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Participant Information Sheet for Research

What is the lived experience of distress during magnetic resonance imaging?

Researchers

This study is being undertaken by Johnathan Hewis, a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) candidate and Senior Lecturer in Medical Imaging at Charles Sturt University. Johnathan is conducting this study under the supervision of Associate Professors Rachel Rossiter and Marguerite Bramble. Charles Sturt University is a multi-campus public university located across regional New South Wales.

Why is this research being done?

This study is being performed to understand the experience, perception and feelings of individuals who become distressed during a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan. Distress is described as a state of extreme anxiety, sadness, suffering or pain that may require urgent help.

Who can participate in this research?

To participate:

- You must be over 18 years of age and have experienced distress during an MRI scan;
- Your MRI was within the last six (6) months;
- You must be willing to talk about your experience.

Taking part in this research is voluntary and your choice. Only people who give informed consent will be included, and you will be asked to sign a consent form if you wish to participate. You are encouraged to contact Johnathan if you wish to ask questions before giving your consent. You are also encouraged to discuss your participation with someone you trust who is able to support you in your decision making. If you give consent, you have a right to withdraw from the study at any time. Consent can be withdrawn at any stage prior to the findings being published in the final thesis and all data will be withdrawn and destroyed. All reference to your data will be removed from the research record.

What would you be asked to do?

If you agree to take part in this study, you will participate in an interview conducted by Johnathan Hewis via a password protected videoconference session at a time that is convenient for you.

Topics to be discussed will include:

- Why you had an MRI scan;
- Your experience of distress during MRI to include sharing your feelings and emotions;
- What may have triggered your distress;
- How you tried to cope with your distress;
- Your expectations and needs about your care;
- If you have any ongoing issues or challenges following this experience.

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The interview may last between 45-90 minutes and will be audio-taped so that it can be transcribed into writing. It can be stopped at any time if there is any interruption, or if you need a break.
At the end of the interview you will be asked if you are willing to further participate in the study by reviewing and provided feedback on the initial research findings. If you agree to review the research findings, you will be posted or emailed the initial written summary and a follow up conversation will be conducted via telephone or videoconference at a time and place that is convenient for you. You will be asked to provide feedback about the accuracy of the findings and if they represent your experience.

What are the risks and benefits of participating?
There is a potential risk associated with participating in this research. You may find talking about your experience and feelings of distress in MRI to be difficult. The interview may raise questions that could provoke a range of uncomfortable emotions such as sadness, anxiety, frustration and fear. If you become upset during the interview or feel uncomfortable, the interview can be paused or stopped; this is your choice. If you suffer emotional distress by participating in this study, we advise you to seek counselling and/or treatment from one of the following:

- Your local General Practitioner
- BeyondBlue Support Service 1300 224 636 (24 hours 7 days)
- MensLine Australia 1300 78 99 78 (24 hours 7 days)
- Lifeline 13 11 14 (24 hours 7 days)

The possible benefits of participating in this research will be that you have the opportunity to share your individual experience in a way that could help MRI practitioners and other health care professionals to better understand and support people who become distressed during MRI.

How will your privacy be protected?
The information that you provide will be kept confidential and your real name will not be used in any written or verbal reports of this study. All responses will be treated confidentially. All recorded and transcribed data will be de-identified. You will be given a pseudonym that will be used instead of your real name if anything you tell the interviewer is quoted.

In exceptional circumstances the researcher may be required to disclose information you have provided about 'notifiable conduct' of a registered health practitioner under the 'Health Practitioner Regulation National Law' to prevent the public being placed at risk of harm.

All interviews will be transcribed by the researcher. The only other people to have access to this information will be the researcher and supervisory team who are all bound by confidentiality rules. The transcriptions will not be made available to your MRI department or any other third parties. All written information, recordings or USB devices will be kept locked in a filing cabinet located in the Faculty of Science at the Port Macquarie campus of Charles Sturt University. At the completion of the study, all the de-identified research material obtained from the study will be kept on the Port Macquarie campus for a period of 5 years after which it will be destroyed.

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How will the information be used?
The findings from this study will be included as part of the researcher's PhD thesis. The findings from this study may also be presented as a conference presentation or as a manuscript for publication. Findings may also inform the development of future research studies and education resources for medical radiation science practitioners.

What do I need to do if I agree to participate?
Please read this information sheet carefully. If you wish to take part in this study, contact Johnathan Hewis (contact details are provided below). You should retain this information sheet as a reminder of your rights as a participant and as a summary of what is involved in this research. This information sheet also contains the contact details of the researcher and Charles Sturt University Human Research Ethics Committee. If you agree to participate, a consent form will need to be signed prior to your interview.

Questions or further information about this project
If you have any questions or require further information, please contact the researcher below:

Johnathan Hewis	A/Prof Rachel Rossiter	A/Prof Marguerite Bramble
SDHS, CSU Port Macquarie	SNMIH, CSU Orange	SNMIH, CSU Bathurst
Telephone: (02) 65829346	Telephone (02) 63657245	Telephone 0418318122
Email: jhewis@csu.edu.au	Email: rrossiter@csu.edu.au	Email: mbramble@csu.edu.au

Concerns or complaints about this project
Charles Sturt University's Human Research Ethics Committee has approved this project, approval Number XXX. If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this project, you may contact the Committee through the Executive Officer:

The Executive Officer
Human Research Ethics Committee
Office of Governance and Corporate Affairs
Charles Sturt University
Private Bag 29
Panorama Avenue
Bathurst NSW 2795
Tel: (02) 6338 4628
Email: ethics@csu.edu.au

Any issues you raise will be treated in confidence and investigated fully and you will be informed of the outcome.

Thank you for helping with this research project. Please keep this information sheet.

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