University of South Australia | Department of Rural Health

Participant Information
To be retained by Participant

Clinical Courage: Exploring the Concept with Allied Health Professionals

Project Number 205709, APPROVED ON 29th August 2023.
Chief Investigator/ Principal Investigator Dr Pascale Dettwiller

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Introduction – What does my participation involve?

This Participant Information Sheet tells you about the research project. It explains the processes involved with taking part. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research.

Please read this information carefully. Ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about by getting in touch with the Chief Investigator. Before deciding whether or not to take part, you might want to talk about it with a relative, friend or local health worker/your doctor.

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you don't wish to take part, you don't have to.

If you decide you want to take part in the research project, you will be asked to accept by ticking YES on the consent page of the survey. By ticking YES, you are telling us that you:

- Understand what you have read.
- Consent to take part in the research project.
- Consent to the use of your information as described.
- You will be given a copy of this Participant Information Sheet to keep (download).

The online survey is intended to be anonymous. All records containing personal information will remain confidential and no information which could lead to identification of any individual will be released unless required by law. Every effort will be made to ensure that responses are kept confidential (for example, we are using robust and secure survey software and the researcher will delete the data from the online platform as soon as practical after data collection is complete). However, the researcher cannot ultimately guarantee the confidentiality or anonymity of material transferred by email or the internet.

What is the purpose of this research?

The purpose of this research is to explore the rural, remote and regional Allied Health Professionals behaviors in delivering services to clients outside their usual scope of practice, understanding if the concept and definition of 'Clinical Courage' for rural medical workforce transfers to rural, remote and regional Allied Health Practitioners.

What does participation in this research involve?
If you choose to participate in this research, you will be asked to complete the online survey following this information page.

Participation in the research project will improve the understanding of the 'Clinical Courage' concept for Allied Health Professionals working in rural, regional and remote areas. As a participant, you will be asked to provide quantitative data through an online survey. The questionnaire starts with exploration of statement rated in a Likert scale of 10 against the domains of clinical courage, and some demographics data such as profession discipline, age, gender, employment type and postcode do workplace and residence. The survey will take no more than 10 minutes. The survey is anonymous and confidential.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?
We cannot promise that participants will receive any personal benefits from this research. The likely benefits include a stronger understanding of clinical courage and how this can build, sustain and repair particularly at times where AHPs must step up to work beyond their usual scope of practice to meet community need (e.g., natural disasters).

What are the possible risks and disadvantages of taking part?
It is not anticipated that there are any risks to participation in this study beyond those encountered in everyday life. However, if you are experiencing discomfort or distress when reflecting on sensitive topics and require urgent mental health assistance, please call the principal investigator nominated in this form who will take the appropriate supportive actions; other options are the mental health triage service (the Rural and Remote Distance Consultation and Emergency Triage and Liaison Service) 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 13 14 65; Lifeline 13 11 14 or Beyond Blue - 1300 22 4636.

Do I have to take part in this research project?
Participation in this research project is voluntary. You are free to decline to complete the survey and can withdraw from the study at any point while completing the survey, without affecting your relationship with the researchers or the University of South Australia, either now or in the future. Once you submit your survey, however, we are unable to remove your response as it will be impossible to identify your completed survey.

What will happen to information about me?
All data will be anonymous and confidential. If you do provide responses that allow us to identify you, they will be de-identified prior to analysis and dissemination. The data will be kept on the university server in a dedicated research data storage area that can only be accessed from a password-protected computer belonging to the lead investigator (Dr Pascale Dettwiller). Only the research team will have access to the data. The data will be stored for five years, after which it will be deleted electronically, in compliance with NHMRC guidelines. Participants will not be asked to provide consent for a specific use of their data, as the data collected during the project will be de-identified, meaning that personal information will not be linked to the data.

The research team wants to assure you that your individual responses will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and privacy and cannot be identified.

It is important to note that this research aims;
1. To explore the rural, remote and regional (R*R*R) Allied Health Professionals (AHP) lived experience practicing outside their usual scope of practice
2. To understanding if the concept of 'Clinical Courage' defined and characterised for medical practitioners transfers to rural, remote, and regional Allied Health Practitioners.
3. To validate the Clinical Courage Questionnaire (CCQ) for the AHP cohort.
Participants will not be asked to provide consent for a specific use of their data, as the data collected during the project will be de-identified, meaning that personal information will not be linked to the data.

If you have any concerns or questions about the confidentiality of your data or any other aspect of this research project, please feel free to contact the research team using the provided contact information. We are committed to addressing any queries you may have and ensuring a secure and ethical research environment.

What happens when the research project ends?
When the research project ends, the data collected during the project will be analysed and used to draw conclusions and insights that might be shared in academic publications and presentations. You will not be identifiable in any publication. All identifiable information will be removed from the data before it is shared. Once the analysis and dissemination of results are complete, all data collected during the project will be securely deleted or destroyed in accordance with the NHMRC guidelines and UniSA policies.

Who has reviewed the research project?

The ethical aspects of this research project have been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC -205709, 29/08/2023) of the University of South Australia as required by the Australian government research requirements, specified in the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007 - updated 2018). This statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies.

Further information and who to contact.
If you would like to receive a copy of the final report or summary of the research findings, please contact the chief investigator.

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you want any further information concerning this project or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the project, you can contact any of the following people:

Research contact person

Name	Dr Pascale Dettwiller
Position	Chief Investigator
Telephone	+61 433308284
Email	pascale.dettwiller@unisa.edu.au

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted or any questions about being a research participant in general, please contact:
Reviewing HREC approving this research and HREC Executive Officer:

Reviewing HREC name	University of South Australia Human Research Ethics Committee
HREC Executive Officer	Human Ethics Officer
Telephone	+618 8302 6330
Email	humanethics@unisa.edu.au

What happens next?
Please read the following statement of consent and indicate your willingness to participate (you cannot move to the survey prior to answering this page).

Statement of consent:
I have read the study information and understand what is involved in participating. I understand that any data I provide will only be shared in aggregated form and will in no way identify me as an individual.