MONASH University

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Project ID: 38706

Project title: Ambulance Offload Delay (AOD) In Regional Hospitals From The Perspective Of Paramedics: A Descriptive Phenomenological Study.

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You are invited to take part in this study as part of an honours student project. Please read this Explanatory Statement in full before deciding whether or not to participate in this research. If you would like further information regarding any aspect of this project, you are encouraged to contact the researchers via the phone numbers or email addresses listed above.

What does the research involve?

The aim of this study is to explore a paramedics experience of "Ramping" or Ambulance Offload Delay (AOD) in rural, regional, and remote areas, and will seek to describe and understand this by gathering the lived experiences of these paramedics. By capturing this perspective, the expectation is to describe and understand the impacts of AOD on paramedics. As a participant, you will be asked to partake in an interview via Zoom lasting for approximately 45minutes to 1 hours. This interview will have audio recording to allow for thematic analysis and transcription after the fact. During this interview process, participants will be asked to describe, in detail, their experiences with ramping from their perspective.

Participants must meet the following criteria:

- >18 years of age
- Registered paramedic with AHPRA
- Work in a regional, rural, and/or remote area as defined by Modified Monash Model
- Have experienced ramping.

Length of service and rank/clinical level will not be factors for inclusion or exclusion. Participants MUST NOT exclusively work at metropolitan stations.

Why were you invited for this research?

You have been selected as you are a paramedic in a rural, regional or remote area who may have experienced ramping at hospitals. Contact details may have been provided directly if contact for inclusion was made directly by a researcher.

Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research

As part of this process, informed consent is required. Consent will be needed for participation as well as audio recording (see attached consent form). The consent for will need to be completed, with specific consent given as required, then signed and dated. Once this occurs, please return these forms via email to **ckit0005@student.monash.edu**

If at any stage during either the interview process or post-interview period you wish to withdraw consent, that can be done so up until the time the transcription are coded at which point, they become deidentified making assignment to an individual impossible. In the event consent is withdrawn, all audio and recordings and transcripts will be deleted.

Possible benefits and risks to participants

The study will allow for participants to freely discuss their experiences with AOD or ramping.

Given the nature of the topic which will be discussed in the interview, there is the potential for some emotional discomfort. Likelihood for identification in the final publication will be negligible as all published information or extracts from transcripts or recordings will be reviewed and de-identified as appropriate. Confidentiality is discussed in more detail below.

Services on offer if adversely affected

External Services:
LifeLine
Beyond Blue

Confidentiality

Data and generative files will be stored on chosen Monash Electronic Laboratory Notebook, LabArchives. Access to this data will be restricted to the researcher team only. The participants names and any identifying information will be redacted from any published findings, with participants being reminded to avoid using any identifiable patient information when discussing specific events. In the event identifiable patient information is mentioned, this information will also be redacted from publications. Informed consent will be obtained through signed consent forms which will explain the aim of the study, and the data acquisition and storage process. Specific consent will be gained not only for participation in the study but also to have video and audio recording and transcription taking place.

Storage of data

The data will be stored for at least 5 years on secure Monash University servers, with uploads to LabArchives, accessible only to members of the research team (current and future).

Results

Dissemination of results will occur through the development of three documents, a scoping review, research proposal, and qualitative study. Upon completion these documents will be provided to staff within the department of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences at Monash University for comment and review. These will be graded, and feedback provided. Upon completion, the scoping review and final report will be provided to academics at Monash University, and to any participant who requests a copy. These documents will also be submitted for publication and peer-review for world-wide dissemination. Participant will be provided with a notification when the article is published.

Complaints

Should you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the project, you are welcome to contact the Executive Officer, Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC):

Executive Officer
Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC)
Office of Research Ethics and Integrity
Room 116, Administration Building B (3D)
26 Sports Walk, Clayton Campus
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