



EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

WORKERS' VOICE - STUDY INFORMATION: MAKE A SUBMISSION

Project ID: 38157

Project title: Workers' Voice Study

Chief Investigator's name

Department of Epidemiology & Preventive
Medicine

Research Fellow: Dr Elizabeth Pritchard

Professor Alex Collie

Phone: +61 3 9903 0525

Email: alex.collie@monash.edu

Email: Elizabeth.pritchard@monash.edu

Please read this Explanatory Statement in full before deciding whether or not to take part *voluntarily*. If you would like further information on any aspect of this project, please contact the researchers via the phone number or email address above.

Why were you invited for this research?

You are invited to take part in this study because you have made a workers' compensation claim in Australia or you support someone who has or had a claim, and you have lived experience of the workers' compensation system.

What does the research involve?

The aim of this study is to understand the experiences of people who have had a workers' compensation claim, and to gain insights into what changes may improve that experience.

We want to hear from injured workers and people who have supported these workers (18 years and over), who have made a workers' compensation claim in Australia, following an injury or illness.

To take part in the study you can submit your story either in a written or typed document, on a short video, in a short audio file or through pictures/photos and words.

Some of these stories may be shared on the website to provide information for others, but only if you agree to this. Stories can be published anonymously or using a pseudonym (a fake name). All other contributions will be used anonymously for research purposes only.

Source of funding.

This project is funded through by the Australian Research Council (ARC).

Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research

Consent will be documented at the beginning of uploading the file, by asking you a few short questions and asking you to tick the box indicating 'YES, I consent to being part of this study' before proceeding with the submission.

You can also select at the time of submitting your story, if you agree to your story being published on the study website, or for the study analysis only.

You have the right to withdraw from further participation at any stage by contacting the research team, however data already provided will be included in study reports.

Possible benefits and risks

We hope that the study findings will be used to help improve workers' compensation services in the future.

There are no risks to you, however, you may feel upset when you think about your experiences. If you do feel upset you can speak with a friend or family member or call Lifeline on 13 11 14.

Payment

There is no payment for your involvement in providing a submission.

Confidentiality

Your information will be kept confidential unless you agree to your submission being published on the study website with your name. You will be contacted by phone to confirm what you prefer prior to anything being made public. For our research analysis, we will assign a participant number to your data, instead of your name or other identifying information.

Your name will not be used in any publications, reports or presentations and specific details that could identify you, will not be stated, unless you agree to this in writing in advance.

Storage of data

All data/information will be kept securely at Monash University for a minimum of 7 years after completion of the project. The data will be stored on secure servers accessible only to members of the research team (current and future).

Data (both hard copies or electronic) will be destroyed when it is no longer required.

Your data will NOT be provided to a workers' compensation insurer or anyone else involved in your claim.

Use of data for other purposes

Data collected in the study may be made available anonymously (de-identified only) to other researchers for use in future studies, only after ethics approval has been granted.

This data will be held on secure public repositories and may be a requirement of some journals prior to publication. Any shared data will not include your identifying information.

Results

The research team will write reports to explain the results from all the responses collected and provide a summary of these on the study website (www.workersvoice.com.au). You can ask for a copy of the summary from the research team.

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 Committee (MUHREC):

Executive Officer
Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee (MUHREC)
Office of Research Ethics and Integrity
Room 116, Administration Building B (3D)
26 Sports Walk, Clayton Campus
Monash University VIC 3800
Tel: +61 3 9905 2052 Email: muhrec@monash.edu