

Participant Information Sheet – Service providers

Project title: Older people with chronic mental illness and their carers: do the current models of care support their needs?

Researcher:

Sharon Leigh-Hazell, PhD student, National Institute for Mental Health Research (NIMHR)

General Outline of the Project

Project Description

This PhD research study is asking how the current models of care meet both the mental and physical health needs of people who are 60 years old and over and with chronic mental illness (older consumers) and family, friends or other people supporting older consumers (carers).

Participants

I am conducting confidential interviews with 20 service providers in the Australian Capital Territory and surrounding region to find out how current strategies and policies align with service provision.

Participant involvement

Voluntary participation and withdrawal

Participation is voluntary. Before we start the interview, you will be asked to sign a consent form. At any time you can choose to withdraw your consent for participating in the study. If you withdraw from the study after commencing an interview, any data collected from your interview will be destroyed and not be used in any publications unless you explicitly give permission for your data to be retained and used.

What will participants have to do?

During the interview participants will be asked to answer a series of questions. The questions you will be asked will be mainly about your experience in providing services to older consumers and/or carers including what works well, the risks, limitations and gaps.

Location and duration of interviews

I will come to your office or other place of your choosing at a time that is convenient for you. An interview may take around half an hour. The maximum will be one hour. You can pass on a question, take a break or stop the interview at any time. If you would like to continue the interview another day, that can be arranged.

Risks

Your position and organisation will not be identified unless you consent to that. Findings will not include names and all care will be taken but please be aware that some comments may be quoted in publications so there is a risk that a person can be identified by what you say.

Confidentiality

Confidentiality will be protected as far as the law allows. Individuals will be assigned a code or pseudonym unless you sign consent to be identified. The only persons with access to the audio records will be the research team and project staff employed by NIMHR to transcribe the recordings.

Data storage

Names will be stored separately from audio records of the interview and transcripts and kept under strict security. All identifying data will be destroyed after a period of five years after publication. Other genuine researchers may request access to this de-identified data in the future. Access will only be granted if they agree to preserve the confidentiality of the information as detailed in this information sheet. Their access will also require approval from the original research team.

Use of data and feedback

I will be taking notes and also recording the interview. The notes and recordings will be transcribed without names or other identifying information so that data can be analysed. The results will be published as part of a PhD thesis, in academic publications and academic and community conference presentations. You will be provided with a summary of the results which will be published in the ACACIA Insight newsletter (ACACIA is the ACT Consumer and Carer Mental Health Research Unit at NIMHR). Results will also be published through other organisations including ACT Mental Health Consumer Network, Carers ACT, Health Care Consumers Association and Mental Health Community Coalition ACT.

Ethics committee clearance

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Ethics Manager
The ANU Human Research Ethics Committee
The Australian National University
Telephone: +61 2 6125 3427
Email: Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au

Queries and concerns

More information?

If you have any questions about any aspect of this study, please contact Sharon Leigh-Hazell (02 6125 1624) or my supervisor Dr Michelle Banfield (02 6125 6547). Our contact details appear below. Information about the research study, including this information sheet is available from the project's website at

<http://nimhr.anu.edu.au/research/projects/older-people-and-chronic-mental-illness>

Thank you for your interest in this project.

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