

## **AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS ACT 1975: sub-section 6(3)**

### **PROPOSAL NO. 4 OF 2017**

**BY**

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

### **NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics proposes to collect information for the purpose of assisting in the understanding of chronic disease and disease risk factors.

The information will be collected:

- from July 2017 to June 2018
- from a sample of approximately 24,000 households nationally, including adults and children
- by computer assisted, personal face-to-face and telephone interview

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- demographic and socio-demographic data
- general health and wellbeing
- long-term conditions and disability
- use of medications
- health related aspects of lifestyle (such as exercise, smoking, dietary behaviour, and alcohol consumption)

The Australian Bureau of Statistics will also seek verbal consent of selected persons to allow the taking of physical measurements, including height, weight, girth and blood pressure.

Respondents will also be asked to volunteer follow-up contact details for the purpose of assisting the Australian Bureau of Statistics with future health related information collections.

The information collected will be used to:

- determine the prevalence of specific long-term illnesses and those groups in the community most affected
- reduce the prevalence of chronic disease, for example through better understanding of the links between lifestyle, risk factors and disease
- assess and improve policies and services related to the management of chronic conditions
- support policy development and improve provision of health services

The Australian Bureau of Statistics expects to make statistical and related information from the collection available, in the last quarter of 2018.

The principal users of the information will include:

- Council of Australian Governments (CoAG) and Report on Government Services reporting
- Commonwealth, State and Territory health authorities and other government agencies
- Health industry and professional organisations
- Health researchers and academics
- Consumer and community groups

To assist in determining the feasibility of the collection and to understand and manage respondent burden the Australian Bureau of Statistics:

- has considered what existing information is available
- has consulted with a wide range of stakeholders in the health field including government, professional and research agencies, and community groups

- has extensively field tested the survey to ensure that the required data are readily available and that the provider load has been minimised

The Australian Privacy Commissioner will be informed of the collection.

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