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|  | **Discipline of Speech Pathology Faculty of Medicine and Health** |
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| **CHIEF INVESTIGATOR**  **Associate Professor Cate Madill** *Director, Voice Research Laboratory Associate Professor*  *Certified Practicing Speech Pathologist* | C42 Cumberland campus The University of Sydney NSW 2006  AUSTRALIA  Telephone: +61 2 9351 9692  Facsimile: +61 2 9351 9173 Email: [cate.madill@sydney.edu.au](mailto:cate.madill@sydney.edu.au)  Web: <http://www.sydney.edu.au/> |

# THE EFFECT OF FACIAL MASKS ON THE ACOUSTIC AND AUDITORY-PERCEPTUAL OUTCOMES OF THE VOICE

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT**

## What is this study about?

You are invited to take part in a research study to evaluate the acoustic and auditory-perceptual features of the voice as recorded with and without the presence of a mask. This study will help determine whether differences occur in the acoustic and auditory-perceptual qualities of the voice when recorded with and without the use of a mask, to help inform clinical practice and safeguard both clinicians and patients against transmission of the COVID-19 pandemic.

You have been invited to participate in this study as you have clinical experience in attending to, and forming a judgement surrounding the various perceptual qualities of the voice. This Participant Information Statement informs you about the research study. The information contained herein will help you decide whether you would like to partake in the research. Please read this document carefully and ask questions of anything that you don’t understand or would like to learn about in further detail. Participation in this research study is voluntary.

By giving your consent to take part in this study you are telling us that you: Understand what you have read.



Agree to take part in the research study as outlined below.

Agree to the use of your rating data as described.

This Participant Information Statement is for you to keep.

## Who is running this study?

The study is being carried out by the following investigators:

* Associate Professor Cate Madill (Associate Professor, Speech Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney);
* Associate Professor Daniel Novakovic (Associate Professor, Otolaryngology, Central Clinical School, The University of Sydney)
* Dr Duy Duong Nguyen (Research Associate, Dr Liang Voice Program, Speech Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney);
* Professor Tricia McCabe (Professor, Speech Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney);
* Miss Antonia Chacon (Research Assistant, Dr Liang Voice Program, Speech Pathology, Faculty

of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney);

* Mr Christopher Payten (PhD Candidate, Dr Liang Voice Program, Speech Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney);
* Dr Meet Sheth (Otolaryngology Fellow, Dr Liang Voice Program, The University of Sydney);
* A/Prof. Alison Purcell (Speech Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney);
* Ms Nadia Tudberry (Speech Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney);
* Ms Julia Kania (Speech Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney);
* Dr Maree Doble (Speech Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney);
* Dr Donna Thomas (Speech Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney);
* Ms Katrina Sandham (Sydney Voice and Swallowing);
* Ms Alisa Hawkins (Sydney Voice and Swallowing);
* Ms Leah Coman (Speech Pathology, [Gold Coast University Hospital](https://www.researchgate.net/institution/Gold_Coast_University_Hospital));
* Ms Rebecca Black (Speech Pathology, St Vincent’s Hospital Sydney);
* Mr Evan Kirby (Research Assistant, Dr Liang Voice Program, Speech Pathology, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney).

This study is funded by the Doctor Liang Voice Program, The University of Sydney.

## What will the study involve for me?

As a participant in this study, you will be using *Bridge2Practice* to:

* + Complete an online questionnaire that asks you questions about a range of factors that may affect your ratings and evaluations.
  + Make auditory-perceptual judgements of voice samples.

You will be able to view results of all of your ratings in *Bridge2Practice* but you will not be able to change your ratings once you have submitted these.

If you consent to participate in this research, your ratings (once completed) in *Bridge2Practice* will be stored and made non-identifiable permanently. They will be used for the purpose of this study only.

## How much of my time will the study take?

It will take approximately 45-60 minutes to rate the voice samples using *Bridge2Practice*.

## Who can take part in this study?

Participants in this study will be professionals working within the area of voice, including Speech Pathologist and Otolaryngologist voice clinicians who have clinical experience in attending to and evaluating the perceptual features of the voice.

## Do I have to be in this study? Can I withdraw once I haveparticipated?

Being in this study is completely voluntary and you do not have to take part. Your decision whether to participate will not affect your current or future relationship with the researchers or anyone else at The University of Sydney.

If you decide to take part in the study and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw at any time. You can do this by emailing the *Bridge2Practice* administrator, A/Prof. Cate Madill (cate.madill@sydney.edu.au) and informing her that you no longer wish to have your ratings used in this research. There are no consequences to withdrawing your consent to be involved in this research. You can withdraw your consent at any time up until you complete all of the rating tasks for the study. After this time your data will be de-identified and there will be no way to re-identify the data and remove your ratings.

## Are there any risks or costs associated with being in the study?

No, there are no risks or costs associated with being in this study.

## Are there any benefits associated with being in the study?

We cannot guarantee that you will receive any direct benefits.

## What will happen to information about me that is collected during the study?

The information collected about you, including your ratings in *Bridge2Practice* will be de-identified using a unique research identification code. The de-identified data will be analysed to answer research questions and the results of the research will be submitted for publication in industry-specific journals.

Where data is being viewed on personal computers, all computers will be password protected. All data will be stored in secure servers. Your individual results will not be identifiable in any publications nor conference presentations resulting from this research.

Data will be stored for a period of at least 10 years. At the end of this storage period, the data will be archived at The University of Sydney.

By providing your consent, you are agreeing to us collecting your rating data for the purposes of this research study. Your information will only be used for the purposes outlined in this Participant Information Statement, unless you consent otherwise.

Your information will be stored securely, and your identifying information will be kept strictly confidential, except as required by law. Study findings may be published, but you will not be individually identifiable in these publications.

## Can I tell other people about the study?

Yes, you are welcome to tell other people about the study.

## What if I would like further information about the study?

If you would like to learn more or have any queries relating to the study, please feel free to contact A/Prof. Cate Madill at The University of Sydney [(cate.madill@sydney.edu.au,](mailto:(cate.madill@sydney.edu.au) +61 2 9351 9692)*.*

## Will I be told the results of the study?

The results of this study can be made available to you following the study’s completion should

you request this.

## What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the study?

Research involving humans in Australia is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). The ethical aspects of this study have been approved by the HREC of the University of Sydney [**protocol number 2020/399**]*.* As part of this process, we have agreed to carry out the study according to the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007).* This statement has been developed to protect people who agree to take part in research studies.

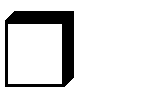
If you are concerned about the way this study is being conducted or you wish to make a complaint to someone independent from the study, please contact the university using the details outlined below. Please quote the study title and protocol number.

The Manager, Ethics Administration, University of Sydney:

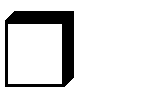
* + **Telephone:** +61 2 8627 8176
  + **Email:** [human.ethics@sydney.edu.au](mailto:human.ethics@sydney.edu.au)
  + **Fax:** +61 2 8627 8177 (Facsimile)

**Declaration of consent**

Now that you have read the Participant Information Statement, please indicate whether you consent for your data to be used for the research described above.

**I would like to participate in this research**. By selecting this check box, I acknowledge that:

* I understand the purpose of the study, what I will be asked to do, and any risks/benefits involved.
* I have read the Participant Information Statement and have been able to discuss my involvement in the study with the researchers if I wished to do so.
* The researchers have answered any questions that I had about the study and I am happy with the answers.
* I understand that being in this study is completely voluntary and I do not have to take part. My decision whether to be in the study will not affect my relationship with the researchers or anyone else at The University of Sydney now or in the future.
* I understand that I can withdraw from the study only before I submit my responses in the rating session.
* I understand that personal information about me that is collected over the course of this project will be stored securely and will only be used for purposes that I have agreed to.
* I understand that information about me will not be told to others, except as required by law.
* I understand that the results of this study may be published, and that publications will not contain any identifiable information about me.

I would like to receive feedback about the overall results of this study

## I would not like to participate in this research

*This information sheet is for you to keep.*