



## Education Research Grant Project – Explanatory Statement

**Project:** Supervising GP Registrars – who does and doesn't participate and why?

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GP Supervisors Australia, GP Training Tasmania and Monash University are conducting a research project investigating barriers and enablers to Tasmanian GPs supervising GP Registrars. We are interested in this because there is a need to build capacity to supervise GP Registrars in rural areas of Tasmania because having more GP Registrars train in these areas may help address problems of GP undersupply.

You are invited to take part in this study. Please read this Explanatory Statement in full before deciding whether or not to participate in this research. If you would like further information regarding any aspect of this project, you are encouraged to contact the researchers via the phone numbers or email addresses listed above.

### **What does the research involve?**

The project aims to better understand the reasons why general practitioners (GPs) do or don't supervise GP Registrars in rural areas of Tasmania.

If you choose to be a part of this study you will be asked to participate in a semi-structured confidential phone interview lasting up to 45 minutes with an experienced qualitative researcher (based at Monash University), at a mutually agreeable time.

If you would like to participate, please contact Marisa Sampson who is the Project Administrator based at GP Supervisors Australia on 03 54409077 or [marisa.sampson@gpsupervisorsaustralia.org.au](mailto:marisa.sampson@gpsupervisorsaustralia.org.au)

### **Why were you chosen for this research?**

General Practice Training Tasmania (GPTT) used their administrative dataset to contact you. You were contacted for this study because you work in a rural area in Tasmania.

The study aims to enrol a diverse group of GPs including those currently supervising GP registrars or not, who have a range of clinical experiences, including both fellows of a college and non-fellows and who work in different sized communities and practices.

If you are interested in participating, Marisa will ask you about these characteristics prior to enrolment to establish your eligibility. These characteristics will be maintained on an excel spreadsheet available only to GPSA and only used to ensure that GPs with a broad range of characteristics are enrolled in this study.

## Source of funding

The project is funded by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners as part of an Education Research Grant awarded to GPTT (2017-2018). There are no conflicts of interest.

## Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research

You are asked to consent by signing and returning the consent form by email to [marisa.sampson@gpsupervisorsaustralia.org.au](mailto:marisa.sampson@gpsupervisorsaustralia.org.au). You will have the right to withdraw from this study at any stage without any implications. You can also withdraw your data at any stage prior to completion of analysis as we will give you a unique identification number, known only to you, which you can use to notify the qualitative researcher and enable your data to be removed from the dataset. There are no implications for you of choosing not to participate.

## Possible benefits and risks to participants

The study will provide important information to assist GPTT with increasing the capacity of general practice supervision in rural areas in Tasmania. It will also help GPSA to develop tailored resources to support and advocate for GPs around the issues they raise. These benefits will indirectly help GPs supervising in rural areas.

There will be no discomfort to you other than any inconvenience associated with making your time available to participate in the telephone interview. There are no reasonable foreseeable risks of harm or side-effects to participants. Your personal information or data will not be identified or identifiable in any publications arising from this research.

GPs who are not working in rural areas, or who do not have the characteristics being targeted in this study will not be eligible to enrol in the study and will be informed of this prior to doing an interview. However, the risk of this is low given it is likely that most GPs will have at least one characteristic of interest. Approximately 25 participants will be enrolled in the study.

## Payment

GPs who participate in the study will receive a \$200 gift card sent by mail to their nominated address by GPSA.

## Confidentiality

This study has ethics approval from Monash University [Monash HREC 2017-10808-14792].

You will be interviewed over the phone, by a trained qualitative researcher who will sit in a private room at Monash University. The interview will be recorded, transcribed verbatim by a professional transcription service, and uploaded into the QSR N-Vivo software. All data will be de-identified upon collection and analysed by trained researchers.

The data will be summarised according to key themes before being presented at the RACGP annual conference, the Medicine in Australia: Balancing Employment and Life study research forum, the 15<sup>th</sup> National Rural Health Conference in Tasmania in 2019 and the GP Continuing Education (GPCE) and the GP Training and Education Conference (GPTEC) and published in the peer reviewed literature. No individuals will be identifiable.

## Storage of data

All data will be de-identified during analysis and maintained in locked filing cabinets and electronically password-protected computers only available to the research team. Data will be retained for five years from the date of the last publication and then destroyed according to Monash University guidelines when no longer required.

## Results

You will be able to access a copy of the final report by request from GPTT or GPSA and we will also circulate a project communique via email, to all GPs in Tasmania, which will highlight the key findings.

## Complaints

Should you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the project, you are welcome to contact the Executive Officer, Monash University Human Research Ethics (MUHREC):

Executive Officer  
Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC)  
Room 111, Chancellery Building E,  
24 Sports Walk, Clayton Campus  
Research Office  
Monash University VIC 3800

Tel: +61 3 9905 2052      Email: [muhrec@monash.edu](mailto:muhrec@monash.edu)      Fax: +61 3 9905 3831

Thank you,



**Dr Belinda O'Sullivan (Chief Investigator)**

