



## Research & Evaluation Division Privacy Disclaimer

The Eastern Health Applied Health Research & Evaluation Division prioritizes *privacy* and *confidentiality* for all participants, clients and stakeholders involved in our research studies, program evaluations and analytics. The individual participant data we collect is used solely for the purpose of achieving research/program evaluation goals, and no names or other identifying information is used when summarizing results. Data collected from interviews, surveys and focus groups may be provided to our stakeholders and clients, however identifying information is accessible only to Research & Evaluation Division staff.

Eastern Health adheres to the [Personal Health Information Act \(PHIA\)](#). This health privacy law establishes rules that custodians of personal health information must follow when collecting, using and disclosing individuals' confidential personal health information. All information collected by the Research & Evaluation Division is kept in a secure office and/or on password-protected and encrypted computers belonging to Eastern Health.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### 1. *What information do you collect?*

The type of information we collect varies, and may include personal information (e.g. name, age, sex, occupation, etc.), health information, experiences and opinions, or any other data that will help us achieve our research/program evaluation goals. Surveys completed through SurveyMonkey may collect the IP address of the device on which the survey is completed; this is done to track if an individual completes the same survey multiple times.

#### 2. *How do you use the information?*

All information collected through the Research & Evaluation Division is used for Eastern Health research and/or program evaluations. The data we collect is used to help expand healthcare delivery, create evidence-based policies, and improve patient care.

#### 3. *What information do you share?*

All personal information collected by the Research & Evaluation Division undergoes a rigorous de-identification process. Interview and focus group data is presented in aggregate form only, so that responses cannot be traced back to individual participants. The information we collect is analyzed and presented in reports, publications, news articles and/or presentations. Recipients include Eastern Health staff and clinicians, as well as external clients and stakeholders.

#### 4. *How does SurveyMonkey keep my information private and secure?*

The Research & Evaluation Division frequently uses platforms such as SurveyMonkey to conduct surveys and collect data. Survey design and data collection is done through a private, password-protected account accessible only to the Research & Evaluation Division staff. SurveyMonkey has policies related to [privacy](#) and [security](#), and we encourage you to read these policies before participating in any of our surveys hosted through this platform.

For more information about privacy and confidentiality in the Research & Evaluation Division, please contact Patricia McCarthy, Manager Applied Health Research and Evaluation Division ([Patricia.McCarthy@easternhealth.ca](mailto:Patricia.McCarthy@easternhealth.ca)).