

The effect of face mask wear on the ocular surface and contact lens microbiome

Researchers at UNSW are seeking participants for a project to investigate about whether face mask wear alters the resident microbial community (ocular microbiome) on the eye and on contact lenses.

The research study is looking recruit people who meet the following criteria:

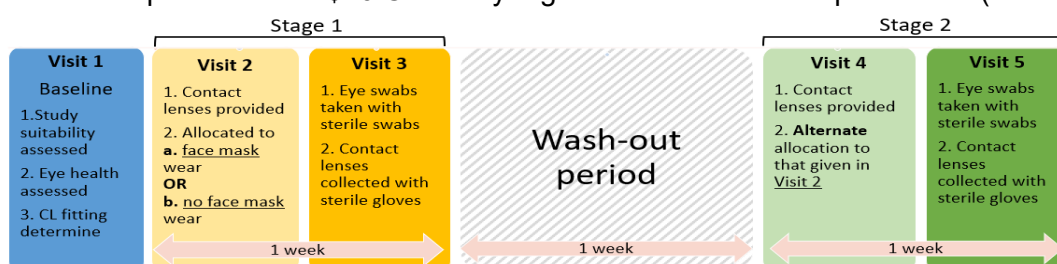
- Experienced contact lens wearer
- Over 18 years of age

Participants meeting the following criteria will be excluded from the study:

- Have an active ocular inflammation or infection
- Have used any antibiotic or immunosuppressant (topical or systemic) in the past 3 months

Participants will be asked to complete the following research activities:

- You will be provided with commercially available contact lenses (Coopervision MyDay daily disposable) to wear for a minimum of 6 hours/day for 2 weeks. This will be done both during one week of face mask wear (minimum of 6 hours a day of mask wear) and during one week of no face mask wear.
- Have your conjunctiva and eyelid margin gently swabbed by sterile swabs to sample the residing bacteria.
- Have your contact lenses collected so that we can assess the bacteria present on the contact lens surface.
- There will be 5 visits and each visit will take between 15 – 30 minutes to complete. The study will take over three weeks to complete
- You will be provided with \$20 Coles-Myer gift cards for each completed visit (total \$100)



A full description of all research activities, including any risks, harms or discomforts that you may experience while participating in this research is included in the attached Participant Information Statement and Consent Form.

Please contact the following person via email or phone to register your interest in taking part in the research or if you have questions about the research and would like to contact the Chief Investigator:

Name	Dr Jerome Ozkan
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