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## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM

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**Title:** Evaluation of an online patient-centred communication and shared decision-making module to facilitate health professionals' clinical practice

### Chief Investigator

Dr Huahua Yin  
College of Nursing and Health Sciences  
Flinders University  
Tel: 08 72218507  
Email: huahua.yin@flinders.edu.au

### Co-Investigators

Ms Deb Rawlings  
College of Nursing and Health Sciences  
Flinders University  
Tel: 08 7221 8215

Associate Professor Kim Devery  
College of Nursing and Health Sciences  
Flinders University  
Tel: 08 7221 8223

Ms Megan Winsall  
College of Nursing and Health Sciences  
Flinders University  
Tel: 08 7421 9843

### Description of the study

This project will evaluate an 'End-of-Life Essentials' education module and its impact on clinical practice. You are invited to take part in this research project because you have not yet completed End-of-Life Essentials(EOLE) "Patient-Centred Communication and Shared Decision-Making" module; and you are a clinician (doctor/allied health professional/nurse) currently working with patients. This project is supported by Flinders University, College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

### Purpose of the study

The research project aims to evaluate the changes of learners' self-perceived knowledge, skills and confidence in end-of-life care communication and decision-making over time and the impact of module learning on health professionals' end-of-life care clinical practice.

### Benefits of the study

We cannot guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this research; however, through the learning process, your end-of-life care communication and decision-making knowledge, skills and confidence may increase, which may benefit your clinical practice. In addition, the sharing of your experiences will assist in the improvement of the EOLE modules. These improvements will be available to you through the modules and may also benefit to other health professionals accessing the

modules.

### **Participant involvement and potential risks**

If you agree to participate in the evaluation study, you will be asked to:

#### Step one

- Complete a pre-module survey (approximately 5-10 mins)
- Take the End-of-Life Essentials module entitled 'Patient-Centred Communication and Shared Decision-Making' (online) approximately 55mins to 65 mins)
- Complete a post-module survey (approximately 5-10 mins)

#### Step two

- Complete a 3-month follow up survey (approximately 5-10 mins)

Step one will need to be done at the one time so set aside 1 and a half hours (although it may not take this long).

Participation is entirely voluntary.

During this study you will be asked questions about your experience in end-of-life care communication and decision-making and reflect on your clinical practice, which may be distressing. 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 for any reason you do feel emotional discomfort as a result of your participation, you may contact a free telephone counselling service such as:

- Beyond Blue (1300 22 4636)
- Lifeline (13 11 14)

Alternatively, you may wish to contact the Employee Assistance Program at your workplace. If you have any concerns regarding anticipated or actual risks or discomforts, please raise them with the researcher.

### **Withdrawal Rights**

You may, without any penalty, decline to take part in this evaluation study. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you may, without any penalty, withdraw /stop participating at any time without providing an explanation.

If you decide to leave the research project, the researchers will not collect additional information from you. You should be aware that any data collected up to the time of withdrawal will form part of the research project results. If you do not want your data to be included, you must tell the researchers when withdrawing from the project. Withdrawal will have no impact on your ability to access End-of-Life Essentials modules or other resources.

### **Confidentiality and Privacy**

In each survey, you will be asked to provide your email address (compulsory). We will use this email address to

- Match the survey responses you provided at each time point.
- Communicate with you (e.g. send you reminder emails, send you a link to the 3-month follow

up survey, send you a 30 dollars e-gift Card for your commitment and time once you complete the 3-month follow up survey).

Only researchers listed on this form have access to the individual information provided by you. The research outcomes may be presented at conferences, written up for publication or used for other research purposes as described in this information form. However, the privacy and confidentiality of individuals will be protected at all times. You will not be named, and your individual information will not be identifiable in any research products without your explicit consent. No data, including identifiable, non-identifiable and de-identified datasets, will be shared or used in future research projects without your explicit consent.

### **Data Storage**

The information collected may be stored securely on a password protected computer and/or Flinders University server throughout the study. Any identifiable data will be de-identified for data storage purposes unless indicated otherwise. All data will be securely transferred to and stored at Flinders University for five years after publication of the results. Following the required data storage period, all data will be securely destroyed according to university protocols.

### **Recognition of Contribution / Time / Travel costs**

If you would like to participate, in recognition of your contribution and participation time, you will be provided with a \$30.00 e-gift card. Once you have completed all parts of this study, this gift will be provided to you electronically on completion of the 3-month follow up survey.

### **How will I receive feedback?**

On project completion, a short summary of the outcomes will be published in the End-of-Life Essentials newsletter.

### **Ethics Committee Approval**

The project has been approved by Flinders University's Human Research Ethics Committee (2811).

### **Queries and Concerns**

Queries or concerns regarding the research can be directed to chief investigator Dr Huahua Yin at [huahua.yin@flinders.edu.au](mailto:huahua.yin@flinders.edu.au). If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this study, you may contact the Flinders University's Research Ethics & Compliance Office team via telephone 08 8201 2543 or email [human.researchethics@flinders.edu.au](mailto:human.researchethics@flinders.edu.au).

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet which is yours to keep. If you accept our invitation to be involved, please click the "Yes, start the study" button to take the pre-module survey. By clicking it you are telling us that you:

- Understand what you have read
- Consent to take part in the research project
- Consent to be involved in the research described
- Consent to the use of your personal information as described.