



**ACT**  
Government

ACT Health



Australian  
National  
University

## Participant Information Sheet

### Rapid Appraisal of ACT healthcare workers' perceptions of care delivery in the context of the COVID-19 epidemic

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide to take part it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully. Please ask the study team any questions you have and request any further information you need.

#### **Why is this study being done?**

In the context of COVID-19 it is important to understand how healthcare workers perceive and are responding to the virus as they provide care.

#### **What is involved in the study?**

This study aims to conduct semi-structured interviews by phone with up to 60 healthcare workers involved with COVID-19 in the primary and tertiary healthcare sectors over the next 4 months.

#### **Why have I been chosen?**

You have been chosen because you are healthcare worker involved with COVID-19 in the conduct of your work.

#### **Do I have to take part?**

Participation in this study is voluntary. It is completely up to you whether or not you participate. If you decide not to participate, it will not affect your employment or relations with other healthcare workers.

#### **Are there any risks?**

A partial focus of this study is the demands that COVID-19 is making on the time, physical and mental health of healthcare workers. Talking about this work may be upsetting for participants.

#### **Are there any benefits?**

If you agree to take part in this study, there may or may not be direct physical or psychological benefits to you. The study provides you with an opportunity to talk about your experiences and to discuss what could be done differently or better. Your participation may help others in the future.

#### **What are the costs?**

There will be no cost to you for participating in this study.

#### **Financial disclosure**

This study is funded by the ANU College of Health and Medicine. It is also supported by ANUs medical students who will conduct the interviews and by ANU academic staff who will supervise and support the students.

### **Access to the results of the study**

Results will be made available through the institutions and bodies where participants worked and to broader stakeholder groups as documents and presentations.

### **What about confidentiality?**

We will maintain the anonymity of all research participants. All of the data will be anonymised, and research participants will not be identified. Any identifying features such as the names of participants will be removed from interview transcripts. Interviews will be recorded on an encrypted, password-protected digital audio recorder to which only the researcher knows the password. The data will be anonymised and stored securely on password-protected computers at the ANU Medical School. Interview data will be anonymised and organised by participant codes.

### **If you have any questions please contact the research team**

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Should you have any problems or queries about the way in which the study is conducted, and do not feel comfortable communicating with the staff conducting this survey, please contact: ACT Health Human Research Ethics Committee (ACTH-HREC), Level 6, Building 10, Canberra Hospital, Telephone: (02) 5124 7968 or [ethics@act.gov.au](mailto:ethics@act.gov.au) The Australian National University Human Research Ethics Committee has approved the ethical conduct of this research. If you have concerns regarding the way this research was conducted please contact the Ethics officer at:

Ethics Manager

The Australian National University

Office of Research Integrity

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