

Participant Information Sheet

Project Title:

Evaluating the Indigenous Allied Health Australia Ultimate Student Leadership Challenge: A cultural and clinical interprofessional development program

Researcher(s): Tara Lewis, Donna Murray, Kylie Stothers, Jed Fraser, Paul Gibson,
and Ruth Barker

Organisation(s): Indigenous Allied Health Australia

What is the project about?

The aim of this research is to evaluate the impact of the Ultimate Student Leadership Challenge (USLC) on the Indigenous allied health students who have participated.

The objectives are to:

Phase 1: Gain insights into the impact of the USLC on students, from the perspective of students, mentors and facilitators who have participated.

Phase 2: Quantify the impact of the USLC on students using a custom-designed survey based on these insights

Phase 3: Generate recommendations for improving the USLC for Indigenous allied health students.

This information and consent form relates to Phase 1 of the Project.

Who is involved in the project?

This research project is being conducted by Tara Lewis, Donna Murray, Kylie Stothers, Jed Fraser, Paul Gibson, and Ruth Barker, who all work for Indigenous Allied Health. The research is supported by the National Health Leadership Forum who are leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare.

Why have I been invited to participate?

As a past participant in the IAHA Ultimate Student Leadership Challenge (USLC), you have been invited to participate because of your cultural and professional knowledges and your ability to provide insights into the USLC.

It is expected that this project will support IAHA in informing policies and programs nationally, and to more strongly advocate for the value and impact of the USLC. It will also allow IAHA to benchmark the USLC against other national and international Health Care Team Challenges (HCTCs).

You can pull out at any time, and it won't change your relationship with the researcher(s) or anyone else. If you do decide to pull out of the project, you will be able to withdraw the data within two weeks after an individual yarning session. Data collected during group yarning sessions cannot be withdrawn once the session has occurred. This is due to the collective nature of the discussions and the impracticality of isolating individual contributions prior to publication of materials. The researchers will provide opportunities to review and amend materials and remind you of your right to withdraw.

What will the researcher(s) do and when?

The researchers will conduct online yarning groups between February 2025 and February 2026. They will also conduct individual yarns if that is your preference.

The researcher(s) will guide you through a semi-structured yarn (conversation) via Microsoft Teams, to explore some of your ideas about the USLC. The sessions will be recorded, either video-recorded or audio-recorded according to your preference and your consent. As you will be identifiable in these recordings, once the session has been transcribed, the recording will be destroyed. The research team will then analyse the transcribed conversation alongside those of your peers to identify common themes.

The yarning session will require approximately one hour of your time. Once the yarning sessions are being analysed, you may be asked to participate in an additional 30 minutes to complete a review of the researchers explanation of themes.

You will not be paid for your time. As IAHA supported your attendance, sharing your time and your insights will be a valuable way of giving back to the program to ensure its ongoing success and impact.

What will happen to my information?

The research team will share the findings in ways that respect Indigenous knowledge systems, using methods like storytelling and visual arts, as well as formats such as gatherings, workshops, conferences, and journal publications to reach a wide audience.

The findings will also support IAHA's ongoing work, including promoting the value of the USLC in policy submissions, promotional materials, and presentations at the IAHA member's forum.

All information collected during this research will be de-identified. After transcription, any video and audio recordings will be securely destroyed, and the de-identified data will be analysed and reported.

If you wish to be identified however, you can:

- a) give consent to be quoted, and
- b) give consent to review how your input is represented.

You will receive copies of all research outputs (e.g., publications, presentations). If the research team wishes to directly quote or attribute input to you, and you have consented to be contacted, we will share these outputs for your review and approval before publication.

Data from the yarning sessions will be securely destroyed after five years, following data retention policies. Copyright for all research outputs will belong to IAHA, a community-controlled organisation owned by its members.

What are the potential risks?

IAHA foresee that the risks associated with the research are low, and intend to take a strengths-based and culturally responsive approach to the research and all the work. To protect you from any risks, a strict consent process is in place, and the project will be oversighted by an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Advisory Group.

Contact and support

If you have queries about the research you can contact Paul Gibson, Executive Director of Strategy and Partnerships via email to paul@iaha.com.au or via (02) 6285 1010

Should you require other support, including crisis support, services you can contact include:

- 13YARN
- Lifeline 13 11 14
- Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467
- Beyond Blue Support Service 1300 224 636
- Bush Support Services (for rural and remote participants) 1800 805 391

Data storage

During the project, the data will be stored in password protected computers within secure share drives only accessible to the research team. Any paper-based materials, such as consent forms, will be stored within locked filing cabinets, prior to being scanned and uploaded to the secure drive, and then shredded. Identification codes will be stored separately.

The information will be kept for a period of five (5) years after which time it will be securely destroyed, in accordance with data retention policies

Culturally restricted information

While IAHA anticipate that responses will be informed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander worldviews, perspectives and lived experiences, the generalised nature of the project should avoid the collection of culturally restricted information. Where potentially culturally restricted information is collected, this will be managed through the IAHA Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property policy and through a strict consent process.

Inclusion and exclusion criteria

The project will focus on the perspectives of students, mentors and facilitators who have participated in the USLC. Participants will identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.

People under the age of 18 will not be eligible to participate.

Complaints

If you have a complaint you can contact:

- The Chief Executive Officer, IAHA, Alia House, 9 – 11 Napier Close, Deakin ACT 2604, (e) donna@iaha.com.ai
- The Executive Director of Research, AIATSIS, 51 Lawson Crescent, Acton ACT 2601, (e) ethics@aiatsis.gov.au
- The Chair of the AIATSIS Research Ethics Committee, AIATSIS, 51 Lawson Crescent, Acton ACT 2601, (e) ethics@aiatsis.gov.au
- If you think there has been a breach of your privacy you can write to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, GPO Box 5218 Sydney NSW 2001 or call 1300 363 992.

Ethics Committee Clearance

The ethical aspects of this research project have been approved by the AIATSIS Research Ethics Committee.