

Research Study Information Form

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

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Invitation to Participate:

Dear reader, you have been selected through a sampling process to participate in our research study. Our research study aims to see if an implemented educational intervention can change the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of healthcare professionals in relation to mental health. The study will include approximately 10 RNs, LPNs and/ or NPs from the Greater Edmonton Area. The study will be conducted virtually through Zoom. A pretest survey will be given prior to the commencement of the educational resource and a post-test survey will be conducted after the educational resource.

The educational intervention will be organized in a website style format on a platform called Wix. The intervention will focus on educating participants on schizophrenia and will include educational and anecdotal videos, educational website links and reflection activities.

Following the educational intervention, participants will be invited to join a focus group to participate in in-depth reflections and discussions about the ways in which the educational intervention altered their knowledge, skills and attitudes about mental illness as well as provide constructive feedback on the implementation of the educational intervention.

Purpose of the Study:

The purpose of conducting this study is to see if an educational intervention can help to change the knowledge skills and attitudes about mental illness for healthcare professionals and inform their nursing practice in new ways

Participation Requirements:

Participation in this study will require participants to complete a pre-test and post- test questionnaire in a google form format. The questionnaire has 22 questions and participants will be given 15 minutes to complete the questionnaire both at the beginning of the educational intervention and the end. In between both questionnaires, participants will interact with the interactive website that will contain educational presentations, links and videos relating to schizophrenia. There will also be reflection activities to complete to facilitate the learning process. Going through those educational and reflective activities should take approximately 30 minutes in total. Overall, the educational intervention will be 1 hour long.

Benefits:

The scholarly benefits of our proposed research are to help gain a better understanding of whether educational interventions can change knowledge, skills and attitudes of healthcare professionals, and if they do, this will open more doors to explore how education should be

continuously incorporated in the practice of health care professionals to improve and provide holistic patient care.

Risks:

Since participants will be participating in the educational intervention for 1 hour and will be actively learning, reflecting, and filling out questionnaires during that time period, intense concentration is required which may lead to psychological or mental fatigue. Risk is minimized and harm is mitigated by ensuring that participants get 15 minutes to complete the pre-test survey and 15 minutes to complete the post-test survey, giving participants time to think and not feel rushed as they answer the questions. The educational resources have also been limited to only take up 30 minutes to reduce risk of mental fatigue and allow proper reflection of delivered material

Confidentiality and Anonymity:

The information that you will share will be used solely for the purposes of this research. The only people who will have access to the research data are the research investigators Oghosa Abajue and Mya White, research supervisor Dr. Tanya Park and co-supervisors Margaret Komar and Megan Sommerfeld. To minimize the risk of security breaches we recommend that you use standard safety measures such as signing out of your account, closing your browser, and locking your screen or device when you are no longer using them / when you have completed the study. Results will be published in a numerical format and no identifying data will be released.

Data Storage:

Electronic copies of the survey will be encrypted and stored on a password protected computer in the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Alberta.

Voluntary Participation:

You are under no obligation to participate and if you choose to participate, you may refuse to answer questions that you do not want to answer. Should you choose to withdraw midway through the electronic survey simply close the link and no responses will be included. Given the anonymous nature of the survey, once you have submitted your responses it will no longer be possible to withdraw them from the study

Information about Study Results:

Study results will be made available when research is published

Contact Information:



If you have any questions or require more information about the study itself, you may contact the researchers Oghosa Abajue and Mya White or their 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 any questions regarding your rights as a research participant or how the research is being conducted, you may contact the Research Ethics Office at 780-492-2615.

Consent:

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. Consent will also be asked prior to commencing the educational intervention in a virtual format

_____ Participant's Name (printed) and Signature Date

_____ Name (printed) and Signature of Person Obtaining

Consent Date