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**Appendix 1**

Information supplied by an official from (based on his records) Department of Housing, Randfontein: breakdown of housing units per area.

Area	Number of houses
Mohlakeng	14000
Toekomsrus	6000
Town suburban areas	8000
Total	28000
Other – farm areas and informal settlements outside townships and town areas	7600
Difference (28000 – 7600)	20400
Total population (28000+7600)	35600

**Figures supplied by data-capturer in Randfontein catchment areas**

Area	Number of people in catchment areas in 2008.
Mohlakeng	69829
Toekomsrus	21626
Town	55875
Total	147330
Other	27254
Difference (147330 – 120076)	120076
Total population (147330 + 27254)	174584

This is an indication of the catchment volume of clinic attenders in different areas.

## Appendix 2

### Participant Information Sheet

#### RECORD OF INFORMED CONSENT TO CONDUCT AN INTERVIEW BY THE STUDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE (UWC)

Date:

Interviewer: Mlungisi Patrick Makubalo

UWC Student Number: 2637295

Tel: 0732089001 Fax 0116934104

Email: [phopho.makubalo@hotmail.com](mailto:phopho.makubalo@hotmail.com)

Institution: University of the Western Cape

Interviewee's pseudonym:



Place where interview is conducted: Primary health care facility in Randfontein.

Thank you for agreeing to allow me to interview you. What follows is an explanation of the purpose and process of this interview. You are asked to give your consent to me on tape when we meet to conduct the interview.

I am Mlungisi Patrick Makubalo, a student at the School of Public Health, University of the Western Cape. As part of my Master's degree in Public Health, I am required to do a mini-thesis research. I will be focusing on a study that will explore Randfontein communities' perceptions on the factors that influence their dental and oral health seeking. I am accountable to doctor Ruth Stern who is contactable by email at [rstern@uwc.ac.za](mailto:rstern@uwc.ac.za), by phone at 0219592809 and by fax at 021959 2872

Perceptions on factors influencing oral health seeking by Randfontein residents

Here is some information to explain the purpose and usage of my interview.

## **2. Purpose and contents of interview**

The purpose of the interview is to gather information that can be used to better design, plan and implement effective oral and dental health promotion. The contents of the interview will be questions about factors that influence oral health seeking by communities in Randfontein and to understand the impact of these factors as well as of oral health seeking.

## **3. The interview process**

Six focus group discussions will be held at the primary health care clinic commonly known as the Municipality Clinic in Randfontein. Groups will be allocated according to where they reside because the study hopes to elicit issues that are common among residents within each geographical area of residence however issues that are perceived as not common will not be discarded. Those issues viewed as “not common” may widen the insight into the needs of all communities. The other reason is to enable all participants to understand one another as this will be a discussion among participants.

## **4. Anonymity of contributors**

At all times, I will keep the source of the information confidential and refer to you or your words by a pseudonym or invented name which I would like you to choose. See “name” above. I shall keep any other records of your participation locked away at all times, and destroy them after the data has been collected.

### **Things that may affect your willingness to participate**

The interview may touch on issues which you do not want to discuss, please feel free to say so. I will not be offended and there will be no negative consequences if you would prefer not to answer a question. I would appreciate your guidance should I ask anything which you see as intrusive or unacceptable to you. You will be completely free to withdraw from the interview at any stage of this process.

## **6. Agreement**

### **6.1 Interviewee's agreement**

Dear sir/madam,

You are requested to participate on the research on “perceptions on the factors that influence oral health care seeking behaviour of communities in Randfontein, Gauteng Province, South Africa”. You will freely discuss as a respondent who will assist with information and knowledge generation for the purpose of a mini-thesis. You will be free to discontinue the discussion or withdraw from it whenever you want to do so. You are not obliged to answer questions you are not comfortable with.

Should you want more clarification on any aspect regarding the research please ask for it. All information in this interview will be kept strictly confidential. If you choose to participate in this research kindly sign below as indicated. Your signature means that you give me permission to involve you in the focus group discussion. I can only start the focus group discussion involving you after you have consented and signed as in the box below:

**Interviewee’s agreement**

I have read and understood the contents of this research, alternatively the contents of this research has been explained to me to my satisfaction. I voluntarily give consent to the researcher to include me as a participant in the group discussion on the topic stated above. I understand that I may choose to participate, refuse to answer questions or to discontinue at any time during the group.

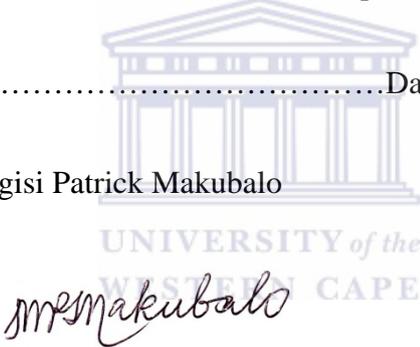
I give consent to participate in the research and this I indicate with my signature. I understand that my signature means that I consent to participate.

Participant’s name.....(printed)

Participant’ signature .....Date.....

Researcher’ s name: Mlungisi Patrick Makubalo

Researcher’s signature:



**6.2 Interviewer’s agreement**

I shall keep the contents of the above research interview confidential in the sense that the pseudonym noted above will be used in all documents which refer to the interview. The contents will be used for the purpose referred to above, but may be used for published or unpublished research at a later stage without further consent. Any change from this agreement will be negotiated with you.

Signed by interviewer.

*mmakubalo*

# Perceptions on factors influencing oral health seeking by Randfontein residents

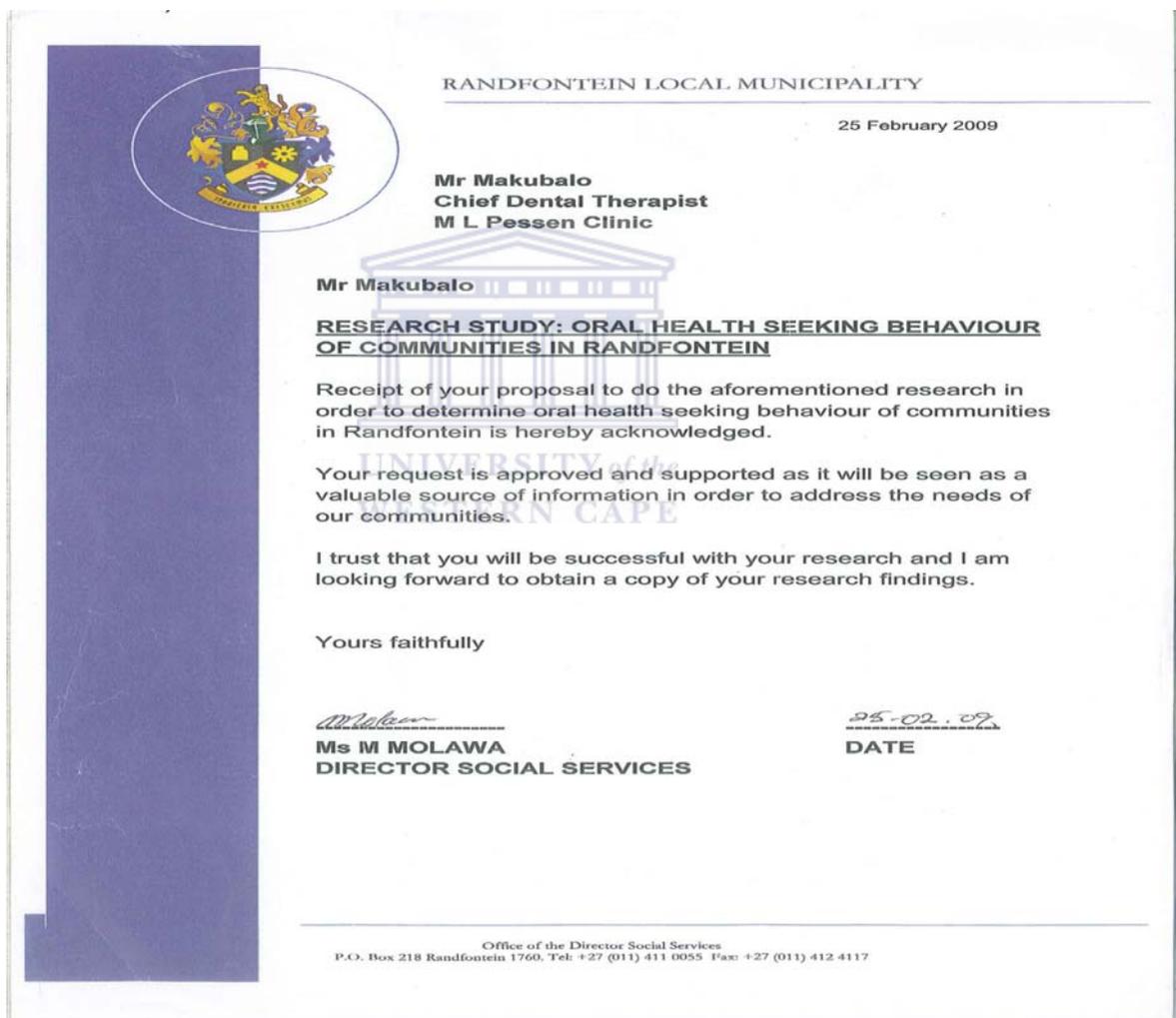
Signed by participant

Date;

Place: Randfontein, Gauteng.

## Appendix 3

Proof of permission to do research in a Randfontein primary health facility



**RANDFONTEIN LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

25 February 2009

**Mr Makubalo**  
Chief Dental Therapist  
M L Pessen Clinic

**Mr Makubalo**

**RESEARCH STUDY: ORAL HEALTH SEEKING BEHAVIOUR OF COMMUNITIES IN RANDFONTEIN**

Receipt of your proposal to do the aforementioned research in order to determine oral health seeking behaviour of communities in Randfontein is hereby acknowledged.

Your request is approved and supported as it will be seen as a valuable source of information in order to address the needs of our communities.

I trust that you will be successful with your research and I am looking forward to obtain a copy of your research findings.

Yours faithfully

*M Molawa*  
**Ms M MOLAWA**  
DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES

25-02-09  
**DATE**

Office of the Director Social Services  
P.O. Box 218 Randfontein 1760, Tel: +27 (011) 411 0055 Fax: +27 (011) 412 4117

**Appendix 4: Questions intended to guide FGD themes**

1. What do you do when you have a dental problem or any discomfort in your mouth?
2. What is the best thing to do when one has a dental problem?
3. What reasons could or has lead you or anyone you know not to visit a dentist even though you believe you should do so?
4. Tell me about strategies that are sometimes used to relieve dental pain.
5. What effects do these have on the disease and how long is the effect?
6. What experiences did you have since you started visiting dentists?
7. Let us discuss suggestions that you believe could help people and communities that are in need of dental services. The key researcher found it necessary to use the words “oral health promotion” and to explain them in the latter FGDs to probe perceptions and behaviors participants considered to be oral health promotion.
8. What are the short – comings of the present oral health services in the public health system in Randfontein?

The key researcher was satisfied that the expected themes came out in these discussions.