

INTRODUCTION

Kia ora and welcome!

Before you start the questionnaire, please read through the **participant information sheet**.

This will provide background information about the study and contact information for further questions or support.

Right-click the link to open in a new tab: [Participant Information Sheet](#)

- *This questionnaire is anonymous and your IP address will not be tracked*
- *Submission of the questionnaire will be taken as informed consent*

Once you have read the information sheet, click the arrow on the bottom right to continue to the questionnaire.

At the end of the survey, you will have the option to enter our prize draw (one of five \$50 Prezzy cards).

This will take you to a separate, de-linked survey where we will collect your contact details.



ELIGIBILITY. Are you currently a Year 6 medical student at the University of Auckland?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

ELIGIBILITY. Have you been enrolled with the University of Auckland for the entirety of your medical degree (Years 2-6)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Demographics

Q1. What is your gender identity?

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Gender diverse
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

Q2. What is your age?

Q3. What is your ethnicity (tick all that apply)

- ☐ European
- ☐ Māori
- ☐ Pasifika
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Other ethnicity (please specify)

Q5.

What was your entry pathway into medicine?

- ☐ Undergraduate via general admissions
- ☐ Undergraduate via Māori and Pacific Admission Scheme (MAPAS)
- ☐ Undergraduate via Regional Rural Admission Scheme (RRAS)
- ☐ Postgraduate - please specify which degree(s)



Knowledge

A note on terminology before you proceed...

"MUPS" stands for the phenomena known as "medically unexplained physical symptoms".

This can be defined as *persistent physical symptoms causing functional impairment or subjective distress, without sufficiently explanatory structural or other pathology*

For simplicity, this survey will use "MUPS" as an umbrella term to broadly refer to the following labels:

- Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)
- Fibromyalgia
- Chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis (CFS/ME)
- Psychogenic non-epileptic seizures (PNES)

and

- Functional somatic syndrome
- Somatic symptom disorder
- Bodily distress syndrome
- Psychosomatic illness

This oversimplified and overinclusive categorisation does NOT imply a shared

underlying aetiology. Rather, it reflects uncertainty and the ongoing need for further study!

Q6.

How prevalent do you think MUPS are in the patient population of **primary** care?

- ☐ <5%
- ☐ 5-10%
- ☐ 10-30%
- ☐ 30-50%
- ☐ >50%

Q7.

How prevalent do you think MUPS are in the patient population of **secondary/tertiary** care?

- ☐ <5%
- ☐ 5-10%
- ☐ 10-30%
- ☐ 30-50%
- ☐ >50%

Q8.

How often have you encountered patients experiencing MUPS during clinical attachments in medical school?

- ☐ Never
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ 2-4 times a month
- ☐ Weekly

Q9.

Do you recall any teaching on MUPS as part of the formal/compulsory undergraduate medical curriculum?

- ☐ Yes definitely

- ☐ Possibly/unsure
- ☐ No

Q9.1. During which year(s) and module/attachment/domain(s) was this teaching provided?

Leave blank if unsure

Q9.2.

Did you find the teaching useful?

Strongly disagree

☐

Somewhat disagree

☐

Neither agree nor disagree

☐

Somewhat agree

☐

Strongly agree

☐

Q10. Consider the following statements:

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree not disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
My undergraduate medical training provided adequate teaching on MUPS	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I would have liked to receive more teaching/training on recognising MUPS in clinical practice	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I would have liked to receive more teaching/training on managing MUPS in clinical practice	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

10.1. What do you feel is missing from the current formal teaching on MUPS? What would you like to see more of? (Optional)



Attitudes

Q11.

Rate the level of functional impairment/disability you generally associate with the following conditions

- 0 = None (no impairment in social/occupational functioning)
- 2 = Mild
- 4 = Moderate
- 6 = Severe (marked impairment in social/occupational functioning)

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	Don't know
Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis (CFS/ME)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Type 2 diabetes mellitus	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fibromyalgia	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Psychogenic non-epileptic seizures (PNES)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Major depressive disorder (MDD)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Q12.

To what extent to you believe that the named condition is **not** a "real" medical illness? ("real" is open to your interpretation)

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis (CFS/ME)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fibromyalgia	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Psychogenic non-epileptic seizures (PNES)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Q13.

To what extent do you believe that the named condition is **primarily** a psychological disorder?

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis (CFS/ME)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Fibromyalgia	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Psychogenic non-epileptic seizures (PNES)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Q14. Consider the following statements:

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
I prefer not to deal with patients who present with MUPS compared to conventional diseases	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
I feel I can empathise with patients experiencing MUPS	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
I believe that patients experiencing MUPS generally receive satisfactory care from health professionals	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Q15.

Do you personally know anyone (including yourself) who has experienced MUPS?
This also includes named syndromes e.g. IBS, fibromyalgia, ME/CFS, etc

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q15.1. How has this personal exposure affected your perception of MUPS? (optional)

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Q26. Would you like to enter the prize draw? Your response to the primary survey will still remain anonymous

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

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