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Participant Information Sheet

Title:

What are the experiences of Community Mental Health Nurses whose clients commit suicide?

Researcher: Lurendharen Reddy

I am a Master of Nursing student. This research project is being undertaken as a part of my programme of study with the School of Nursing, University of Auckland. My academic supervisor is Dr Jacque Kidd.

Project description and invitation

Community mental health nurses manage complex and increasingly acute case loads in environments that have little structure. The potential of experiencing a client suicide is high for community mental health nurses in the current climate, yet there is little research that explores its effects or provides guidance about how to prepare nurses to cope with such incidents. The purpose of the research study is to explore and describe the experiences of CMHN who have experienced the suicide of a client.

If you are a community mental health nurse and have experienced a client suicide in New Zealand more than six months ago and have had all inquiries associated with the case completed, I would like to invite you to participate in this research.

Participants must be currently engaged in professional/clinical supervision. This is because participants may experience uncomfortable feelings during the research study as it involves recalling a stressful experience.

Participants will be accepted into the study on a first-come, first-included basis.

Results of this study will be presented as a thesis and an article in an international nursing journal. Copies of these will be available in the University of Auckland library for public access. A summary of findings will be available from the researcher. Completion of the study and final publication of the results is anticipated to be in December 2011.

Project Procedures

The interview will take up to 1.5 hours. It will be held at a venue of your choice. You are welcome to bring a support person to the interview with you. With your permission, it will be digitally voice recorded. Even if you agree for the interview to be recorded, you may choose to have the recorder turned off at anytime.

The recording of the interview will be transcribed by me, and you will have the opportunity to review your transcript. In the transcription, your name will be replaced by a pseudonym and all identifying data will be removed.

Data management

The digital files of the interviews will be stored for 6 years after transcribing. Transcriptions will be stored in a password protected file on the secure server at the University of Auckland. Written notes and voice recordings will be stored in a locked cabinet on University of Auckland premises. Data will be deleted from computers and written data will be shredded after a period of 6 years.

Data will not be viewed by anyone apart from the researcher and his supervisor.

Right to Withdraw from Participation

Participants have the right to withdraw from participation at any time up until one week after you have had the chance to review your transcript. During the interview, you do not have to answer all the questions. You are also free to stop the interview at any time.

Confidentiality

Every effort will be made to ensure participant confidentiality and the anonymity of any person, family and organisation that is discussed as a part of your interview. The anonymity of participants and their workplaces will be respected in all publications resulting from the study.

Please feel free to contact the researcher or my supervisor if you have any questions about this study, or if you would like to participate.

Contact Details

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For any queries regarding ethical concerns you may contact the Chair, The University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee, The University of Auckland, Office of the Vice Chancellor, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142. Telephone 09 373-7599 extn. 83711.

APPROVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND HUMAN PARTICIPANTS ETHICS COMMITTEE ON for (3) years, Reference Number/.....