

Australian diagnostic radiographers experience with workplace violence

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT

HREC Project Number:	HRE2023-0247
Project Title:	Prevalence and impact of workplace violence experienced by Australian diagnostic radiographers.
Chief Investigator:	Dr Curtise Ng
Student researcher:	Krush Shah
Version Number:	1.0
Version Date:	23 Feb 2023

What is the Project About?

Our aim is to understand the extent and type of workplace violence experienced by Australian diagnostic radiographers. There are a lot of local and international studies showing workplace violence as being common in the healthcare sector. These have shown to have a significant adverse impact on healthcare professionals.

We are conducting the first national study looking specifically at all Australian diagnostic radiographers. We intend for this study to be completed by all diagnostic radiographers, not only those who have experienced or witnessed workplace violence. We hope the results will contribute to informing future workplace safety and policy.

Who is doing the Research?

The project is being conducted by Curtin University Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science (Medical Imaging) (Honours) student, Krushi Shah, for partial fulfilment of the degree requirements and is funded by the University. Supervision is provided by Dr Curtise Ng at the University.

Why am I being asked to take part and what will I have to do?

You are being asked to take part in this research project to help create a knowledge base of the extent and impact of workplace violence for all Australian diagnostic radiographers.

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You will be asked to fill out a questionnaire where we will ask you if you have or have not experienced any physical, verbal, and sexual abuse and when and where this may have occurred. We will ask you some yes/no, multiple choice and rating questions. These will help us understand the issue of workplace violence, even if you have not experienced it yourself.

You should only complete this questionnaire once. It is expected to take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Once you have completed it, it will be automatically sent to the researchers.

There will be no cost to you for taking part in this research and you will not be paid for taking part.

Are there any benefits' to being in the research project?

There may be no direct benefit to you from participating in this research, however participants will be contributing towards the first steps in understanding WPV in your profession.

We hope the results of this research will allow us and others to:

- Identify the extent of workplace violence affecting Australian diagnostic radiographers.
- Add to the existing knowledge of workplace violence.
- Inform educators and administrators on the importance of a safe work environment.
- Develop appropriate policies to improve workplace safety.
- Provide a knowledge base for future research.

Are there any risks, side-effects, discomforts or inconveniences from being in the research project?

We have been careful to make sure that the questions in the survey do not cause you any distress. But if you feel anxious about any of the questions you do not need to answer them. If the questions cause any concerns or upset you, we can recommend a free counselling service such as Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636 or LifeLine 13 11 141.

Apart from giving up your time, we do not expect that there will be any risks or inconveniences associated with taking part in this study.

Who will have access to my information?

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The information collected in this research will be non-identifiable (anonymous). This means that we do not need to collect individual names. No one, not even the research team will be able to identify your information. The following people will have access to the information we collect in this research: the research team and, in the event of an audit or investigation, staff from the Curtin University Office of Research and Development.

Electronic data will be password-protected. The information we collect in this study will be kept under secure conditions at Curtin University for 7 years after the research is published and then it will be destroyed. The results of this research will be presented in a presentation and report at Curtin University and may also be presented at conferences or published in professional journals. You will not be identified in any results that are published or presented.

Will you tell me the results of the research?

If you are interested in obtaining a summary of the results please contact the researchers after November 2023. Results may also be made available as part of an academic journal article or a conference presentation in the future.

Do I have to take part in the research project?

Taking part in a research project is voluntary. It is your choice to take part or not. You do not have to agree if you do not want to. If you decide to take part and then change your mind, that is okay, you can withdraw from the project.

What happens next and who can I contact about the research?

If you would like any further information, or have any questions about this research, please contact one of the following:

Krush Shah – krushi.shah@student.curtin.edu.au

Dr Curtise Ng – Curtise.Ng@curtin.edu.au

If you decide to take part in this research, we will ask you to select the checkbox at the start of the questionnaire to indicate you have understood the information provided in this information sheet. By ticking the checkbox, it is telling us that you understand what you have read and what has been discussed. It indicates that you agree to be in the research project and have your health information used as described. Please take your time and ask any questions you have before you decide what to do.

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The following statement must be included in every information sheet:

Curtin University Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) has approved this study (HREC number HRE2023-0247). Should you wish to discuss the study with someone not directly involved, in particular, any matters concerning the conduct of the study or your rights as a participant, or you wish to make a confidential complaint, you may contact the Ethics Officer on (08) 9266 9223 or the Manager, Research Integrity on (08) 9266 7093 or email hrec@curtin.edu.au.