Are you in your first trimester of pregnancy?
If so, you may be interested in participating in this pilot study being conducted by The University of Western Australia, School of Population Health and WA Centre for Rural Health (WACHR). Involvement in this study is completely voluntary.

What is the purpose of the study?
Pregnancy is such an important and a vulnerable time for the fetus. Both environmental (“outside”) and psychological (“personal”) events are significant during pregnancy. We would like to better understand how these issues work together to impact the overall health of mothers and babies in Western Australia. This is a pilot study for a larger longitudinal study aimed at finding out how women experience pregnancy when they or their partner work Fly-In Fly-Out (FIFO). Over the coming years we plan to survey hundreds of pregnant women. The more participants we have in this study, the more we can learn. For this pilot study, I would like to meet you to ask you some questions about your experience during pregnancy. This will help me to develop interview questions for the larger study. For the main study we are asking to meet women at the beginning and towards the end of pregnancy for a confidential chat about pregnancy stresses and successes. Our ultimate goal is to gather knowledge that can improve the health and development of all children.

What are we studying?
FIFO is a significant way of life in Australia, Canada, UK and elsewhere. There are no reports describing pregnancy for women with a partner who works FIFO or pregnancy for women who work FIFO. Some people find pregnancy easy and others find it difficult. Antenatal care for FIFO women may need improvement but before changes can be made we need to know what is going well and what is not going well. FIFO Pregnancy Study is a world 1st to ask women’s opinions during pregnancy when they or their partner work FIFO.

Who can participate?
You are eligible to participate if you are:

- Over 18 years old
- In the first 15 weeks of your pregnancy
- Living in Perth, Peel, Rockingham, Bunbury or Busselton regions however everyone is welcome

What do you have to do to participate in this study?
Meet for a chat with the researcher. For this pilot study we are only requesting to meet you once.

How long will the chat take? Your opinions and ideas are very important. The meeting can be as long or as short as you prefer and we aim to find a location to suit you. We will record each interview and keep it confidential.

What will we chat about? How you feel about FIFO, your wellbeing, significant pregnancy events and what actions (if any) could be taken to improve your health and your experience of pregnancy.

How will you benefit from participating in this study?
If you participate in this study, you will:

- Enter the draw to win a $500 Coles/Myer voucher
- Contribute to knowledge that may ultimately improve public health
How will your privacy be protected?
Any information you provide will be kept strictly confidential. No personal information will ever be included in any published reports of the study. You are free to withdraw from the study at any time and you do not have to explain why. This will not affect your care in any way. If you withdraw, you can ask for your records up to that date to be included or excluded from the study.

Would you like to participate?

- You may have indicated when you took part in the online or postal survey that you were happy to be interviewed. If so, please fill in the accompanying consent form then post or email.
- You may be receiving this invitation from your medical clinic. We would appreciate receiving your response within 2 weeks, however we understand you might be busy and don’t find time to do this, or you may misplace the documents. If we do not hear from you, we may invite you again.
- If you want a researcher to contact you before you make a decision about taking part, please contact me with your e-mail address or phone number so I can get in touch with you.

Contact us

This research is being undertaken by PhD candidate and study coordinator Lorili Jacobs in conjunction with supervisors: Professor Angus Cook, Professor Sandra Thompson and Dr Kimberley McAuley.

If you or anyone else would like more information please contact Lorili (Lori) Jacobs.
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Approval to conduct this research has been provided by The University of Western Australia, in accordance with its ethics review and approval procedures. Any person considering participation in this research project, or agreeing to participate, may raise any questions or issues with the researchers at any time. In addition, any person not satisfied with the response of researchers may raise ethics issues or concerns, and may make complaints about this research project by contacting the Human Research Ethics Office at The University of Western Australia by calling (08) 6488 3703 during office hours or by emailing to breo-research@uwa.edu.au All research participants are entitled to retain a copy of any Participant Information Form and/or Participant Consent Form relating to this research project.