenses if needed):

- I have excellent sight
 - I see normally
 - I have some difficulty focusing on things, or I do not see them sharply. e.g., small print, a newspaper or seeing objects in the distance.
 - I have a lot of difficulty seeing things. My vision is blurred. I can see just enough to get by with.
 - I only see general shapes. I need a guide to move around.
 - I am completely blind
-

How often do you feel in control of your life?

- always
 - mostly
 - sometimes
 - only occasionally
 - never
-

Click on the circle that best describes your situation as it has been over the past week

How much help do you need with jobs around the house (e.g., preparing food, cleaning the house or gardening):

- I can do all these tasks very quickly and efficiently without any help
 - I can do these tasks relatively easily without help
 - I can do these tasks only very slowly without help
 - I cannot do most of these tasks unless I have help
 - I can do none of these tasks by myself
-

How often do you feel socially isolated?

- never
 - rarely
 - sometimes
 - often
 - always
-

Thinking about your hearing (using your hearing aid if needed):

- I have excellent hearing
 - I hear normally
 - I have some difficulty hearing or I do not hear clearly. I have trouble hearing softly-spoken people or when there is background noise.
 - I have difficulty hearing things clearly. Often I do not understand what is said. I usually do not take part in conversations because I cannot hear what is said.
 - I hear very little indeed. I cannot fully understand loud voices speaking directly to me.
 - I am completely deaf
-

How often do you feel depressed?

- never
 - almost never
 - sometimes
 - often
 - very often
 - all the time
-

Your close and intimate relationships (including any sexual relationships) make you:

- very happy
 - generally happy
 - neither happy nor unhappy
 - generally unhappy
 - very unhappy
-

How often did you feel in despair over the last seven days?

- never
 - occasionally
 - sometimes
 - often
 - all the time
-

Demographics

What is your age in years?**Which best describes your current relationship status:**

- Never married
 - Separated or divorced
 - Widowed
 - Married or living with a partner
-

What is the postcode of your home address?**Do you identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?**

- No Yes
-

Were you born in Australia?

- No Yes
-

Is English your primary language?

- No Yes
-

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

What is your combined annual household income before tax?

Which of the following best describes your main activity?

Please select your occupation from the drop-down list:

If you are not currently employed, please select your previous or usual occupation

Have you worked in the health system in the last 10 years?

No

Yes

Do you have private health insurance?

No

Yes

Hospital Cover

Extras Cover

Do you have a health concession card that reduces the cost of your GP visits and/or your pharmacy medications?

No

Yes

[Submit](#)

Thank you for your participation in this survey!

Please click **SUBMIT to ensure your responses are recorded**