

Participant Information Statement

Indigenous health career worker

Research study: Walk in their shoes - a day in the life of a health career worker

Dr Elizabeth Hegedus (Responsible Researcher)

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1. What is this study about?

We are conducting a research study about encouraging Indigenous youth to reimagine their learning opportunities beyond school, and to consider undertaking a health career. This will be done using interactive online stories that can allow Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students to experience a day in the life of a health career worker (eg nurse, allied health, administrative personnel, doctor) from a first-person perspective. Each story will be introduced by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander health career worker who will provide their individual perspective on their chosen career. They will then invite the students to explore and interact with some activities involved in a typical day. The story will then conclude with advice from the worker for students considering the health career. Taking part in this study is voluntary.

Please read this sheet carefully and ask questions about anything you don't understand or want to know more about.

2. Who is running this study?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers from the Faculty of Medicine and Health at the University of Sydney:

- Dr Elizabeth Hegedus, Senior lecturer, School of Medical Sciences
- Ms Emma Walke, Lecturer and Head of Indigenous Health, The University Centre for Rural Health (UCRH), (Northern Rivers)
- Dr Marcelle Townsend-Cross, Senior Lecturer, The University Centre for Rural Health (UCRH), (Northern Rivers)
- Dr Craig Campbell, Lecturer, School of Medical Sciences
- A/Prof Helen Ritchie, Associate professor, School of Medical Sciences

Ms Sara Du is conducting this study as a basis for her Medical Sciences Honours degree at the University of Sydney.

Both Ms Emma Walke and Dr Marcelle Townsend-Cross are involved with the running of the Baribunmani Wanyi Ngay program at the UCRH (Northern Rivers).

3. Who can take part in the study?

You have been invited to take part in this study because you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander health career worker and your voice is an integral part of this project.

Only health career workers who are willing to be video recorded will be able to participate in this project.

We are happy for you to tell other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health career workers about this study.

4. What will the study involve for me?

If you decide to take part in this study,

- You will be asked to participate in two interviews and to review the completed interactive story:
 - Part 1
 - An interview about your experiences as a health career worker (audio and video recorded) – 30-45 minutes.
 - Part 2
 - Review of the completed pilot interactive story consisting of the introductory and concluding comments + interactive elements (developed separately) – 15 minutes.
 - A post-review interview (audio recorded) to provide feedback for improvement of the interactive story. – 30 minutes.
 - Total time commitment will be approximately 1.5 hours if you choose to participate in both parts of the study. It is expected that the interval between Part 1 and Part 2 will be approximately 2 weeks.
- During Part 1 you will be asked questions relating to your journey into your health career, including your Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identity, why you chose the health career you now work in, what steps you needed to take to achieve your goal, where you studied, your experiences of moving away from community to study (if this is relevant), your experiences during your studies, and advice for Indigenous students considering your health career. The interview video will be edited and incorporated at the beginning and end of the interactive story.
- During Part 2 you will be asked to watch the completed pilot interactive story (the final duration will be approximately 10 - 15 minutes), and then answer a few questions about your impressions of the story, its potential effectiveness for inspiring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students, and how you think it could be improved.
- The interviews will be online via Zoom, or face-to-face, at a time of your choice.
- You will be given an opportunity to review the transcript of your interview(s) and the initial video recording within a day after your interviews, and the edited video during the review in Part 2.

5. Can I withdraw once I have started?

Being in this study is completely voluntary and you do not have to take part.

Your decision will not affect your current or future relationship with the researchers or anyone else at The University of Sydney.

If you take part in an interview you may refuse to answer any questions that you do not wish to answer. If you choose to withdraw, we will stop collecting information from you. If you don't want the information already collected to be in the study results, please tell us at the time you withdraw.

6. Are there any risks or costs?

Aside from giving up your time, we do not expect that there will be any risks or costs associated with taking part in this study. However, it is possible that you may experience discomfort as you reflect on aspects of your journey into your health career.

The questions to be asked during interviews have been reviewed by Ms Emma Walke and Dr Marcelle Townsend-Cross to minimise potential risk of cultural harm.

7. Are there any benefits?

You will not receive any direct benefits from being in the study.

It is hoped that one of the potential benefits of this study is that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth are challenged to reimagine their learning opportunities beyond school and are inspired to pursue a health career, with the aim to increase the delivery of culturally safe healthcare.

8. What will happen to information that is collected?

By providing your consent, you are agreeing to us collecting information from or about you for the purposes of this study.

Any identifiable information you provide us will be stored securely on University of Sydney servers, and will only be disclosed with your permission, unless we are required by law to release information.

We plan to publish the study findings in the form of an online interactive story, an Honours thesis, and in a peer-reviewed journal. You will be named in the story if you decide to participate because an edited video of your interview will be included in the final interactive story, and your name will be included in the list of production credits at the end of the story.

We will use Zoom AI to transcribe both online and face-to-face interviews. This will involve sharing your information with Zoom. We will not share this information with anyone else without your consent unless we are required to do so by law. Zoom is owned by Zoom Video Communications Inc. and is located in San Jose, California, US. You will be given an opportunity to review the transcript of your interview(s) and the edited video recording prior to it being incorporated into the interactive story.

The video recording of the interview (Part 1) will be edited and incorporated into the introduction and end of the final interactive story. The second interview transcript (Part 2) will be used to inform the revision and improvement of the interactive story.

At the completion of the study it is intended to use the final, revised interactive story to promote health careers in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth programs including the

Baribunmani Wanyi Ngay program at the University Centre for Rural Health (UCRH) (Northern Rivers), and at Open Days and Careers Days at the University of Sydney Patyegarang (Camperdown) campus. The final version of the interactive online story will be made available to participants via the Faculty of Medicine and Health (FMH) Media Lab website.

9. Will I be told the results of the study?

You have the right to receive feedback about the overall results of this study. This feedback will be in the form of a summary and access to the final interactive story via the FMH Media Lab website.

10. What if I would like more information?

When you have read this information, the following researcher(s) will be available to discuss it with you further and answer any questions you may have:

Dr Elizabeth Hegedus (Responsible Researcher)

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11. What if I have a complaint or any concerns?

The ethical aspects of this study have been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) of The University of Sydney [ethics reference: 2024/HE000539] according to the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research.

If you are concerned about the way this study is being conducted or you wish to make a complaint to someone independent from the study, please contact the University:

Human Ethics Manager

human.ethics@sydney.edu.au

+61 2 8627 8176.

This information sheet is for you to keep.

If you wish to participate in this study,
please scan the QR code
or click **HERE**
to access the
Participant Consent Form

