

Welcome to the study "Social Identification and Chronic Diseases"!

We are pleased that you are interested in participating in this study!

This study information describes the background and procedure of the study and should enable you to decide whether you want to participate. You will also receive information on handling your data and your rights as a study participant.

What are we investigating?

People feel connected to different social groups throughout their lives. In psychology, social groups are, for instance, family, close friends, or work colleagues. In this study, we investigate how the feeling of belonging to a group and having regular contact with multiple social groups affects chronic disease management and the overall well-being of people living with chronic conditions.

The study is being conducted by the Leibniz Institute for Psychology (ZPID) in cooperation with the Department of Psychology at the University of Oslo under the direction of Dr. Svenja Frenzel, Dr. Antonia Kaluza, and Associate Prof. Nina M. Junker.

Who can take part in the study?

You can take part in the study if you fulfill the following criteria:

- Diagnosis of diabetes mellitus type 1 or type 2
- Legal age (at least 18 years old)
- Speaking and understanding the English language
- Regular contact (i.e., at least once per month) with other people who have been diagnosed with diabetes

Unfortunately, you will not be able to take part in the study if you do not know any people with a diabetes mellitus diagnosis and/or do not have regular contact (e.g., once a month) with them.

What will you have to do?

This online survey will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.

Initially, you will be asked to provide demographic information about yourself (e.g., age and gender). Next, we will ask you questions about your diabetes diagnosis (e.g., how long you have had diabetes mellitus), followed by questions about your current well-being and diabetes management. We would also like to find out more about your social network, such as how often you interact with other people and how close you feel to them.

This survey is part of a larger research project consisting of **three** surveys. At the end of this survey, you can decide whether you wish to be invited to the second survey in about three months.

Why should you take part?

By taking part, you are supporting our psychological research on diabetes mellitus. You will receive a financial reimbursement of £4 for your participation in each survey. If you participate in all three surveys, you will also receive a bonus of £4. Accordingly, if you participate in all three surveys, you will receive £16.

Payment is processed via the Prolific platform. Immediately after completing the first survey, you will be credited the financial reimbursement for the first survey (i.e., £4).

What happens to your data?

Your data will be pseudonymized initially and stored under your Prolific ID. We use your Prolific ID to match your answers of the three surveys. As soon as the matching has been completed (i.e., after the end of data collection), we delete the Prolific ID, and your data is completely anonymized. Thus, we cannot identify any individual people. Please note that we can no longer delete your anonymized data on request. Your data is stored on an external password-protected hard drive. Only the project management has access to this data.

The results and data of this study will be used for scientific publications. The anonymity of the participants is also guaranteed during this process, i.e., the data cannot be assigned to specific individuals. The completely anonymized data set will be made available to other scientists via an online archive. The anonymized form of the data means that results or individual responses cannot be traced back to you. This study, therefore, complies with the recommendations of the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the German Psychological Society (DGPs) for quality standards in research.

Do you have to take part in the study?

No! Participation in the study is voluntary, and you can withdraw your participation anytime. You can arrange for your pseudonymized data to be deleted if you wish. Once your data has been anonymized, we can no longer delete it.

Are there any risks associated with the study?

No! Participation in the study does not involve any risks for you.

How long will my data be stored?

The anonymized data will be stored indefinitely, ensuring that other researchers can analyze and comprehend our results transparently.

Do you have further questions or comments about the study? You can contact us here:
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