



EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Project ID: 50561

Project title: What matters most to nurses in hospital working conditions?

You are invited to take part in this study. 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 email addresses listed above.

This is a student research project.

Research team:

Dr Jemimah Ride (Monash University), Prof Anthony Scott (Monash University), Prof Alex Collie (Monash University), A/Prof Rebecca Jarden (The University of Melbourne), Dr Ashani Abayasekara (Monash University), Ms Cindy Liang (Monash University), Miss Rui Jin (Monash University)

Contact person:

Rui Jin

Monash University

School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine

Email: rui.jin@monash.edu

Jemimah Ride

Monash University

School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine

Email: jemimah.ride@monash.edu

What is the research about?

The aim of this research is to find out what matters to nurses about the working conditions in Australian public hospitals in metropolitan areas. "Working conditions" means the aspects of work that shape your daily experience, including factors such as workload, rostering, and support from managers and colleagues. The results of this survey will contribute to a better understanding of which aspects of the work environment nurses value most. Findings may be shared through reports, academic publications, and presentations, and may help inform workforce planning and retention strategies in the future.

What does the research involve?

If you choose to take part, you will be asked to complete an online survey. The survey is expected to take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. In the survey, we will ask you to imagine making choices between different jobs. The jobs will differ in features of the work environment. You will also be asked questions about you and your work history to help us understand your preferences.

Why were you invited for this research?

You are invited to participate in this research if you are a Registered Nurse, Enrolled Nurse and/or Midwife working in a Victorian public hospital located in a metropolitan area.

Invitations to participate are being distributed through the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) Victorian Branch and the Australian College of Perioperative Nurses (ACORN) to their members. The researchers do not have access to your personal contact details.

Who is funding this research?

This research is funded by Rui Jin's Monash Graduate Scholarship (MGS) and Dr Ride's Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (project number DE240100535) funded by the Australian Government.

Can I withdraw from the research?

Participation in this research is voluntary. By choosing to complete and submit the survey, you indicate your consent to participate in this research project. You may choose not to take part or may withdraw from the survey at any time. There are no consequences for choosing not to participate or for withdrawing prior to submission. Once you have completed the survey, there will be no ongoing involvement in the project. Once the survey has been submitted, it will not be possible to withdraw your data. This is because the survey responses are collected anonymously and cannot be linked back to individual participants.

If you choose not to participate, you do not need to take any action. Non-participation will not affect your relationship with the listed researchers, or your workplace.

What are the benefits and risks to participants?

Taking part in this research can help us better understand nurses' preferences for different aspects of the work environment in public hospitals. Your views and preferences are crucial in helping inform future policy development and organisational strategies aimed at improving nurses' work environment and retention. This may benefit you in the future as a member of the nursing workforce. We hope your participation will help you to better navigate the issues around your work environment.

Upon completion of the survey, you will be invited to enter a draw to win one of two \$200 vouchers. This will involve clicking an optional link to provide your details to enter the draw. These contact details will be stored separately from your survey response so that your responses remain anonymous. Winners will be selected at random and will be notified by email.

We do not foresee any risks for participants in taking part in this survey. You may feel some inconvenience in the time taken out of your day to participate.

Will my responses remain anonymous and confidential?

Your survey responses will be anonymous. The collected anonymous data will be analysed and used in research reports, academic publications, and conference presentations. Results may include summary data, but you cannot be identified. No identifying information will be disclosed across any potential publication.

If you choose to enter the draw to win a voucher, your name and contact email will be collected separately from your results and will not be linked to your responses.

Any information obtained for this research will be accessed, used and stored per Commonwealth Privacy Laws (The Privacy Act 1988).

Where will the data be stored?

The data will be stored both by the survey company (Survey Engine) and on secure Monash University computers and drives. The data will be accessed only by the study team. The data will be kept for a minimum of five years after completion of the project and will be destroyed after this period in compliance with Monash University policies and our obligations under relevant legislation.

What happens to the results?

All survey responses will remain anonymous, as such you will not be able to access your individual results. Results from this study will be presented in peer reviewed publications in future and conferences and will be shared with professional organisations including the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation. If you wish to receive a summary of the results when these are available, please contact the research team by emailing Rui Jin.

Complaints

If you have a complaint concerning how this research (project number: 50561) is conducted, please contact 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
Monash University VIC 3800

Tel: +61 3 9905 2052 Email: muhrec@monash.edu