

Participant Information Letter and Consent Form

Study Title: Changing Knowledge, Skills and Attitudes about Mental Illness: A Pilot Project

Researcher Investigator #1

Oghosa Abajue

11405 87 Ave NW

Edmonton, Alberta T6G 1C9

abajue@ualberta.ca

Supervisor

Dr. Tanya Park

11405 87 Ave NW

Edmonton, Alberta T6G 1C9

tmpark@ualberta.ca

Research Investigator #2

Mya White

11405 87 Ave NW

Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 1C9

mewwhite@ualberta.ca

Co-Supervisor #1

Margaret Komar

11405 87 Ave NW

Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 1C9

daggett@ualberta.ca

Co-supervisor #2

Megan Sommerfeld

11405 87 Ave NW

Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 1C9

msommerf@ualberta.ca

Background

Dear participant, thank you for being a part of our educational intervention. We would like to invite you to participate in our focus group, which is a follow up to the educational intervention. You are being asked to be a part of this focus group because it will enable our research team to acquire more data in regard to our research question as well as receive constructive feedback on how our educational intervention was run. The results of this study will be used in support of developing our thesis.

Purpose

The purpose of the focus group is to enable participants to talk about how the educational intervention helped to change knowledge, skills, and attitudes about mental illness. The focus group will also provide participants with the opportunity to give constructive feedback on how the educational intervention was organized and what could be improved for a future educational intervention directed at healthcare professionals. All the information collected from this focus group and study will enable us to determine if educational interventions are a good way to inform the practice of nurses.

Study Procedures

The focus group will take place on the virtual meeting platform called Zoom. The Zoom will be recorded. Upon entering the password protected meeting space, participants will be asked to keep their cameras off for the purposes of anonymity as well as only indicate their first and last initial in the space where the name is supposed to be entered.

Once the focus group begins, researchers will ask a reflection question relating to the educational intervention. Participants will be given 3 minutes to reflect on an answer and then each participant will have 1 minute to answer the reflection question. Participants are allowed to skip the question if they do not feel comfortable answering. After each participant has had the opportunity to share their response, there will be 5 minutes allocated for open discussion between all participants relating to the question.

This system will be utilized for 4 questions. Following the reflection questions and discussions, participants will be given the opportunity to provide positive as well as constructive feedback on the educational intervention, including what they liked about it as well as what they would like to see improve for a future educational intervention. This Zoom session will take 1 hour overall.

Benefits

Participants may benefit from this study by gaining insight from other participants through productive discussion facilitated by reflection questions.

Risks

The risks within this study may include psychological and mental fatigue from discussions and reflection during the 1 hour zoom session. However, these risks are being mitigated by allowing participants to skip questions they do not feel comfortable answering.

Voluntary Participation

Participation in this study is completely voluntary and participants have the right to withdraw at any time. If you choose to withdraw, we will continue to use the data we have collected.

Confidentiality

While we will make every effort to protect the confidentiality of what is discussed during the focus groups, we cannot guarantee that others from the group will do the same. Please respect the confidentiality of others outside of the focus group. The Zoom will be recorded for transcription and data analysis purposes. Data is to be kept in a secure place for a minimum of 5 years following completion of a research project and so recorded data will be stored as a password protected file. We may use the data we get from this study in future research, but if we do this it will have to be approved by a research ethics board.

Contact Information

If you have further questions regarding this study do not hesitate to contact research investigators Oghosa Abajue and Mya White, as well as research supervisor Dr. Tanya Park.

The plan for this study has been reviewed by a Research Ethics Board at the University of Alberta. If you have questions about your rights and how research should be conducted, you can call (780)-492-2615. This office is independent of the researchers.

Consent Statement

I have read this form and the research study has been explained to me. I have been given the opportunity to ask questions and my questions have been answered. If I have additional questions, I have been told whom to contact. I agree to participate in the research study described above and will receive a copy of this consent form after I sign it

Name (printed) and Signature of Person Obtaining Consent

Date: