

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Mental health workforce research: Core competencies for working with LGBTIQ+ communities



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Can we speak to you as part of a research project? **Please read this information carefully and ask any questions you have.**

If you are happy to do a focus group or interview, please tell the researcher at the start of the session so they know you agree / give consent to participate in the research. You will get a signed and dated copy of this Participant Information Sheet to keep.



What is the research about?

This research will seek to identify the **knowledge, skills, attitudes, values and behaviours** required of professionals in the mental health workforce to **meet the needs of LGBTIQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender diverse, intersex, queer, asexual and questioning) people.**

We are conducting research with a range of people from LGBTIQ+ communities. We are speaking to both people who have previously used a mental service, their families and carers, and people who have never used a mental health service before. We are also speaking to people from organisations that serve LGBTIQ+ communities.

The information from this research project will be used to inform the development of core competencies (important skills and attributes) for the mental health workforce for working with LGBTIQ+ communities.

Who is the project for?

This project is being conducted by ORIMA Research on behalf of the **National Mental Health Commission (NMHC)**. The NMHC is a government body who provides advice and evidence to inform the continued improvement of Australia's mental health and suicide prevention system.



What do I have to do?

The information from this review will be used to develop a **core competency framework for the mental health workforce for working with LGBTIQ+ communities**, and will help to inform the future delivery of mental health services to these communities.

Here's what you need to know about taking part:

- You can take part in the research by participating in a focus group or interview with a qualified researcher from ORIMA Research.
- We will talk about what skills and qualities you think are important for people working in mental health and with LGBTIQ+ communities to have.

- Our researcher will ask you if you are comfortable with the focus group / interview being audio recorded.
- You will not be identified in any way in the recording and it will only be used by the researchers for the purpose of the research.
- **You do not have to answer any question that you do not feel comfortable answering.** You can tell us as much, or as little information as you feel comfortable with.



How long is this focus group / interview?

Interviews will **take up to one hour**. Focus groups will **take up to one and a half hours**.



What are the risks?

There may be some risks to doing this project and it is important to understand them.

- Talking about mental health and experiences with services can be a sensitive topic for some people. **You do not have to answer any questions you do not feel comfortable answering, and you can share as much or as little as you like.**
- Talking about sexuality, gender identity and experiences as an LGBTIQ+ person may also be sensitive for some people. Again, **you do not need to disclose anything that you do not feel comfortable disclosing during the session.**
- Any information you choose to disclose about your personal identity as an LGBTIQ+ person will be **held in strict confidence, and will not be passed on to anybody outside of the focus group or interview.**
- **Doing the focus group or interview is voluntary** and you can stop at any time.
- At the end of the session, we will provide you with **information about support services** who you can speak to if you are feeling upset or distressed. You can also speak with one of our researchers, who can direct you to additional support if needed.



Are there benefits of participating in the research?

- You are providing important input into the development of these workforce core competencies, which will impact the way that the mental health workforce delivers services to LGBTIQ+ communities in the future.
- You may learn new information about mental health and the types of mental health services which are available.

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Who gets the results of the research?

Information you give us will be kept **private and confidential**.

When we finish the project, we will pull together all the information and write a report on the main themes and findings from the research. Quotes and / or short case studies from participants may be included in this report but will not be identifiable.

This report will be given to the NHMC. The report **will not** have any information that could identify you. All the research information will be de-identified and stored securely at ORIMA Research.

Will I be able to find out the results of the project?

The NHMC will own the report, and it will be their decision whether or not the report is made publicly available.

Who do I contact if I have questions about the project?

If you have any questions about this project, please call Alison McLaverty at ORIMA Research on (03) 9526 9000.



What if I have a concern or complaint?

The ORIMA Research Human Research Ethics Committee (registered with the National Health and Medical Research Council) has reviewed and approved this research [Approval number: 0072021].

If you would like a copy of the complaint procedure or to discuss the study (e.g. about policies, information or complaints about the way the study is done or your rights as a participant), please contact ORIMA's privacy and ethics officer (Liesel Van Straaten) at ethics@orima.com or on **(03) 9526 9000** or **1800 654 585**.



How do I sign up for the research?

If you are happy to do participate in the research, please provide your verbal consent by letting the researcher know when they ask you at the beginning of the focus group / interview. This Participant Information Sheet is for you to keep.



Where can I access information and support after the focus group / interview?

If you feel sad or worried after the interview, you can access support through:

- Lifeline on 13 11 14 or via online chat at <https://www.lifeline.org.au/crisis-chat/>
- Beyond Blue on 1300 224 636
- Suicide Call Back Service on 1300 659 467

The researchers who conduct the focus group or interview with you will provide you with a broader list of support services who you can speak with if you need to at the end of the session.

Researcher name, date and signature:

Alison McLaverty

xx/xx/xxxx

Our privacy policy

ORIMA Research protects your rights under the Australian Privacy Principles contained in the Privacy Act and adheres to the Privacy Code (Commonwealth Privacy Act 1988, Market and Social Research Privacy Code 2021).

Information you tell us is private and confidential and will be held in strict confidence. This confidence can only be broken if required by law. We will only use your personal information for the purpose of conducting our research and in line with our Privacy Policy. We will not use or disclose your personally identifiable information for the purpose of advertising, promotions or direct marketing activities.

You have the right to request access to any personal information we hold about you, including the answers given in your focus group. You can request this information by contacting the Privacy Officer at the details listed below. Once the study is completed, the data collected from you will be de-identified and stored securely at ORIMA Research.

For further information about ORIMA Research please visit www.orima.com and for further information about ORIMA's Privacy Policy, please contact Liesel van Straaten (our Privacy Officer) on 03 9526 9000.