

**EXPLANATORY RESEARCH STATEMENT****Project title: Supporting best practice in the GP Clinical Learning Environment**

**Please read this Explanatory Statement in full before deciding whether or not to participate in this project.**

The project is funded by the Royal Australian College of General Practice and led by GPSA and Monash University. Ethics approval was granted by the Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (#38174).

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**What does the research involve?** A mixed-method study to develop and validate a benchmarking and quality improvement tool to support best practice in the GP Clinical Learning Environment (GPCLE). You are being asked to participate in one or more aspects of this project. Stage 1: Complete a pre-workshop reflection activity and/or join others involved in GP training, such as GP supervisors, GP registrars, and GP training researchers in a face-to-face, one day workshop (9am-5pm AEST) in Melbourne, Victoria to develop a tool to measure best practice in the GPCLE (travel costs will be covered). Stage 2: A 20 minute online survey is open to those involved in GP training who will be asked to use the tool to assess the GPCLE in their training practice. Stage 3: A pilot study is open to staff from participating training practices who will be asked to use the tool to assess the GPCLE in their training practice via an online 20 minute survey, as well as participate in 30-60 minute online or face-to-face interviews and on-site observations by researchers. Participation is voluntary.

**Why were you invited to participate?** You have been invited to participate as someone involved in GP training or enrolled in medical school. Invitations were advertised through social media, email and via training practice owners.

**Possible benefits and risks to participants.** The study will provide important information to inform the development of a GPCLE assessment tool. The pilot study involving independent assessment of the GPCLE may cause discomfort. If you feel distressed, please speak to a friend, family member or your GP, or call Lifeline (13 11 14).

**Payment.** There is a \$500 VISA giftcard for recipients of GP training/education and \$1000 VISA giftcard for GP trainers/educators. Survey participants will be eligible to win 1 of 6 \$250 VISA giftcards. There is a \$1000 VISA giftcard for training practices participating in the pilot study. Participation in the study is also eligible for CPD hours.

**Results.** Anonymised pilot study results will be available to staff at participating training practices. Study results will be reported to RACGP and made available on the GPSA and GPRA websites and will inform the development of GP training resources. Outcomes will be presented at conferences and submitted for peer-reviewed journal publication.

**Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research.** Workshop attendees will sign the consent form at the beginning of the workshop. Survey and pilot study respondents will provide consent by completing and submitting the survey/pilot study survey online via Qualtrics. You have the right to withdraw from further participation at any stage, without consequence, however it will not be possible to withdraw past responses.

**Confidentiality.** Online survey data (Stage 2) will be collected anonymously using Qualtrics. Contact details (e.g., for VISA giftcard draw) will be collected separately and will not be linked to survey responses. Workshops will be audio-recorded and transcribed using an automated transcription service. Participants will be given codes in the transcription. No results will be reported/published that could identify any individual or organisation.

**Storage of data.** Paper files (e.g. signed consent forms) will be scanned, password protected, and stored on a secure Google Drive. Electronic data files will be password protected and stored on a secure Google Drive. All project files will only be accessible by project team members. Data will be retained for a minimum of five years and destroyed according to Monash University guidelines when no longer required.

**Complaints.** Should you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the project, please contact:

Executive Officer, Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC)

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Thank you



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