



Doeth Am Iechyd  
Cymru  
HealthWise  
Wales

**HealthWise Wales Newsletter**  
**Your Health, Your Research**  
**October 2015**

**Message from the Project Team.**

Thank you for signing up to be a part of this project. We are delighted to have you on board. In this newsletter you will find out how things have been going since our “soft” launch in May and how we are preparing for our public launch in February 2016. This project will only succeed with support from the people of Wales and we are grateful to you for taking the time to sign up.

HealthWise Wales Project team

**Progress so far**

As the first people to sign up, we thought you would be interested in how recruitment is progressing. In this early phase, we aimed to recruit 500 participants by the end of December 2015. We are delighted to be well over half way to achieving this target, with 369 participants signed up as of the 5<sup>th</sup> of October. We were also pleased with the quality of the data, with almost 90% of participants completing all the questionnaires. Interestingly, we have far more female participants than males (68% versus 32%) and, perhaps unsurprisingly, most recruits so far live in South East Wales. We are working hard to develop a range of recruitment strategies to ensure we promote the project across the whole of Wales, and reach people from all communities. Remember that all data is anonymous and survey answers are kept separately from any contact details.

## **Your feedback**

Your feedback from the 'What I think' has helped us enormously: we have changed some of the participant information and questions to make them clearer and improved the functionality of the website.

We know there have been a few technical issues with the questionnaires, particularly with "How I live". We encourage you to tell us about any problems so that we can fix any bugs before February. Please drop us a line at: [healthwisewales@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:healthwisewales@cardiff.ac.uk)

## **Take part in a Focus Group**

We are continuing to develop and improve the HealthWise Wales experience ahead of our public launch in February. We will be holding a focus group (group discussion) over the next few weeks to get your thoughts on how to engage with the public and to make sure the messages and look and feel of the website/ advertisements are appealing to potential participants.

Would you be interested in joining us for 1.5 hours to take part in a focus group? If so, please email us at: [healthwisewales@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:healthwisewales@cardiff.ac.uk) indicating if day time or evening would be best. We will organise to fit in with your availability.

If you do not wish to attend but have any thoughts/comments you think would help us, we would also love to hear from you.

## **Feedback on Welsh Government Branding**

We have received mixed feedback about the influence of the Welsh Government branding on the HealthWise Wales webpage, and whether this will affect potential participation in the study. We would like to hear your opinion. Please click on the link below to be taken to a short two-question survey about this. Thank you.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XB3TTSD>

## **Public Delivery Board Independent Chair Appointed**

HealthWise Wales are delighted to announce that Andrew Rix has been appointed through open national competition to become the independent public chair of the new Health and Care Research Wales Public Delivery Board. To read more about this please visit our [News page](#).

## **Spread the Word**

Thank you for being one of the first to sign up to support this exciting new venture for Wales. We still need to recruit more participants to reach our pilot phase target so please help us to spread the word, by sharing the website address with colleagues. Over the coming months we will be developing a range of bilingual promotional materials, which we will use to promote the project.

**Website:** <http://www.healthwisewales.gov.wales/>

**Email:** [healthwisewales@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:healthwisewales@cardiff.ac.uk)

**Phone:** 0800 9 172 172

**Twitter:** @HealthWiseWales