

THE COST OF EATING DISORDERS

Butterfly Research Institute's Cost of ED's Survey

WHAT IS THE SURVEY ABOUT?

This consultation is part of the work of the Butterfly Research Institute (BRI) on the cost of treating an eating disorder.

It aims to find out about Australians' experiences when it comes to the cost of treatment for an eating disorder. The survey offers an opportunity for Australians to:

SHARE their experience of the financial costs related to the treatment of an eating disorder

HELP us to understand the impact of this cost on their daily lives

CONTRIBUTE to commentary for government, both Federal and State, for advocacy and change to current health policy.

Getting a wide range of experiences from the community, will allow us to better understand the financial impact on an individual and family when treating an eating disorder.

People can participate by filling in the online survey. The survey is for anyone living in Australia who is over the age of 18.

Participating is voluntary and anonymous. The survey takes about 20 - 25 minutes to complete.

HOW YOU CAN HELP.

We seek your assistance in reaching as many diverse participants as possible.

TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY VISIT:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/TBFCostofED

Please distribute the survey information and link to your network of those over 18 in Australia.

Butterfly Foundation will be regularly posting about the project on social media and we encourage you to share this content. We also ask you to consider sharing with your own networks, for example; social media, blog posts, external newsletters, or internal organisation communications.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Issues around eating disorders can trigger distress and disordered thoughts or behaviours for some people. Any social media posts, articles or other communications about this project should always include reference to the Butterfly Foundation as the investigator and list contact details for both the project and the National Helpline. You can find more information about safe communication about eating disorders [here](#).

Some people may find answering the questions uncomfortable or upsetting. Anyone participating is encouraged to contact the **Butterfly Foundation National Helpline 1800 33 4673** or visit the [webchat services online](#) to access free support, advice and counselling if they need to talk about what this brings up for them.

If you would like further information you can contact the Principal Investigator for the project: frances.cook@thebutterflyfoundation.org.au.

For more information about Butterfly Foundation Communications, you can contact sarah@thebutterflyfoundation.org.au



Butterfly Research Institute

Butterfly Foundation is Australia's national charity supporting those affected by eating disorders and negative body image. Butterfly Research Institute works together with those with a lived experience to advance the Australian knowledge base on eating disorders and body image.

To further explore the actual impact of eating disorder treatment costs for Australians, the Butterfly Research Institute is conducting consultation with individuals to investigate the experience of Australians over the age of 18, and the impact these costs have had on their day to day lives. The project will contribute to an understanding of the financial impact of treatment in Australia, and also guide the development of best practice for policy change and advocacy to government.

In 2012, Butterfly commissioned a report from Deloitte Access Economics to examine the socioeconomic cost of eating disorders in Australia. The report looked at prevalence, financial costs, and impacts on productivity and societal impact of eating disorders in Australia. **The report found that the total socioeconomic cost for eating disorders in 2012 was \$69.7 billion.**

This survey will revisit these findings, with a strong focus on hearing the voices of the lived experience in order to give a realistic narrative around the statistics and findings. We encourage you to support the work of the organisation by promoting this study to your networks and encouraging broad participation.