

The impact of Long COVID on diverse Australian populations: a multi-site, national longitudinal survey study

Luo S¹, Zheng Z¹, Karimi L¹, Plebanski M¹, Anderson K³, Jovanovski N¹, Lankatillake C¹, Cockshaw W¹, Wollersheim D¹, Sheahan J¹, Seal E-L¹, Butler-Henderson K⁹, Campbell D⁶, Clarke A⁷, Cleary S¹, Danaher J¹, El-Ansary D¹, Figueiredo B⁴, Flanagan KL¹, Hines C¹, Jessup R⁶, Miller S⁶, Seeley M-C⁸, Sivan M¹⁰, Smarrelli F⁷, Smith AB¹⁰, Vesty G⁵, Vindigni D¹, Xenos S¹, Itsiopoulos C².

¹School of Health and Biomedical Sciences, RMIT University; ²STEM College, RMIT University ; ³School of Computing Technologies, RMIT University ; ⁴School of Economics, Finance and Marketing, RMIT University; ⁵ School of Accounting, RMIT University; ⁶Northern Health; ⁷Hand on Health Australia; ⁸ Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Adelaide; ⁹ School of Nursing, Paramedicine and Healthcare Sciences, Charles Sturt University; ¹⁰ School of Medicine, University of Leeds

Background

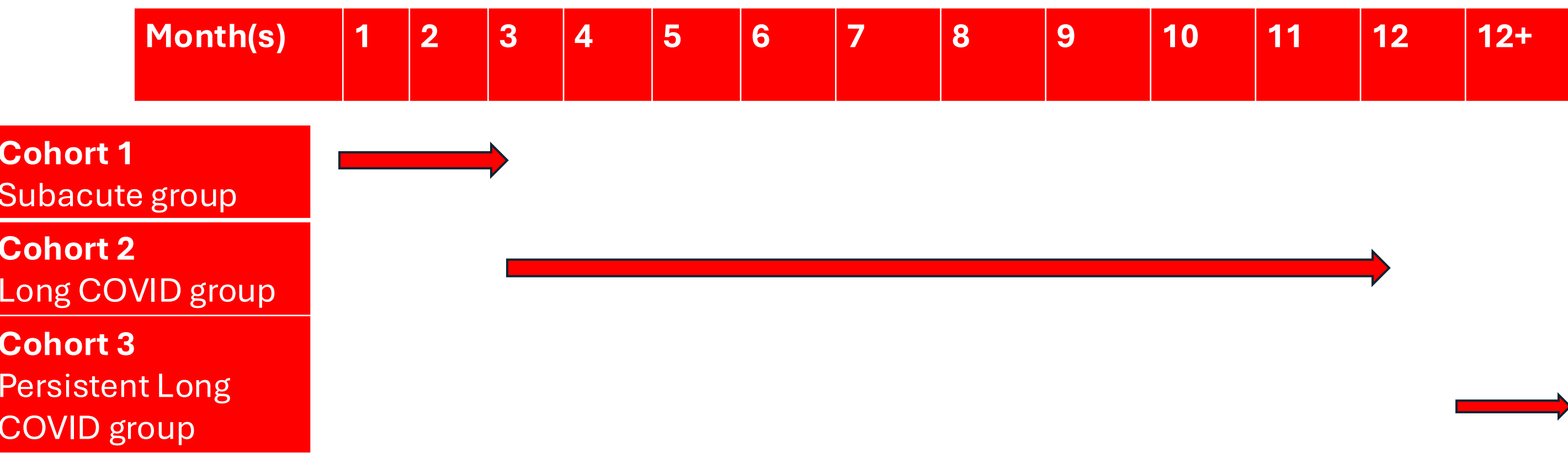
Long COVID, also called Post-acute Sequelae of COVID-19 (PASC), is a post-infection chronic condition that affects multiple organ systems (1). To date, no study has systematically and prospectively examined the full breadth of Long COVID’s impacts in Australia or elsewhere.

This study represents the quantitative component of Arm 1 within a broader collaborative project funded by the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF), titled "Emerging from the Long Shadow: Optimising Supportive Consumer and Provider Care Pathways through the Post-Acute Sequelae of COVID-19." The primary aim is to characterise the symptoms, functional profiles, and overall impact of Long COVID on Australian adults from diverse populations

Selection criteria

- Inclusion criteria :
- 18 years old and above;
 - Living in Australia, with plans to remain for at least the next two years, and with no restrictions on ethnic or cultural background;
 - A history of COVID-19 infection (PCR or RAT positive) or a close contact of a confirmed case, and still experiencing ongoing symptoms that cannot be explained by an alternative diagnosis.
- Exclusion criteria:
- Critically ill and currently requiring intensive care;
 - Individuals unable to autonomously provide informed consent.

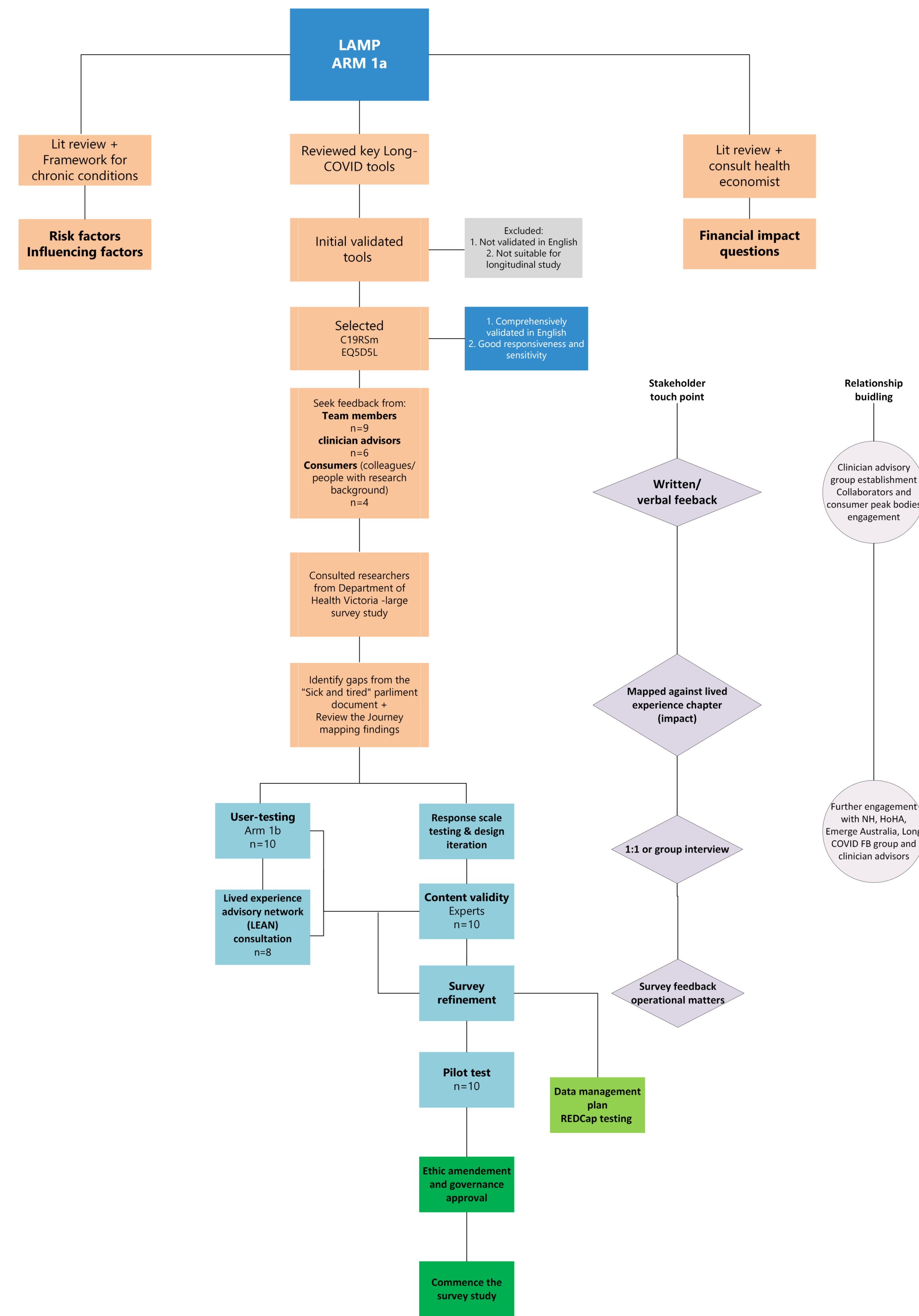
Study Cohorts



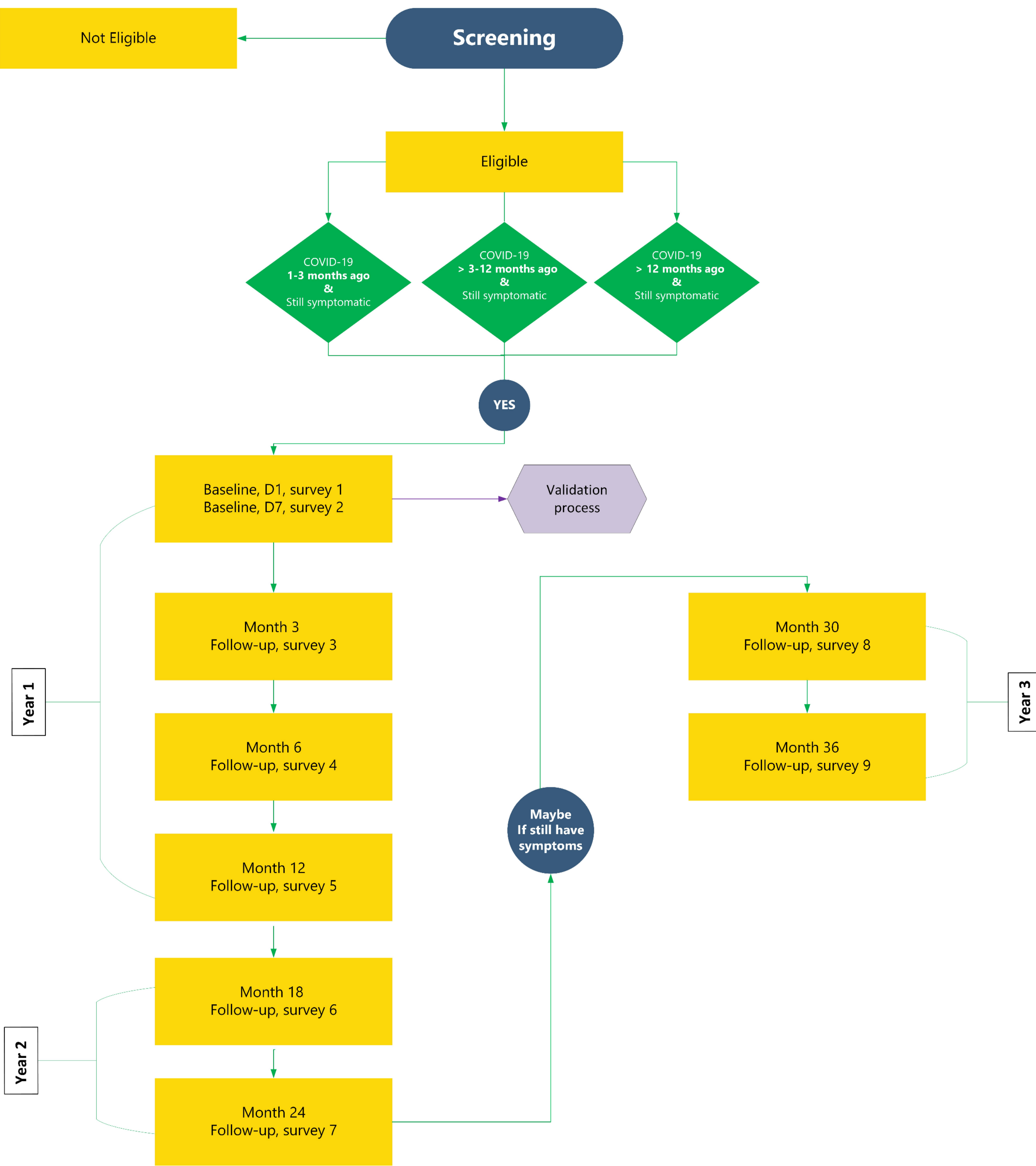
Reference

1. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Long COVID in Australia: a review of the literature [Internet]. Canberra: AIHW; 2023 [cited 2025 Mar 5]. Available from: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/covid-19/long-covid-in-australia-a-review-of-the-literature/summary>

Methods – Survey development and refinement



Methods – Longitudinal survey study (n =1000)



Contact

For further information or to support recruitment, please reach out to longcovidstudy@rmit.edu.au

Long COVID Assessment
Management Practice (LAMP)