

**PARTICIPANT
INFORMATION SHEET /
CONSENT FORM**



BE WHAT YOU WANT TO BE
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Understanding how nephrology nurses establish and maintain a professional relationship with people receiving haemodialysis (CQUniversity ethics approval 0000022873).

Dear RSA member,

You have been invited to take part in a study being conducted by Marina Cousins, a PhD Candidate at CQUniversity, under the supervision of Associate Professor Julie Bradshaw (School of Nursing, Midwifery & Social Sciences, CQUniversity) and Professor Ann Bonner (School of Nursing & Midwifery, Griffith University). This participation information sheet/consent form tells you about the study and the processes involved with taking part. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in this study. Please take time to read through the information carefully. Ask questions about anything that you do not understand or want to know more about.

Study context:

A professional and trusting relationship between nephrology nurses and patients is fundamental in facilitating effective care within the haemodialysis (HD) unit. Research indicates that both nurses and patients have identified that a unique relationship develops between them, and, in some instances, the relationship has been reported as being like that of an extended family.

Aim of study:

The aim of this study is to understand how nephrology nurses establish and maintain a professional relationship with people with kidney failure who are receiving HD treatment.

Significance of study:

This study has the potential to make a significant and original contribution to knowledge, professional practice in nephrology nursing and patient-centred care. Findings may be used to inform policy to prevent compassion fatigue and burnout in nurses. This may assist with staff retention and impact on health outcomes of patients who are receiving HD treatment.

Are you eligible?

To be eligible to participate you need to be a registered nurse with at least six months clinical experience and currently working either full or part-time in an Australian HD unit.

What will be required?

You are invited to participate in the study as an individual – not an organisational representative. Taking part will involve a 30-45 minute interview (either in person or via phone or Zoom) at a mutually convenient time and date. If there are any further follow-up questions I need to ask or any information needs clarification, I will invite you to a second interview. Your decision to participate or not participate will in no way impact upon your current or future relationship with CQUniversity Australia.

Will it be recorded?

To ensure accuracy of the data when I undertake qualitative analysis, with your consent, I will record the audio of the session.

Benefits and risks

The benefits to you in being a participant in this research include the opportunity to speak in your own words about your experiences as a nephrology nurse. Your experience and insights, together with those from other participants, will provide a unique understanding about this topic.

There is minimal risk associated with your participation in this research project. Apart from the inconvenience of being interviewed at a particular time and place, feelings, either positive or negative and memories may be triggered during the interview. If you experience discomfort or distress because of your participation in the research, Lifeline Australia provides access to online, phone or face-to-face support, call 13 11 14 for 24-hour telephone crisis support. This information will be provided to the participant prior to the commencement of the interview.

Privacy and confidentiality

Your participation in the research is voluntary and your identity will remain confidential. All comments and responses will be treated confidentially unless required by law. The names of individual persons are not required in any of the responses.

The study involves an audio recording. The following applies to the audio recording:

- The recording will be destroyed 15 years after the last publication.
- The recording will not be used for any other purpose.
- Only the primary researcher will have access to the recording.
- It is not possible to participate in this study without being recorded.

Any data collected as part of this study will be stored securely as per CQUniversity Management of research data policy.

Findings

The findings of this research will form the basis of a PhD thesis. Over the course of this study, findings may be presented at conferences and submitted as manuscripts to peer-reviewed journals.

Consent

If you agree to participate in this study, you are invited to sign the attached consent form. By signing this consent form, you are acknowledging that you:

- Understand what you have read.
- Consent to take part in this research study
- Consent to be involved in the study described

You will be given a copy of this participant information/consent form to keep.

Right to withdraw

You have the right to withdraw from this research at any time without penalty. Should you withdraw prior to data analysis, your interview file will be deleted, and any transcripts made will be shredded. Should you withdraw after data analysis has begun, withdrawal of your specific data cannot be guaranteed due to the nature of how it is analysed. However, should you withdraw after this time, no reference to any actual words or statements you have made during your interview will be made in any document or presentation of the findings.

Concerns or complaints

Should there be any concerns about the nature and/or conduct of this research project, please contact:

CQUniversity Office of Research: Tel: (07) 4923 2603; E-mail: ethics@cqu.edu.au; Mailing address: Building 32, CQUniversity, Rockhampton QLD 4702

Questions / Further information

If you have any question about this research study, please contact the Chief Investigator Marina Cousins via email: m.cousins@cqu.edu.au

If you would like to participate in this research, please contact:

Marina Cousins

Email: m.cousins@cqu.edu.au

Phone: 07 4923 2041

This research study has been approved by the CQUniversity Human Research Ethics Committee, approval number 0000022873.

Consent Form

Study: Understanding how nephrology nurses establish and maintain a professional relationship with people receiving haemodialysis.

Principle Investigator: Marina Cousins (PhD Candidate at CQUniversity)

Supervisors:

Associate Professor Julie Bradshaw (School of Nursing, Midwifery & Social Sciences, CQUniversity).

Professor Ann Bonner (School of Nursing & Midwifery, Griffith University).

Declaration by Participant

I have read the Participant Information Sheet, or someone has read it to me in a language that I understand.

I understand the purposes, procedures and risks of the research described in the project.

I have had an opportunity to ask questions and I am satisfied with the answers I have received.

I freely agree to participate in this research project as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the project without affecting my future care.

I understand that I will be given a signed copy of this document to keep.

Name of Participant (please print)

Signature

Date

This research study has been approved by the CQUniversity Human Research Ethics Committee, approval number 0000022873.