



## **Participant Information Sheet – General (Extended) – Questionnaire**

**Project Title:** A mixed methods sequential exploration of the experiences and challenges of international students and students of a refugee or asylum seeker background studying in healthcare professional education at Western Sydney University.

**Project Summary:** This project's aim is to explore the experiences and challenges of international or students who are persons of refugee or asylum seeker background studying in healthcare professional education at Western Sydney University.

As part of a mixed-methods sequential study, we are seeking participants to complete a questionnaire anonymously so that we can gain an insight and understanding of the experiences and challenges of foreign students who are currently enrolled in and studying a program of healthcare professional education at Western Sydney University. This questionnaire is a follow on from a series of interviews that were conducted in Spring semester 2020 with international and refugee or asylum seeker background students in healthcare professional education at Western Sydney University.

You are invited to participate in a research study being conducted by Scott William, PhD Student, School of Medicine, under the supervision of Dr. Iman Hegazi, Director of Medical Education, School of Medicine and Associate Professor Kath Peters, School of Nursing and Midwifery.

### **How is the study being paid for?**

This study is being supported by student research funding through the School of Medicine at Western Sydney University.

### **What will I be asked to do?**

You will be asked complete a questionnaire anonymously, where you to express your experiences as a student in healthcare professional education at Western Sydney University. You may also opt into recruitment for phase three on this study which will be follow up one-on-one interviews. Recruitment information will be sought in the form of a follow-on questionnaire.

### **How much of my time will I need to give?**

You will be asked to participate for approximately 15 to 20 minutes.

### **What benefits will I, and/or the broader community, receive for participating?**

The benefits of this research will most likely not be seen by your cohort if you are in a later stage of your program. Newer students may experience the benefits. However, the results of this study will assist decision makers in further understanding the needs of international and persons of a refugee or asylum seeker background students. The insights that we gain this study have the potential to inform a review of current institutional policies of admissions practices, welfare reporting and monitoring services with potential assurance to respond to the findings. The changes which may take place as a result of this research could benefit you and your cohort if you are in the beginning stages of your program.

### **Will the study involve any risk or discomfort for me? If so, what will be done to rectify it?**

As you will be asked to share your experiences, it is possible that revisiting these topics may cause you distress. You should tell us if this is happening, and we can refer you to appropriate services such

as those listed in this document. You may do so without affecting your relationship with the university. If you do experience psychological distress or anxiety, please make use of the following services. You may also wish to consult your General Practitioner or Specialist Healthcare Practitioner.

### **Student Welfare Services**

1300 668 370 (option 4 then option 1)

welfareservice@westernsydney.edu.au

### **Lifeline -- Crisis Support and Suicide Hotline**

13 11 14, 24-hour hotline

[www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au)

### **Beyondblue**

[www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)

### **Headspace**

1800 650 890

[www.headspace.com](http://www.headspace.com)

### **How do you intend to publish or disseminate the results?**

It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that the participant cannot be identified, except with your permission. Before analysis of results are taken place, all information be removed from identifying markers. There will be no way that your information can be traced back to you.

### **Will the data and information that I have provided be disposed of?**

Please be assured that only the researchers will have access to the raw data you provide. However, your de-identified data may be used in other related projects for an extended period of time. Your de-identified data may be used in post-doctoral research or in future student research.

### **Can I withdraw from the study?**

Participation is entirely voluntary, and you are not obliged to be involved. If you do participate you can withdraw at any time without giving reason.

If you do choose to withdraw, any information that you have supplied cannot be withdrawn because the questionnaire is anonymous.

### **Can I tell other people about the study?**

Yes, you can tell other people about the study by providing them with the Principal Investigator's contact details. They can contact the Principal Investigator to discuss their participation in the research project and obtain a copy of the information sheet.

### **What if I require further information?**

Please contact Principal Investigator –Scott William should you wish to discuss the research further before deciding whether or not to participate

Scott William, [s.william@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:s.william@westernsydney.edu.au), Principal Investigator and PhD student.

Iman Hegazi, [i.hegazi@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:i.hegazi@westernsydney.edu.au), (02) 4620 3862, Chief Investigator.

Kath Peters, [k.peters@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:k.peters@westernsydney.edu.au), (02) 4620 3567, Co-Investigator.

### **What if I have a complaint?**

If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this research, you may contact the Ethics Committee through Research Engagement, Development and Innovation (REDI) on Tel +61 2 4736 0229 or email [humanethics@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:humanethics@westernsydney.edu.au).

Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and investigated fully, and you will be informed of the outcome.

If you agree to participate in this study, you may be asked to sign the Participant Consent Form. The information sheet is for you to keep and the consent form is retained by the researcher/s.

This study has been approved by the Western Sydney University Human Research Ethics Committee. The Approval number is H13732.

## **What will happen with my information if I agree to it being used in projects other than this one?**

Thank you for considering being a participant in a University research project. The researchers are asking that you agree to supply your information (data) for use in this project and to also agree to allow the data to potentially be used in future research projects.

This request is in line with current University and government policy that encourages the re-use of data once it has been collected. Collecting information for research can be an inconvenience or burden for participants and has significant costs associated with it. Sharing your data with other researchers gives potential for others to reflect on the data and its findings, to re-use it with new insight, and increase understanding in this research area.

You have been asked to agree to Extended consent

### **Extended consent**

When you agree to extended consent it means that you agree that your data, as part of a larger dataset (the information collected for this project) can be re-used in projects that are

- an extension of this project
- closely related to this project
- in the same general area of this research.

The researchers will allow this data to be used by a post-doctoral researcher.

To enable this re-use, your data will be held at the University in its data repository and managed under a Data Management Plan. The stored data available for re-use *will not* have information in it

that makes you identifiable. The re-use of the data will only be allowed after an ethics committee has agreed that the new use of the data meets the requirements of ethics review.

The researchers want to keep the data for 7 years for possible re-use. After this time the data will be securely destroyed.

You are welcome to discuss these issues further with the researchers before deciding if you agree. You can also find more information about the re-use of data in research in the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research – see Sections 2.2.14 - 2.2.18.

<https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/national-statement-ethical-conduct-human-research-2007-updated-2018>