

The Mental Health Council of Australia (MHCA) is undertaking a consumer and carer survey about the behaviour of health professionals towards people with mental illness.

As the peak national body for mental health the MCHA is committed to ensuring fair and equitable mental health services for all Australians. We understand that feelings of discrimination, victimisation, or negative judgement create a real barrier to effective engagement in mental health treatment.

We would like to invite you to complete a survey about your views of health professionals' attitudes and behaviours towards people with mental illness as well as your experience of care from mental health and other health service providers. This could be directly as a consumer of mental health services, or indirectly as a carer for someone else with a mental illness who has used these services.

This research study is extremely important, as the findings will give us the platform to be able to provide government with recent and relevant information that will assist in directing future funding into mental health services.

If you think you might like to part in the study, please [click here](#) and you will be taken to an external secure website where you will be able to find a lot more information about the survey and what is involved for participants to help you decide if you want to complete the questionnaire. The questionnaire will probably take 20-30 minutes to complete, however if you don't want to take part in the questionnaire, or if you begin and then wish to stop at any point you can.

If you have any questions about this project please do not hesitate to contact Rachelle Irving, Acting Deputy CEO on 02 6285 3100 or via email at [rachelle.irving@mhca.org.au](mailto:rachelle.irving@mhca.org.au). Deakin University is affiliated with this research as Rachelle is currently studying at Deakin with this project forming part of her thesis. As such, ethics approval has been granted for this project through the Human Research Ethics Committee of Deakin University.

Thank you for considering being part of this project, and we hope you will be interested in participating in this very important study.

Yours sincerely

**Rachelle Irving**

Acting Deputy CEO

Mental Health Council of Australia

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