

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Primary Health Care Principles and Community Health Worker Programs in Low and Middle Income Countries

HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE APPROVAL NUMBER: H-2020-179

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: CAROLINE LAURENCE

STUDENT RESEARCHER: Shagufta Perveen




STUDENT'S DEGREE: PhD Public Health

Dear Participant,

You are invited to participate in the research project described below.

What is the project about?

This research project is about developing expert consensus on the relative importance of primary health care (PHC) principles and identify activities to reflect implementation of these principles in national community health worker (CHW) programs in low and middle income countries (LMICs). The aim of this project is to develop guidelines on the application of PHC principles in the implementation of national or large-scale CHW programs in LMICs. The objectives of this research project are;

-  To determine the relative importance of PHC principles
-  To identify the activities reflecting PHC principles in the implementation of national CHW programs in LMICs
-  To identify any additional PHC principle/s related to implementation of CHW programs in LMICs

Who is undertaking the project?

This project is being conducted by Shagufta Perveen (PhD candidate). This research will form the basis for the degree of PhD in Public Health at the University of Adelaide under the supervision of Prof Caroline Laurence and Dr Mohammad Afzal Mahmood.

Why am I being invited to participate?

You are being invited in your individual capacity as you have been involved in the implementation and/or evaluation of national or large-scale CHW programs for at least five years in at least one or more LMICs.

What am I being invited to do?

You are being invited to participate in three rounds of an online survey. A semi-structured qualitative questionnaire will be used for round one based on the four primary health care principles to gain a broad understanding of the your viewpoints, your perceived importance of these principles in CHW programs and activities reflecting implementation of each principle. In the second and third round of Delphi survey, you will be provided with a summary of the responses from the previous round and asked to rate the importance of the identified activities.

How much time will my involvement in the project take?

You will be given two weeks to complete each survey round. The questionnaire for round one will consume approximately 60-90 minutes to complete. For rounds 2 and 3 the questionnaire will take approximately 30 minutes.

Are there any risks associated with participating in this project?

There are no foreseeable risks associated with participating in this research project. You will be required to complete 3 questionnaires and these will be designed to collect the information required for the study and be as short as possible in order to reduce the time required to participate in the study.

What are the potential benefits of the research project?

The study findings will be used to develop guidelines on the application of the primary health care principles in large scale community health worker programs in LMICs. Better application of these principles will lead to better designed programs and improved health outcomes for people living in LMICs.

Can I withdraw from the project?

Participation in this project is completely voluntary. If you agree to participate, you can withdraw from the study at any time.

What will happen to my information?

Confidentiality and privacy: All respondent identities will be treated as confidential and unique ID number allocated to each participant which will be used for each questionnaire. Any identifiable information will be coded to ensure participants are deidentified. A unique ID number will be used to label each questionnaire, as well as for inclusion of quotes in articles and reports. All quotes from the participants in any reports will be deidentified.

Storage: Survey questionnaires, responses and consent forms and any other research materials will be stored securely on the University of Adelaide (UofA) server, in a UofA box, accessed only by a password protected computer with a firewall. The research data and records will be retained and stored for a minimum of five years after publication. Following this five year period, any digital information will be destroyed as per university guidelines.

Publications: It is anticipated that the results from the project will form the basis of peer reviewed journal articles published in appropriate journals (such as The Lancet Global Health, PLOS One, BMC Public Health), the PhD thesis and conference presentations but will not identify participants or include any identifiable references to the respondents. A unique ID number will be used for inclusion of quotes in articles and reports. All quotes from the participants in any reports will be deidentified.

Your information will only be used as described in this participant information sheet and it will only be disclosed according to the consent provided, except as required by law.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the project?

Primary contact: Professor Caroline Laurence

Telephone: +61 (08) 8313 4951

Email: caroline.laurence@adelaide.edu.au

Student Investigator: Dr Shagufta Perveen

Telephone: +61 (08) 8313 0648

Email: shagufta.perveen@adelaide.edu.au

Co-Investigator: Dr Mohammad Afzal Mahmood

Telephone: + 61 (08) 8313 3586

Email: afzal.mahmood@adelaide.edu.au

What if I have a complaint or any concerns?

The study has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee at the University of Adelaide (approval number H-2019-179). This research project will be conducted according to the NHMRC National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2007 (Updated 2018). If you have questions or problems associated with the practical aspects of your participation in the project, or wish to raise a concern or complaint about the project, then you should consult the Principal Investigator. If you wish to speak with an independent person regarding concerns or a complaint, the University's policy on research involving human participants, or your rights as a participant, please contact the Human Research Ethics Committee's Secretariat on:

Phone: +61 8 8313 6028

Email: hrec@adelaide.edu.au

Post: Level 4, Rundle Mall Plaza, 50 Rundle Mall, ADELAIDE SA 5000

Any complaint or concern will be treated in confidence and fully investigated. You will be informed of the outcome.

If I want to participate, what do I do?

If you wish to participate in this project please print, sign and scan the consent form and return it via replying to the introductory email with signed and scanned consent form attached.

Yours sincerely,

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