



Project ID: 49762

Project title: Patient outcome measurement for 'BlueHub' mental health services

Dr Sean Cowlshaw	Michelle Keye
Monash University, School of Psychological Sciences	BlueHub
Email: sean.cowlshaw@monash.edu	Email: michelle.d.keye@tpav.org.au

This Participant Information Sheet/Consent Form tells you about the research project. It explains the processes involved with taking part. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research. Please read this information carefully. Ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about.

Participation in this research is entirely voluntary; there is no obligation to take part in the study. If you choose not to participate, it will not in any way affect any pension, benefits or health services which you are entitled to or to which you may become entitled in the future.

If you do choose to participate, your answers will be completely confidential and any personal details, which may identify you in any way will be removed. If you wish, you can discontinue your participation in this study at any time.

If you decide you want to take part in the research project, you will be asked to sign the consent section. You will be given a copy of this Explanatory Statement and Consent Form to keep.

What is this research about?

The aim of this project is to evaluate the effectiveness of the assessment and treatment provided by BlueHub for current Victoria Police and the Australian Federal Police Association (AFPA) members in Victoria. In order to monitor whether a treatment is effective, we need to collect data about how participating members feel before, during and after they receive treatment.

In addition, the data collected in this study will be used for research purposes, such as understanding the patterns and predictors of recovery to better inform researchers and clinicians about mental health difficulties experienced by police members and how to treat it effectively.

What does the research involve?

If you choose to participate, you will be asked to complete a number of online questionnaires about your mental and physical health and social functioning, in addition to demographic and police service-related information.

Questionnaires are administered via an online platform called NovoPsych and take approximately 20–30 minutes to complete. Data will be collected at several time points, including:

1. At intake
2. Every 3 months throughout treatment
3. At discharge from your treatment
4. At 3-month follow-up post-treatment

Your clinician may administer additional questionnaires at other timepoints to inform your treatment, which may also be used for the purpose of future research.

Importantly, participation in this project is not expected to result in a greater time commitment than if you choose not to participate. Your treating clinician may choose to select different measures for you to complete at the time points mentioned above.

Why were you invited for this research?

You are being invited to take part in this research because you are a current Victoria Police or Victorian-based AFP member being treated for a mental health related concern at BlueHub.

Source of funding

The research project is being conducted by researchers from Monash University. Monash University will receive payments from TPAV in order to undertake this research project. No member of the research team will receive a personal financial benefit from your involvement in this research project (other than their ordinary wages).

Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research

Participation in this research project is entirely voluntary. By signing and returning the consent form, you indicate your consent to participate in this research.

If you do not wish to take part you are not obliged to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any stage, and there will be no detriment to your treatment and there will be no detriment to your career or future health care.

If you wish to withdraw, please advise your treating clinician that you no longer wish to participate.

Possible benefits and risks to participants

There will be no direct benefit to you from your participation in this research. However, the results of this study have the potential to lead to improved recovery and outcomes for current police members undergoing treatment at BlueHub. You will not be paid for your participation in this project.

You may experience some negative feelings while responding to these questionnaires as they require you to consider your current physical and mental health, in addition to your relationship status and quality of life. If you experience distress, then you can speak to the clinic staff, including your treating clinician about this.

Privacy and Confidentiality

Your privacy and confidentiality is important to us. No identifiable data will be passed on by BlueHub to Victoria Police or AFPA or any other party without your written permission; however, there remains a possibility that your information could be requested by an insurer or via court subpoena. This notwithstanding, your answers will not in any way affect your career, nor any pension, benefits or access to health services to which you are entitled, or to which you may become entitled in the future.

No information that can identify you will be reported in relation to this study. The results from the study will be written into quarterly reports for BlueHub and may be published in scientific journals and presented at conferences. However, all report and published information will be aggregate group data and de-identified so that no individual can be identified.

To ensure the independence and objectivity of outcome reporting for the BlueHub program, Monash University has been engaged to undertake analysis and reporting of findings. To do this, data collected by BlueHub will be de-identified before being securely transferred to Monash University for analysis, research and reporting purposes. It will be stored under lock and key and will be kept completely confidential.

Your electronic data will be kept indefinitely. Only the study investigators and BlueHub clinic staff will have access to your information. Your treating clinician might keep a copy of the questionnaires that you complete on their practice management software to track their clients progress over time.

The data collected during this study is re-identifiable (i.e., coded) so that only the investigators at BlueHub can match your data with your name. This is so that you can we can remove your data if requested by you.

Any data collected may be used for future research. Only de-identified data will be eligible for use in future research with necessary ethics approvals.

Dissemination of research findings

It is anticipated that the results of this project will be written into quarterly reports for BlueHub. Findings may also be published in scientific journals or presented at conferences. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified, except with your permission. All information will be presented as aggregate group data and de-identified, so that no individual can be identified.

You will be provided a copy of any peer-reviewed findings by the principal investigator upon request.

Complaints

If you have a complaint concerning how this research (project ID: 49762) is conducted, please contact:

For projects conducted in Australia	
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	

CONSENT FORM

Project ID: 49762

Project title: Patient outcome measurement for 'BlueHub' mental health services

Dr Sean Cowlshaw

Monash University, School of Psychological Sciences

Email: sean.cowlshaw@monash.edu

Michelle Keye

BlueHub

Email: michelle.d.keye@tpav.org.au

I have been invited to take part in the Monash University research project specified above. I have read and understood the Explanatory Statement and I hereby consent to participate in this project.

I understand:	Yes	No
The risks involved as described in the Participant Information Sheet		
There is no obligation to take part in this study		
If I choose not to participate there will be no detriment to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● my career or future health care ● any pension, benefits or health services which you are entitled to from The Police Association of Victoria or the Australian Federal Police or to which I may become entitled in the future. 		
I am free to withdraw at any time with no detriment to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● my career or future health care ● any pension, benefits or health services which you are entitled to from The Police Association of Victoria or the Australian Federal Police or to which I may become entitled in the future. 		
I am cooperating in this project on condition that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● the information I provide will be kept confidential ● the information will be used for this project and may also be used in future research ● the information will be de-identified and securely transferred to Monash University for analysis as part of this project and future research ● the research results will be made available to me at my request and any published reports of this study will preserve my anonymity. 		
I have been given a copy of the participant information sheet and consent form, signed by me, to keep.		

Name of Participant:

Participant Signature:

Date: