# Participant Information Sheet

(Parent(s)/Guardian(s))

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| **Short title:** | ECMT-154™ for the Topical Treatment of Eczema in Children | | |
| **Study title**: | Randomised Controlled Trial of ECMT-154™ vs Vehicle Control for the Topical Treatment of Eczema in children aged 2-12 YO. | | |
| **Sponsor:** | Mānuka Bioscience Limited | | |
| **Ethics committee ref.:** | 2022 FULL 12496 | | |
| **Lead investigator:** | Dr Gabby Shortt<br>Dr Alex Semprini | **Contact phone number:** | +64 805 0261 |

## INTRODUCTION

Your child is invited to take part in a clinical research study on eczema in children aged 2 to 12 years, because you have requested treatment for this condition from your pharmacy or responded to a notice about the study.

This information sheet will help you decide if you would like your child to take part. It sets out why we are doing the study and what your child's participation will involve. This includes what the benefits and potential risks might be, and what happens after the study ends. **Your child does not have to take part.** If you or your child choose not to, you don't have to give a reason, and it won't affect the care your child receives. If you or your child decide to take part now, but later change your mind, your child can leave the study at any time, without having to give a reason.

Before you and your child decide, you may want to talk about the study with other people, such as family, whānau, friends, or healthcare providers. Feel free to do this. Your child and you can also talk to one of the study team – their contact details are on page 9.

This document is 11 pages long, including the consent form at the end. Please make sure you have **read and understood all the pages**. If you agree to take part, you will be asked to sign an electronic copy of the consent form. You will be given a copy to keep.

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY?

Eczema is an inflammatory skin condition that causes rashes and dry or itchy skin. In children, eczema may appear as scales or red, brown or purple bumps. When eczema flares, symptoms worsen, and scratching the skin can lead to infections.

The aim of this study is to find out if a topical cream, containing ECMT-154™, is an effective treatment option for children at reducing eczema symptoms. ECMT-154™ is a manuka oil-based topical therapy, which has ingredients that may help treat the symptoms of eczema. Pre-clinical evidence has also shown ECMT-154™ is effective at killing bacteria, which could reduce the risk of eczema rashes becoming infected.

ECMT-154™ has been recently tested in 51 people and showed no signs of irritancy or skin reactions and the ingredients are used in many common creams you are able to purchase.
This study is sponsored by Mānuka Bioscience Ltd. and is being run in pharmacies around New Zealand. The study is being coordinated by the Medical Research Institute of New Zealand (MRINZ), Wellington, NZ, under the direction of the Lead Study Doctor, Dr Alex Semprini. Contact details for Dr Semprini and the study team can be found on page 11.
This study has had ethics approval by Central Health and Disability Ethics Committee (reference: 2022 FULL 12496).

## WHAT WILL MY/MY CHILD'S PARTICIPATION IN THE STUDY INVOLVE

We are inviting 50 children aged between 2 and 12 years, with eczema, to take part in this study.

If your child takes part in this study, they will be given either cream with 2% ECMT-154™ or a control cream. Both creams are the same, except for whether they contain ECMT-154™ or not. The use of the control cream is to allow researchers to determine whether the cream plus ECMT-154™ has a greater effect than just the cream by itself. It is currently unknown if ECMT-154™ will be an effective treatment for eczema, therefore there is no known benefit to receiving the ECMT-154™ cream over the control cream. It is expected that both creams will provide a basic barrier and moisturising effect to treat active areas of eczema on your child's skin.

The treatment your child receives will be chosen randomly, and there is an equal chance of receiving each treatment option. Neither you, your child, nor the study team will be told which treatment your child receives. **You will need to apply the treatment to your child twice daily for six weeks**. You will be asked to complete an electronic study diary once a week. Your child will be required to stop using all other moisturisers and emulsion treatments during the study, with the exception of sunscreen and existing facial routine. During the study period you must also replace your child's current body wash/soap with aqueous cream provided for your child. Hand washing and sanitisation is permitted. No other eczema treatments may be used during the study, this includes the use of bleach baths. If any product aside from your child's assigned treatment or aqueous cream is applied to your child's eczema lesions please notify the study team.

If you consent to your child taking part in this study your pharmacist will first need to ask some questions about your child's health, **we will check very carefully to make sure it is safe for them**. The following criteria must be met:

| ✔ | TO TAKE PART IN THIS STUDY YOUR CHILD MUST: |
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| ✔ | • Be aged between 2 and 12 |
| ✔ | • Have been told by their doctor that they have eczema |
| ✔ | • Have an eczema lesion, located below the collarbone that is in an area you are both comfortable to have photographed. |
| ✔ | • Have a Patient Orientated Eczema Measure (POEM) score of 'moderate to severe eczema' |
| ✔ | • Be willing to stop application of other moisturisers, emulsion creams or other eczema treatments to the affected areas during the study period and replace them with the assigned study treatment. Usual application of sunscreen is allowed. |
| ✔ | • Be willing to replace their body wash/soap with aqueous cream as supplied at enrolment. Hand washing and sanitization is allowed. |
| ✔ | • Be able to attend a follow up visit, with you in attendance, 6 weeks after they enrol in the study. |
| ✔ | • Be willing and able to comply with the study instructions. |
| ✔ | • Have a parent/guardian with internet access on a smartphone for completing the online study diaries and once weekly eczema photograph. |

| ✗ | YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE PART IN THE STUDY IF: |
|---|---|
| ✗ | Your child has a current requirement for a prescription of antibiotics or corticosteroids for the treatment of any condition. |
| ✗ | Your child has used antihistamines, antibiotics or corticosteroids within the last two weeks (with the exception of inhaled and intranasal corticosteroids) |
| ✗ | Your child has used an immunomodulatory medication for eczema within the last four weeks. |
| ✗ | Your child has used bleach baths within the past seven days. Bleach baths will not be permitted during the study. Swimming in pools is still permitted. |
| ✗ | Your child has a fungal or bacterial infection requiring a topical or systemic therapy |
| ✗ | Your child has any other skin condition which may affect the assessment of eczema |
| ✗ | Your child has a history of allergy or hypersensitivity to study treatment ingredients (listed below) |
| ✗ | Your child has participated in a clinical study involving an investigational product in the last three months |
| ✗ | You or your child have current cold or flu like symptoms, fever, or unexplained shortness of breath |
| ✗ | Your child has any other condition which, at the investigator's discretion, is believed may present a risk or impact upon the ability of the child to complete the study |

If your child takes part, the study will last for **8 weeks total**, during which you will both **meet with the pharmacist twice, at the beginning and at week 6**. We will also send you a **follow-up survey at week 8** to complete on their behalf. If we can't get hold of you we will try and telephone you again no more than three times and may send an email or text message also. With your consent, we will send your child's doctor a letter letting them know about the study and that your child is taking part. Your child's doctor will also be informed if your child withdraws from the study for any reason.

**ECMT-154 formulation**:
1% or less
Manuka oil, Palmarosa oil, sodium lauryl sulphate
More than 1%
Water, polyethylene glycol, propylene glycol, white soft paraffin, stearyl alcohol

## Initial visit (30 to 50 minutes)

During this visit we will:

- **Explain the study** and answer any questions your child or you may have.
- Collect some **personal information about your child and you.** For our records we will collect your personal contact details (e.g., your name, your contact phone number, email, address). For your child we will collect additional personal information (e.g. your child's name, their ethnicity and their date of birth) and your child's **medical information,** to check they are able to take part.
- Ask you to sign the **consent** form and your child to sign the assent form if able and old enough.
- Ask you to complete 3 questionnaires about your **child's eczema symptoms** and how they affect your child.
- Take a **photo of your child's eczema lesion**. If there is more than one lesion, you may choose which area of your child is photographed.
- **Give you the treatment** for your child and some aqueous cream for them to use as soap replacement.

- Book you and your child in for a 6 week follow up visit (Visit 2).

## Visit 2 (10 to 20 minutes)

During this visit we will:

- Ask if your child has experienced any **side effects, new medical problems, or used other medications** during the study.
- Collect unused study treatment.
- Take a **photo of your child's representative eczema lesion**
- **Complete the same questionnaires** to assess your child's eczema that you completed at the initial visit.
- Ask you to complete a questionnaire about how acceptable you and your child found the treatment.

## Visit 3 (5 to 10 minutes)

At week 8, you will be sent a follow up survey to ask if your child has experienced any side effects or new medical problems in the two weeks after stopping the study treatment, and record general comments about the study.

## Weekly electronic study diary and treatment (5 to 10 minutes)

You will be asked to complete electronic study diaries on behalf of your child, once a week during the treatment period (a total of five). When completing this diary, we ask you to:

- Record **how many times you applied the treatment** to your child in the last week
- Record any **side effects** or new medical events of any cause, in your child.
- Record any **other medications used** by your child during the treatment period.
- **Take a photo** of your child's representative eczema lesion
- Score your child's eczema using a 7-question POEM questionnaire.
- At Week 3, additional questionnaires about eczema symptoms and quality of life will be completed. This will add an additional 5-10 minutes to the diary.

This diary will be monitored by the study team at MRINZ who will call, text message or email you if you miss an entry. You may be contacted by a member of the study team if you record a side effect or have recorded use of other medications. You can also contact the study team at any time during your child's participation.

## Can I choose which treatment my child is given?

No. Your child has a **50:50 chance** of getting either ECMT-154™ or control cream. We will use specialised computer software to randomly choose which treatment you get. This means that we will only know which treatment you get after the computer decides.

### What happens if my child's eczema gets worse during the study?

Periods of worsening eczema in your child may be expected and your child may be able to continue in the study if their eczema gets worse. You should record any concerns or changes in your child's health in the online diary or you may call or message the study team at any time. The study team will monitor your weekly diary and the study doctor will review any adverse events reported.

All adverse events including allergic reactions will be reported to the study doctor who will advise management accordingly, including seeking help from your usual care provider if indicated. The study doctor will discuss with you about your child continuing in the research.

If urgent, you will be advised to seek emergency care and your child will be reviewed and followed up by the study doctor at the first opportunity. If you are worried about your child's eczema, you may visit your pharmacist or contact your child's regular doctor who will continue to look after your child during the study. They may choose to provide further treatment if necessary. Any costs to you in seeking additional treatment for your child's eczema, following a study related adverse event, will be reimbursed by the study team (e.g. doctor appointment and prescription fee).

## WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE BENEFITS AND RISKS OF THIS STUDY?

The study treatments are considered safe to apply to child eczema. The Standing Committee on Therapeutic Trials have reviewed and approved the scientific design of the trial. However, localised irritation or stinging on application may be expected. There is a small risk of a more severe allergy as would occur with using any new treatment. Any reactions will be monitored during the study, and you may contact Dr Alex Semprini, the study doctor, at any time.
If you have a suspected allergic reaction on your skin when you attend the follow up visit, a photograph will be taken for the study dermatologist to assess. The study team will follow up any allergic reactions or adverse events you may have during the study period.

Enrolling your child in this study is entirely optional and you may use alternative treatments for their eczema instead of taking part. Our team will contact you if any new information becomes available around the study treatment during the study (such as changes to its safety profile). If this occurs we will confirm your child is happy to proceed with the study.

## WILL ANY COSTS BE REIMBURSED?

As the sponsor, Mānuka Bioscience Ltd is paying for the study. It does not cost anything to participate in this study. The treatments are provided free of charge and you will be reimbursed $200 by direct bank-transfer in recognition of your child's participation.
This payment is for your travel and study expenses at the end of the study, on completion of the two study visits, five weekly diaries, and follow up survey. If your child withdraws from the study early for medical or any other reason, after using study treatment, you will be reimbursed based on the study visits completed. We encourage you to share this with your child. The pharmacies are reimbursed for their participation in the study as fully trained members of the Pharmacy Research Network, and for loss of income from the provision of free treatments. Findings from this study may be used towards the sponsor commercializing the product, all ownership rights are retained by the sponsor.

## WHAT IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG?

Your child won't be eligible for compensation from ACC if injured as a result from taking part in the study. However, Mānuka Bioscience Ltd. has up-to-date insurance for providing participants with compensation if they are injured as a result of taking part in this study which is at least ACC equivalent. Compensation should be appropriate to the nature, severity and persistence of your child's injury and should be no less than would be awarded for similar injuries by New Zealand's ACC scheme. Some sponsors voluntarily commit to providing compensation in accordance with guidelines that they have agreed between themselves, called the Medicines New Zealand Guidelines (Industry Guidelines). These are often referred to for information on compensation for commercial clinical trials. There are some important points to know about the Industry Guidelines:

- On their own they are not legally enforceable, and may not provide ACC equivalent compensation.
- There are limitations on when compensation is available, for example compensation may be available for more serious, enduring injuries, and not for temporary pain or discomfort or less serious or curable complaints.
- Unlike ACC, the guidelines do not provide compensation on a no-fault basis:
- The Sponsor may not accept the compensation claim if:
    - Your child's injury was caused by the investigators, or;
    - There was a deviation from the proposed research plan, or;
    - Your child's injury was caused solely by you.

An initial decision whether to compensate your child would be made the by the sponsor and/or its insurers. If they decide not to compensate your child, you may be able to take action through the Courts for compensation, but it could be expensive and lengthy, and you might require legal representation. You would need to be able to show that your child's injury was caused by participation in the study. You are strongly advised to read the Industry Guidelines and ask questions if you are unsure about what they mean for your child. If your child has private health or life insurance, you may wish to check with your insurer that taking part in this study won't affect your child's cover.

During the study your child's health care remains with your regular doctor. In the unlikely event a reaction to the study treatment occurs that concerns you or your child requires medical advice, please see your regular doctor. Please also contact Dr Alex Semprini, the study doctor, using the contact details given at the end of this information sheet, it is possible that he may advise you to withdraw your child from the study.

Please note that during the study if you see your regular doctor or a pharmacist for anything related to your child's eczema it will be compensated by the study team. If an adverse event occurs during the study the study team may need to contact your usual doctor to gather information about this event including diagnosis, dates of the event, and treatments prescribed.

## LOOKING AFTER YOUR INFORMATION

This part of the information sheet outlines what information will be collected, where it will be stored, how it will be used and who has access to it.

## Data collection

- During the study we will collect information about your child. We will also need to collect some basic information about you (e.g. your name and address). We only collect data about yourself and your child that is relevant to the study.
- **Your child cannot take part in the study if you do not want us to collect any of this information.**
- You can ask the study team to stop collecting information about your child at any time. This will end your child's participation in this study. Information collected up until this point will continue to be used, unless you advise us to withdraw your data. Data cannot be withdrawn from the study post the point of analysis.

## Data storage and access

The table below outlines the **type of information** collected from you and your child during the study, **where it is stored** and **who has access** to it. The groups underlined are only allowed to access your and your child's information to make sure the study is being run properly, the information is correct, and is being stored safely. Data is classified as identifiable or de-identified. Identifiable data can be linked back to you and your child. De-identified data has had identifiable information removed, and can be linked back to you/your child through your study ID only. **You and your child can ask to see any information** we have about you and your child. If you think some of our information is wrong, you can ask us to change it.

| Type of information | | Storage | Access |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Identifiable information – *this can be linked back to you and your child (e.g. name)*** | | | |
| Source data | • Information collected from you and your child<br>• Study questionnaires (filled out on behalf of your child)<br>• Photographs of your child's eczema lesion | • Electronic: stored securely at study sites, on servers in Wellington, NZ and Sydney, Australia<br>• Paper: stored securely under restricted access at study sites | • Study staff<br>• Study monitors<br>• Ethics committee and regulatory authorities, if the study is audited<br>• You and your child |
| De-identified (coded) information – *linked back to you/your child through your study ID only* | | | |
| Study database | • Results of questionnaires and some information collected from you and your child. Data is moved here to be analysed | • Stored securely by MRINZ on servers in Wellington, NZ, and Sydney, Australia | • Study staff, the Sponsor and study monitors<br>• The study statistician |

## Will you keep our data private and confidential?

- Information collected about you and your child is kept private and confidential, as per the law. Health information will only be accessed if required by law.
- We will do our best to protect yours and your child's privacy. Although the risk of people inappropriately accessing your child's data is very small, we cannot guarantee absolute confidentiality. We will tell you if your or your child's privacy has been breached, and take appropriate action.
- We are required to store information for at least 10 years after the youngest child in the study turns 16 years old. After this time, all information will be destroyed.
- You and your child may hold beliefs about a sacred and shared value of all or any data collected. The cultural beliefs associated with having your child's data collected and stored should be discussed with your child and family/ whānau as appropriate. There are a range of views held by Māori around data collection and storage; we acknowledge that research data collected is taonga and the principle of kaitiakitanga, with the participant retaining inherent sovereignty over the data collected from and about them. Iwi has differing views surrounding the collection and storage of data and we advise their people to consult before participating in research where this occurs. However, it is acknowledged that individuals have the right to choose.

## What will you do with our data?

Collected data will be analysed to find out which treatment is better for eczema in children. We will publish our results in medical journals and online.

# WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE STUDY?

Once the study has finished and the data has been analysed the results will be made available to you and your child on your request. You will have the opportunity to request a copy of the study results when you sign the informed consent form.

Please be aware you will not have access to the study treatments once you finish the study.

# WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MINDS?

- Enrolling your child in this study is completely voluntary (your and your child's choice). Your child is free to decline to participate or withdraw from the study at any time.
- If you agree to your child taking part in the study but later change your mind, your child's participation can stop at any time. Equally if your child no longer wants to continue in the study, they can stop. Neither of you have to give a reason.
- If your child experiences any side-effects during the study we may also ask if we can continue to check in on your child until the side-effects have resolved.
- If you do withdraw your child from the study, all the information provided up to the point of them leaving will be kept and included in the final study results.

## WHO TO CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION

**If you would like to take part in this study, or to talk to a member of the study team:**

Name: Dr Gabby Shortt

Phone: 04 805 0261

E-mail: gabby.shortt@mrinz.ac.nz

**If you would like medical advice from the study doctor:**

Name: Dr Alex Semprini

Phone: 04 805 0260

E-mail: alex.semprini@mrinz.ac.nz

**If you want to talk to someone who isn't involved with the study:**

Name: Nationwide Health and Disability Advocacy Service

Phone: 0800 555 050

Fax: 0800 2 SUPPORT (0800 2787 7678)

Email: advocacy@advocacy.org.nz

**For Māori health support please contact:**

Name: Matire Harwood

Phone: 09 297 2160

Email: matire.harwood@mrinz.ac.nz

**The health and disability ethics committee that approved the study:**

Health and Disability Ethics Committee (HDEC)

Phone: 0800 4 ETHIC (0800 4 38442)

Email: hdecs@health.govt