



Participant Information Sheet/Consent Form

Nurse Practitioner/Nurse Practitioner Candidate
(Online Questionnaire)

Title

Exploring models of care in the Drug and Alcohol Nurse Practitioner (NP) workforce

Chief Investigator

Dr Adam Searby

Associate Investigator

Dianna Burr

What does my participation involve?

1 Introduction

You are invited to take part in this research project, *Exploring models of care in the Drug and Alcohol Nurse Practitioner (NP) workforce*. You have been invited to participate as you have been recognised as a drug and alcohol nurse practitioner or candidate. Your contact details were obtained the DANA Nurse Practitioner Sub-Committee database.

This Participant Information Sheet/Consent Form tells you about the research project. It explains the processes involved with taking part. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research.

Please read this information carefully. Ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about. Before deciding whether to take part, you might want to talk about it with a relative or friend.

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you don't wish to take part, you don't have to.

If you decide you want to take part in the research project, you will be asked to check a box on the online survey. By doing this, you are telling us that you:

- Understand what you have read
- Consent to take part in the research project

You may download this Participant Information and Consent Form to keep.

2 What is the purpose of this research?

This research project aims to 'map' drug and alcohol nurse practitioners and candidates in Australia. It also seeks to gather data in relation to the number, location and demographics of drug and alcohol nurse practitioner (NP) positions as well as the models of care they use. To accomplish this, a multi-phase study is being used. An online survey will be used to gain an overall picture of the drug and alcohol NP workforce, and telephone interviews employed to gain in-depth data on how drug and alcohol NPs operate in Australia.

The researcher, Dr Adam Searby, has initiated this research and is being funded by a grant provided by the Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia.

3 What does participation in this research involve?

Participation in this research project involves completing an online questionnaire that discusses issues relating to the drug and alcohol NP workforce. You are not required to provide any identifying information.

This survey can be completed on any computer or other device with internet connection at a time that is convenient to you. The time needed to complete the questionnaire is approximately 15 minutes. There are no costs associated with participating in this research project, nor will you be paid.

4 Other relevant information about the research project

Overall, this phase of the project aims to have up to 50 questionnaires completed by Australian NPs. Upon completion of the questionnaire, you will be asked whether you would like to take part in the second phase of the research project, which is a telephone interview of approximately 30-60 minutes duration. If you agree to this, a research assistant will contact you on the email address you provide to arrange to conduct the interview at a time that is convenient to you.

5 Do I have to take part in this research project?

Participation in any research project is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any stage.

Your decision whether to take part or not to take part, or to take part and then withdraw, will not affect your relationship with the researchers, DANA or Deakin University.

As this is an anonymous survey, it will not be possible to withdraw your responses once they have been submitted. If you choose not to complete the survey, you may simply close your browser window to conclude the survey.

6 What are the possible benefits of taking part?

We cannot guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this research; however, you may appreciate contributing to knowledge. Possible benefits may include providing a strong knowledge base for DANA to advocate for the NP role to government, health and community groups in the future. Additionally, the results from this research project may provide data to advance the NP role through provision of education and career pathways to drug and alcohol nurses seeking endorsement as NPs.

7 What are the risks and disadvantages of taking part?

The risks of completing this questionnaire are likely to be minimal, however you may feel that some of the questions we ask are stressful or upsetting. If you do not wish to answer a question, you may skip it and go to the next question, or you may stop immediately. If you become upset or distressed as a result of your participation in the research project, members of the research

team will be able to discuss appropriate support for you. If this occurs, you may wish to access Lifeline (13 11 14, or www.lifeline.org.au) for counselling.

8 What if I withdraw from this research project?

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw until you submit your completed survey. After this time, there is no way to identify your individual responses. If you decide to withdraw from the project, please notify a member of the research team.

9 What happens when the research project ends?

A publicly available DANA report will be produced as the end product of this project, providing an overview of drug and alcohol NP models and the issues faced by contemporary NPs and candidates.

You may request a copy of the final report produced from this project or a summary of results by contacting the DANA Executive Officer at dananurses@gmail.com.

How is the research project being conducted?

10 What will happen to information about me?

By providing consent on the online survey you consent to the research team collecting and using information from you for the research project. Any information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you will remain confidential, and your responses will be deidentified in published reports or other output associated with the research project.

It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified, except with your express permission.

11 Who is organising and funding the research?

This research project is being conducted by Dr Adam Searby and is being funded by a grant provided by the Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australasia (DANA).

12 Who has reviewed the research project?

All research in Australia involving humans is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). This study has received Deakin University ethics approval (reference number: HEAG-H 101_2020).

This project will be carried out according to the *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research* (2018). This statement has been developed to protect the interests of people who agree to participate in human research studies.

13 Further information and who to contact

If you require any further information concerning this project, you can contact the researcher on:

Research contact person

Name	Dr Adam Searby
Position	Chief Investigator
Telephone	(03) 9244 5932
Email	a.searby@deakin.edu.au

14 Complaints

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted or any questions about your rights as a research participant, then you may contact:

Reviewing HREC name	The Human Research Ethics Office
Telephone	9251 7129
Quote project number	HEAG-H 101_2020
Email	research-ethics@deakin.edu.au
Mailing address	Deakin University, 221 Burwood Highway, Burwood Victoria 3125

Consent Form

Title

*Exploring models of care in the Drug and Alcohol
Nurse Practitioner (NP) workforce*

Chief Investigator

Dr Adam Searby

Consent to be obtained on the online Qualtrics survey document