

Explanatory Statement

Interviews – Residents and Relatives

Project ID	50195
Project Title	Older Australians' aged care journeys
Chief Investigator	Dr Katrina Long Department of Occupational Therapy, Monash University Email: katrina.long@monash.edu
Research team	Anna Gillard, Dr Sandra Hakim, Mariah Valdehueva
Contact details	anna.gillard@monash.edu 03 9904 4714

We would like to invite you to help us understand people's journeys from living in the community to living in residential aged care.

What is this project about?

- This project aims to understand what affects older people's journeys from living in the community to living in residential aged care.
- The project is run by The National Centre for Healthy Ageing - a partnership between Monash University and Peninsula Health and is funded by a National Health and Research Council 2024 Ideas Grant.

What does participation in this research involve?

- Participation involves a 30–60-minute interview with a researcher.
- We want to do this to understand:
 - You or your family member/friend's experiences of aged care services
 - What helps people live in their homes for longer
 - What leads people to decide to move into residential aged care
- Interviews will take place face-to-face, online via Zoom or via phone.
 - Face-to-face interviews will take place in a quiet place of your choice, including a room at a library, community centre, university campus or a residential aged care home where you or your family member/friend lives.
 - The interview will take place at a time and date that suits you, within regular working hours.

- You may participate in the interview by yourself or with your family member or friend.
- At the beginning of your interview, you will be asked to provide verbal consent to participate and for your interview to be audio recorded.
- At the end of your interview, or in a short follow up interview (15-20mins), you may be asked to check a map of your journey.
- The interviews will be audio recorded and transcribed (typed up word for word).

Who can take part in the project?

To take part in this research, you must:

- Be receiving or on a waitlist for aged care services (including in-home aged care and residential aged care (arrived in the past 12 months)); OR
- Be an informal carer (family member/friend) of a person receiving aged care services;
- Read all sections of this information sheet;
- Be able to talk to us and be able to provide informed consent.

Do I have to take part in this research?

- No, if you do not wish to take part in this research, you do not have to.
- Your decision will not affect the care that you or your family member/friend receives in any way.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

- While there may not be specific benefits to you from this research, taking part in the interviews will help us better understand people's journeys through aged care and what may delay the need for residential aged care.

What are the potential risks and disadvantages of taking part?

- We do not expect any risks to participating in this study.
- You may feel some inconvenience in the time taken out of your day to participate in an interview.
- If you do feel upset after talking to us, please speak to the pastoral care worker at your home or contact the following services for assistance:
 - National Aged Care Advocacy Program – 1800 700 600
 - Beyond Blue 1300 224 636 or Lifeline 13 11 14
 - GriefLine on 1300 845 745 or Counselling Service at Peninsula Health on 9784 8100

Payment

- You will be offered a \$50 gift card of your choice for your time participating in the research.
- People participating together (e.g., a carer and a person receiving aged care services) will both be offered a gift card.

What if I withdraw from this research?

- If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any stage before we have published this research (in an article or report).
- Please email anna.gillard@monash.edu or phone 03 9904 4714 to withdraw from the project.

Confidentiality

- We recognise the importance of your privacy, and all information collected from you as part of this research will be accessible only by the named researchers on this information sheet.
- If you choose to participate in the interview, you will be asked to provide some basic details about yourself.
- We will use a code or pseudonym (fake name) to protect your identity when reporting the results of the interviews.
- Any information obtained for this research will be accessed, used and stored per Commonwealth Privacy Laws (The Privacy Act 1988).

Can I access the information kept about me?

- All recorded information will be kept secure and non-identifiable.
- The interviews will be recorded and transcribed (typed up) word for word using Microsoft 365 OneDrive, Zoom or Panopto and checked by a member of the research team. If you wish to review the transcript, please let a member of the research team know.
- All identifiable paperwork and recordings dealing with participating in this study will be kept for 5 years after completion of the study or publication (whichever is later) and then securely destroyed.

How will my information be used?

- Results from this study will be published and presented in different ways, including in academic journals, at conferences and on our website.
- Information will be presented so that you cannot be identified, and results will only be reported as summary, group findings.
- Following data sharing guidelines, de-identified data may be made available for use by other researchers. This data will be available only on request to the Chief Investigator and if the other researchers have ethics approval. Any shared data will not include your identifying details.

Complaints

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, you may contact:

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
Telephone: +61 3 9905 2052 **Email:** muhrec@monash.edu