

Research Project Information Sheet



Maintaining asepsis in paramedicine: a consensus statement

Ethics Approval Number: [A191224](#)

Research Team Contact Details

The research team consists of Chief Investigator Dr Nigel Barr (USC), Mr Matthew Mason (USC), Ms Lisa Clegg (USC), Ms Fiona Randall (USC) Please direct questions to:

Chief Investigator

Dr Nigel Barr

Email: nbarr@usc.edu.au

Telephone: (07) 5456 5020

Mobile: 0435 597 500

Project Description

The purpose of this research project is to develop a framework to promote asepsis in paramedic practice which is applicable to Australian paramedicine.

You are invited to participate in this research project if you are professionally employed within healthcare and have an extensive experience in paramedicine (operational or management), infection prevention and control, or evidence-based policy development.

Participation

If you agree to participate in this research project, you will be asked to join an online discussion forum and complete a survey once a month for 3 or 4 months. Participation will take approximately 90 minutes per month for 3 months.

The online forum will be scheduled each month for 1 hour. The time and dates will be decided by polling participants once the EOIs have been collected. The forum is designed for participants to discuss or seek clarification on items within the survey before the survey is conducted each month. While it is not necessary to join the online forum, it may be useful to some participants. The online discussion forum will not be recorded.

The online survey will be opened each round immediately after the discussion forum. The survey will ask participants to indicate their level of agreement for each part of a general guideline regarding how to maintain asepsis in paramedic practice. Participants will also be asked to comment on exemplars of procedures.

Your participation in this research project is completely voluntary. If you do not wish to take part you are not required to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw at any point. If you do wish to withdraw from this research project, please contact the Chief Investigator Nigel Barr (contact details at the top of this form).

Your decision to participate (or not), will in no way impact your current or future relationship with the University of the Sunshine Coast.

Consent

Consent to participate will be implied by the submission of an expression of interest outlining your experience, and participation in the survey.

The research team will be able to identify you if you choose to participate. You will be identifiable to the other participants during the online discussion forums. We ask as part of consent that each participant does not disclose the identity of other participants. The survey will not collect any personally identifiable information. Only the researchers named above will have access to your details and results that will be held securely at the University of the Sunshine Coast.

In this research, consent is for the use of your data and information in a non-identifiable format in this research project only.

Risks and Benefits

There are no anticipated risks beyond normal day-to-day living associated with your participation in this research project.

This study may improve future care of persons requesting ambulance services. However, it may not directly benefit you.

Privacy, Confidentiality and Results

Any data collected as a part of this research project will be stored securely as per USC's Research Data Management policy. All comments and responses will be treated confidentially unless required by law.

The results of this research project may be presented at external or internal conferences or meetings, or by publication. If you would like a summary of findings of this research project, please contact the Chief Investigator (listed above).

Concerns or Complaints

If you have any concerns or complaints about the way this research project is being conducted you can raise them with the Chief Investigator (listed above). If you prefer an independent person, contact the Chairperson of the USC Human Research Ethics Committee: (c/- Office of Research, University of the Sunshine Coast, Maroochydore DC 4558; telephone (07) 5430 2823; email humanethics@usc.edu.au).

Thank you for consideration of this study. Please keep this sheet for your information.