

## What knowledge, skills and attitudes are most important for mental health nurses?

Researchers at La Trobe University are seeking volunteers to be involved in a concept mapping study about the core knowledge, clinical skills, and attitudes (competencies) of mental health nurses. We are looking to recruit:

- People that have experienced mental health problems.
- Mental health nurses.
- Mental health nurse clinical leaders.
- Psychiatrists.
- Mental health nurse academics.

### Can I take part in the research?

The study might be a good fit for you if you:

- Have experienced mental health problems yourself.
- Are a practicing registered nurse or psychiatrist working clinically in a mental health setting.
- Teach mental health nursing in an Australian University.

### What do I need to do if I agree to take part in the study?

- If you decide to take part in the study, there will be four tasks that you will need to complete. All participants complete the first three tasks. Participation in the final task is optional. It will take around 90 minutes of your time to complete all of the required tasks.
  - Task 1, generating statements (brainstorming) (via video conferencing). Interviews will be conducted using video conference. We will audio record interviews that will be retained for data analysis. Participants will be asked to generate statements in response to the following question: "What are the most important competencies (knowledge, skills, and attitudes) of a mental health nurse?" We will interview participants individually. We will identify discreet statements from the interviews by listening back to the audio recording (these will not be transcribed).
  - Task 2, Prioritising (completed online). Participants will be asked to rank statements in order of importance (i.e., what are most important competencies (knowledge, skills, and

attitudes) of the mental health nurse), from 1 (least important) to 5 (most important). Each point on the scale must have an equal number of statements. This can be completed online using a software package called ARIADNE (we will send you a link so that you can access the software).

- Task 3, Clustering (completed online). Participants will be asked to group statements that seem to belong together into clusters. Again, this will be done online using ARIADNE.
- Task 4, Interpretation of map (via video conference). Concept maps produced by ARIADNE will be reviewed and interpreted qualitatively by the research team and 3 participants (via a group video meeting). Participants will be requested to volunteer to participate in task 4. Participants will be included on a first-come, first served basis. Researchers and participants will be tasked with coming to a consensus about the concept map that best represents the core competencies of mental health nurses.

### Who do I contact if I want more information or want to take part in the study?

If you would like more information or are interested in being part of the study, please contact:

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