

Invitation to participate in the research project “Health and Environment in Oslo”

You are invited to take part in a research project being carried out by the Norwegian Institute of Public Health. We want to find out more about the health of people who live or have lived in Oslo. Participation involves only completion of a questionnaire.

What are the purposes of the research project?

- Examine the local environment’s significance for health and development of disease over time
- Examine other possible causes of disease than the local environment
- Compare health and environment data with other European countries

Who is invited?

Everyone who was invited to participate in the Oslo Health Study in 2000-01 and who lives in Norway now will be invited. Even if you did not participate in the previous study, you will be making a very important contribution by participating this time.

Why participate?

By taking part you will help us to find out more about how environmental conditions affect health. The results may be used to improve the local environment and prevent disease such as cardiovascular disease. **All participants in the study will be included in a draw for three gift tokens of 5000 Norwegian kroner each.**

Privacy

The study is approved by the Data Protection Authority and the Regional Committee for the Medical Research Ethics. The information from the questionnaires will be put together with information about local environmental conditions and data from previous health studies, other registers and hospitals. This will be data about health, disease, national insurance, income, education and occupation. These current registers are listed under “**Privacy**” in the enclosed brochure. After compilation, name and unique personal identification number will be removed. You will not be able to be identified in the results of the study when these are published.

Voluntary participation

Participation in the study is voluntary. **If you wish to participate, please sign the consent form below.**

As a participant you can withdraw at any time and request that the information about you is deleted without having to state a reason. This must be requested in writing to the Norwegian Institute of Public Health. You can read more in the enclosed brochure, also for you who do not wish to participate.

We hope you are able to participate!

Yours faithfully

Dr. Per Schwarze
Project leader,
Health and environment in Oslo

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Consent to participate in the study

(Please return this signed section with the completed questionnaire in the enclosed reply-paid envelope)

I am willing to participate in “Health and Environment in Oslo.”

I consent to place together the information from the questionnaire with information about local environmental conditions, data from the previous health studies, current registers (listed under **Privacy** in the enclosed brochure) and hospital date.

I consent that information without name and unique personal identification number will be delivered to the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands.

I would like to be included in the draw for three gift tokens of 5000 Norwegian kroner each.

(Date)

(Signature)