

Beyond the sirens: Women's experience of being a paramedic in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Thank you for your interest in this research project. This information is provided so that you can make an informed decision about taking part in this study. This project is being undertaken by Emily Wynch as part of a Master of Professional Practice qualification and has been approved by the Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga Ethics and Research Committee.

What is the purpose of the project?

The purpose of this project is to explore the impact of physiology, work-life integration, career progression and workplace interactions on the experiences of women in paramedicine.

What type of participant are we looking for?

To take part in this study, you will:

1. Identify as a woman*; and
2. Hold current authority to practice (ATP) in Aotearoa, New Zealand as an Emergency Medical Technician, Paramedic, Extended Care Paramedic, Intensive Care Paramedic or Critical Care Paramedic.

*Participation is welcomed by anyone who self-identifies as a woman.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participation?

Study results may improve the future for women in the paramedic profession. The risk is that this study may prompt you to recall distressing experiences and therefore, names of support agencies will be provided.

What will participants be asked to do?

In the study, you will be invited to complete an anonymous online survey about your work experience as a paramedic. The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete and consists of rating scale and free text questions.

Can participants change their mind and withdraw from the project?

You have the right to decline to take part and withdraw at any time without providing a reason for withdrawal, up until the time at which you press 'Submit.' As answers to this online survey are anonymous, it will be impossible for the researcher to identify your answers to remove them from the data set once submitted.

What information will be collected and what use will be made of it?

The data will be collected using an online survey in Survey Monkey. It will be analysed thematically and statistically. The raw data will be destroyed at the end of the study. Raw data will not be released to any third party. The results of the research will be available from the Whitireia Library, shared with Wellington Free Ambulance and Hato Hone St John, Te Kaunihera - Manapou - Paramedic Council, The Council of Ambulance Authorities, and The Australasian College of Paramedicine. Results may also be published in peer-reviewed journals.

Will the information remain confidential and anonymous, and how will this be done?

All information will be kept strictly confidential by the researcher and no names will be used. When the results are published you will not be personally identified. Any information provided by you can be viewed at any time, up until the time at which you press 'Submit.'

What compensation/reimbursement will I be offered?

You will not be offered any compensation or reimbursement for your participation in this research project.

What if I want more information?

If you have any questions about this project, you can contact:

Emily Wynch – emily.wynch@whitireia.ac.nz

Supervisors: Wendy Trimmer - wendy.trimmer@wandw.ac.nz and Dr Jacqui Murray - jacqui.murray@whitireia.ac.nz