



## Department of Health and Human Services

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Dear Householder

### **Preventive Health Study**

I am writing to ask for your help with some important research into the health of Victorians. This research is known as the Preventive Health Study (study).

The Victorian Department of Health and Human Services (Department) is conducting the Preventive Health Study to collect information about the health, lifestyles and wellbeing of Victorians. To assist in this research the Department has appointed the Social Research Centre Pty Ltd (SRC), a survey research firm, to telephone households selected at random and ask them to participate in a telephone interview.

A representative from the SRC may telephone your household in the next couple of weeks to invite you or another person in the household who has been randomly selected to answer a number of health related questions. This will take approximately 20 minutes and arrangements can be made for you to participate at a more convenient time.

The information collected in this study will be used to report on and conduct research about the health status of your community and to improve the targeting, delivery and quality of health services to your community. Your participation is completely voluntary. In order for us to collect accurate information, it is important that as many households as possible participate in this study.

All information collected during the interview will be treated in strict confidence and your name, address and telephone number will not be passed onto any other individual or organisation. Your address will be used for the purpose of understanding local communities and it will be permanently deleted by 1 June 2017. Your information will only be used for policy, planning or research purposes. An information brochure that explains details of the project, and the steps taken to safeguard your privacy is enclosed. If you have queries about the study or would like further information please call the Preventive Health Study Hotline on **1800 354 322** (free call).

Thank you for your assistance which will help to improve the health of people in local communities.

Yours Sincerely

Chief Preventive Health Officer,  
Population Health Prevention Strategy  
Department of Health and Human Services