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INFORMATION SHEET

Title: Evaluating and monitoring the quality of Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) plans for individuals living with disabilities

Researchers:

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Description of the study

We are undertaking research entitled “Evaluating and monitoring the quality of Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) plans for individuals living with disabilities.”

Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) is an applied science that is used to enhance an individuals’ quality of life through skills development and environmental modification. PBS interventions are gaining increasing momentum, and PBS is the recommended framework for supporting individuals who present with behaviours of concern (BOC) in Australia under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). This highlights the need for effective methods in evaluating and monitoring the quality PBS plans.

There are concerns associated with training and burden imposed by current evaluation tools, and the need for processes that focus on the meaningful outcomes for individuals who present with BOC. This research will therefore contribute to current literature by providing insight into current systems and recommendations in monitoring and evaluating the quality of PBS plans, which will have implications for improving service delivery.

Purpose of the study

This project aims to gain insight into current systems and recommendations in monitoring and evaluating the quality of PBS plans for individuals with disabilities. Specifically, the project aims to (1) gain feedback from key stakeholders (PBS Practitioners and professionals supervising PBS practices) regarding what tools/methods are currently being used to monitor and evaluate the quality of PBS plans, and (2) to inform recommendations regarding processes in monitoring and evaluating the quality of PBS plans.

What will I be asked to do?

You may be selected for this study if you meet the following inclusion criteria:

- Are a PBS practitioner or supervisor of PBS practices/services within the disability sector in South Australia
- Are a professional responsible for overseeing the development/implementation of PBS plans for individuals with disabilities
- Are 18 years or above

If you are selected, you will be invited to participate in an online Delphi method (consisting of three rounds of questionnaires) via SurveyMonkey (a web-based survey program). This will be conducted in two parts. Part A will be completed during the first round of the Delphi process, during which participants will complete questions relating to current practices. Participants will then be invited to complete three rounds of online questionnaires to inform recommendations (Part B). Responses to each round of the Delphi will be analysed, and summaries forwarded to participants with the next round of questions

Simple and specific instructions will be provided for each questionnaire. There are no right or wrong answers to the questions, as this study is seeking expert opinion.

It is expected that your involvement will include a total of 1.5 hours of your time over a four-month period (approximately 20 minutes per survey).

What benefit will I gain from being involved in this study?

The sharing of your experiences will aid in providing insight into current systems and recommendations in monitoring and evaluating the quality of PBS plans, which will have implications for improving service delivery.

Will I be identifiable by being involved in this study?

The confidentiality of any information you provide is guaranteed. You do not need to put your name on this survey and there are no identifying marks on the forms. Please be assured that any information provided be treated in the strictest confidence and no participant will be individually identifiable in the resulting report or other publications. Survey Monkey has

extensive information around privacy policies and how survey creators and users are protected under this (can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/mp/policy/security/>). All information and results obtained in this study will be stored in a secure way, with access restricted to researchers.

Are there any risks or discomforts if I am involved?

We do not anticipate any burden or risks associated with your involvement. However, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the survey, research project, or anticipated or actual risks or discomforts, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone on 8201 2576, or email Alinka.Fisher@flinders.edu.au

How do I agree to participate?

If you meet the inclusion criteria and are interested in taking part in this research, please complete the attached consent form and return via email to Alinka.Fisher@flinders.edu.au by [INSERT DATE]. Please note that a maximum variation sampling technique will be applied to ensure that a range of professional experiences are represented on the Delphi Panel. It is therefore possible that you will not be selected for this study. This is not a reflection of your valuable expertise and experience, but rather dependent on the demographic diversity within consenting individuals.

How will I receive feedback?

Results and outcomes of this study will be available after publication which will occur in 2019.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet, and we hope that you are interested in participating in this project.

*This research project has been approved by the Flinders University Social and Behavioural Research Ethics Committee (Project number: 8222).
For more information regarding ethical approval of the project only, the Executive Officer of the Committee can be contacted by telephone on (08) 8201 3116, by fax on (08) 8201 2035, or by email to human.researchethics@flinders.edu.au*