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Request for Voluntary Participation

As part of the upcoming **2024 National Backflow and Legionella Conference**, Flinders University is seeking voluntary participation in research that will be presented and discussed during the event.

This research is currently being managed by Hao (James) Xi who is a PhD student in the College of Science and Engineering at Flinders University. He is currently researching approaches to real-time monitoring *Legionella* risk of potable water distribution systems with the aim of producing a thesis or other academic publications based on his findings.

Legionella is an opportunistic waterborne pathogen that causes Legionnaires' disease. It poses a significant public health risk, especially to voluntary population in healthcare facilities. Legionella is ubiquitous in premise plumbing systems and is transmitted through aerosol or water droplets generated from water fixtures such as shower and handwash basins. This research aims to develop a better understanding of how *Legionella* control is applied in healthcare facilities to support further research in developing monitoring techniques to increase *Legionella* control efficiency.

We would like to invite you to assist with this research ask whether you might be willing to participate in a survey we are conducting as part of the Flinders University research project titled: ***Legionella* control within premise plumbing systems**. If you are willing to participate, please click the link here: *Legionella* control survey.

At the end of the survey, you will be asked whether you are willing to answer any of these questions in greater depth, via a phone interview. If you are willing, please provide your email in the space provided. Your participation is voluntary and can be terminated at any time. We anticipate this follow up interview will take 15-20 minutes. The phone interview will be recorded and transcribed. All information, transcripts and results obtained in this interview will be stored in a secure way, with access restricted to relevant researchers. Report will not identify any individuals.

As mentioned above, the survey forms a key part in the discussion agenda at the **2024 National Backflow and Legionella Conference** next month so we are keen to hear your thoughts on this challenging topic area. We plan to go through the results and question the audience on findings.

If you would like to know more about the Conference and interested in attending please visit 2024 National Backflow & Legionella Conference - LMAG.

Flinders University

The study has been approved by Flinders University's Human Research Ethics Committee (Project ID 7404).

Should you have any questions about the research or your participation, please contact Hao (James) Xi at xi0145@flinders.edu.au, or alternatively me, Harriet Whiley, at Harriet.Whiley@flinders.edu.au or (08) 7221 8580

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Harriet Whiley

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