You may be eligible for this study if you are:

- Currently receiving monthly income assistance from the B.C. Government (welfare, disability)
- Engaging in drug use around cheque issue days
- 19 years of age or older
- Willing to be a client of Pigeon Park Savings
- Willing to change the timing and frequency of your assistance payments

TASA Cheque Day Study

Interested in reducing your drug use around government cheque issue days?

Interested?

Ask your care provider or contact the research coordinator at:

- tasa@cfenet.ubc.ca
- 778-945-5681

Study banking arrangements, participation honoraria and referrals are provided.

If so, you may be interested in a new study that is looking at whether changing cheque payment schedules has an impact on drug use and related harm.
How long is the study?
6 to 7 months.

What is the set-up of the study?
People in the study will be put in one of three groups. Each group will receive their income assistance in a different way: 1) on government cheque day like usual; 2) once a month on a day that is not in cheque week; or 3) twice a month on days that are not in cheque week.

What would being in the study involve?
You would be required to come in for research visits every 2 weeks for a 20 minute questionnaire. You would be paid an honorarium for each research visit you attend.

Do I get to choose which group I'm in?
No. Neither you nor the research staff can choose which group you are put in. It is done randomly, like drawing straws or rolling dice.

Would it cost me anything?
No. There is no cost to participate. You would get your bank account for free while you are in the study.

Can I stay at my current bank, or would I have to switch to Pigeon Park Savings?
If you are put in one of the groups that has a payment schedule that is different from regular government cheque issue, you would need to switch to having your assistance deposited at Pigeon Park Savings. This is because PPS is partnering with the researchers to vary payment schedules.

Would I get still get the same amount?
Yes. It is your cheque and your money. Your cheque would be exactly the same amount. The difference is that you would have a 2 in 3 chance of receiving your money on a different schedule from regular government cheque issue days.

I'm on CCP/OAS/pension. Am I eligible?
No. You must be receiving income assistance from the BC Ministry of Social Development to be eligible.

I only get basic welfare. Am I eligible?
Yes. You can be on basic income assistance, PPMB, or PWD.

Who can I talk to if I'm not sure if I should sign up?
Feel free to call us to get more information about the study and what would be involved in participating. We also encourage you to talk it over with your care provider or someone you trust. It is completely your decision whether or not to participate.

Who is doing the study?
Researchers at UBC and the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS. Funding comes from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.