

Plain Language Statement - Survey

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Title	Exploring the experiences and career trajectory of Registered Undergraduate Students of Nursing and Midwifery
Sponsor	Deakin University
Principal Investigator (PI)	Professor Linda Sweet
Associate Investigator/s (AI)	Prof Alison Hutchinson, Prof Tracey Bucknall, Prof Bodil Rasmussen, Prof Julie Considine, Prof Ana Hutchinson, Ms Ockerby, Prof Andrea Driscoll, Prof Nikki Phillips, A/Prof Debra Kerr

You are invited to take part in an online survey to explore ‘**Exploring the experiences and career trajectory of Registered Undergraduate Students of Nursing and Midwifery**’.

Who can participate?

You have been invited to participate in an online survey because Registered Undergraduate Students of Nursing (RUSONs) or Registered Undergraduate Students of Midwifery (RUSOMs) are employed in your health service.

What is the purpose of this research?

The aims of this research are to explore the expectations and experiences of, and satisfaction with the RUSON and RUSOM roles in Victoria from the perspective of RUSON/RUSOMs and other healthcare professionals engaged with RUSON/RUSOMs. In addition, we plan to investigate the long-term impact of RUSON/RUSOM experience on graduate employability and professional development post-transition to practice as a registered nurse and/or midwife.

What does your participation involve?

To participate, you will be asked to complete an online survey which will take approximately 10-15 minutes of your time. Your consent will be implied by submitting the electronic survey.

What are the risks and potential benefits of participation?

It is anticipated there will be little to no risk to you by taking part in this study. However, as information regarding personal experience will be sought, you may become upset or uncomfortable answering some of the questions in the survey. You can skip a question or stop immediately. You can withdraw from the study at any time. If you become upset, support is available 24 hours 7 days a week by calling Nurse & Midwife Support on 1800 667 877.

We cannot guarantee that you will receive any benefits from this research. Possible benefits may include contributing to research that will inform further development and supports for the RUSON and RUSOM roles, their transition to professional practice, and the quality of care provided in Victoria.

What will happen to information about me?

As researchers, we intend to fully protect your identity and the confidentiality of your responses, within the limits of the law. All information collected will be kept strictly confidential and stored on a secure server at Deakin University. Only researchers involved in the project will have access to the data, which will be password protected. Analysis and reporting of the information will ensure that no individual is identifiable. In participating in this research, your non-identifiable data may be used to inform future research. In accordance with Deakin University guidelines, data will be stored for seven years, and then any computer files will be destroyed permanently.

How will the findings be shared?

Results of this project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums including academic journals and conferences. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you participants cannot be identified. If you would like a summary of the results, please contact Professor Linda Sweet using the contact details below.

What happens if I wish to withdraw from the study?

Participation in the survey is completely voluntary and there are no consequences for not taking part. Non-participation will not affect your employment or your relationship with the researchers and Deakin University. You may withdraw from the research at any time by not completing the survey. However, once the survey is submitted it will not be possible to identify and withdraw your response because your name is not on the survey. Submitted surveys and will be included in the data analysis.

Who funded the research?

This research is funded by the Centre for Quality and Patient Safety Research at Deakin University.

Who can I contact for further information?

If you would like further information about the research, please contact Professor Linda Sweet on 9244 5836 or 0404 837665 or email l.sweet@deakin.edu.au.

Who can I contact to make a complaint?

This study has been reviewed and approved by the Monash Health Human Research Ethics Committee Low-Risk Review Panel (Monash Health Reference RES-22-0000-676L). This study is being conducted in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007, updated 2018).

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted, or any questions about your rights as a research participant, then you may contact:

Reviewing HREC name	Monash Health Human Research Ethics Committee
HREC Executive Officer	HREC Executive Officer
Telephone	(03) 9594 4611
Email	research@monashhealth.org