

AUSTIN HEALTH HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

ETHICAL APPROVAL

Dr Colleen Doyle
National Ageing Research Institute

19 December 2018

Dear Dr Colleen Doyle,

HREC Reference Number [AU RED HREC reference number]: HREC/45941/Austin-2018

Austin Health SITE REFERENCE Number: ND 45941/2018

Project Title: BEFRIENDAS Study: The impact of befriending on depression, anxiety, social support and loneliness in older adults living in residential aged care facilities

I am pleased to advise that the above project has **received ethical approval** from the Austin Health Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). The HREC confirms that your proposal meets the requirements of the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007). This HREC is organised and operates in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's (NHRMC) National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007), and all subsequent updates, and in accordance with the Note for Guidance on Good Clinical Practice (CPMP/ICH/135/95), the Health Privacy Principles described in the Health Records Act 2001 (Vic) and Section 95A of the Privacy Act 1988 (and subsequent Guidelines).

HREC Approval Date: 19/12/2018

Ethical approval for this project applies at the following sites:

Site
Arcare, VIC
BlueCross, VIC
Bolton Clarke, QLD

Approved Documents:

The following documents have been reviewed and approved:

Document	Version	Date
HREA (HREC/45941/Austin-2018-159194)	2	4 December 2018
VSM	-	4 December 2018
Protocol	2	28 November 2018
Master Participant Information Sheet/Consent Form – Resident	2	28 November 2018
Master Participant Information Sheet/Consent Form – Care Manager	2	28 November 2018
Master Participant Information Sheet/Consent Form – Volunteer	2	28 November 2018
Volunteer Advertisement	2	28 November 2018
Initial Screen	1	30 October 2018
Detailed Screen	1	30 October 2018
Baseline Assessment (T1)	1	30 October 2018
Follow-up 1 Assessment (T2)	1	30 October 2018
Follow-up 2 Assessment (T3)	1	30 October 2018
Pre-Training Questionnaires	1	30 October 2018
Training Evaluation Form	1	30 October 2018
Befriending Session Notes	1	30 October 2018
Volunteer Post-Befriending Evaluation and Questionnaires	1	30 October 2018
Qualitative Interview with Resident	1	30 October 2018
Qualitative Interview with Case Manager	1	30 October 2018
Qualitative Focus Group with Volunteers	1	30 October 2018

Governance Authorisation:

Governance Authorisation is required at each site participating in the study before the research project can commence at that site.

You are required to provide a copy of this HREC approval letter to the principal investigator for each site covered by this ethics approval for inclusion in the site specific assessment application.

Conditions of Ethics Approval:

- You are required to submit to the HREC:
 - An Annual Progress Report (that covers all sites listed on approval) for the duration of the project. This report is due on the anniversary of HREC approval. Continuation of ethics approval is contingent on submission of an annual report, due within one month of the approval anniversary. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in suspension of the project by the HREC.
 - A comprehensive Final Report upon completion of the project.
- Submit to the reviewing HREC for approval any proposed amendments to the project including any proposed changes to the Protocol, Participant Information and Consent Form/s and the Investigator Brochure.
- Notify the reviewing HREC of any adverse events that have a material impact on the conduct of the research in accordance with the NHMRC Position Statement: *Monitoring and reporting of safety for clinical trials involving therapeutic products November 2016*.
- Notify the reviewing HREC of your inability to continue as Coordinating Principal Investigator.

- Notify the reviewing HREC of the failure to commence the study within 12 months of the HREC approval date or if a decision is taken to end the study at any of the sites prior to the expected date of completion.
- Notify the reviewing HREC of any matters which may impact the conduct of the project.
- **If your project involves radiation:**
 - **It is your responsibility to ensure the research is added to the site Management Licence issued by Department of Human Services – Radiation Safety Section prior to study commencement should it be required (check your Medical Physicist Report). The site RGO must be notified when the research has been added to the licence.**
 - **You are legally obliged to conduct your research in accordance with the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency Code of Practice 'Exposure of Humans to Ionizing Radiation for Research Purposes' Radiation Protection series Publication No.8 (May 2005)(ARPANSA Code).**

Please note: Template forms for reporting Amendments, Adverse events, Annual/Final reports, etc. can be accessed from: <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/clinical-trials-and-research/clinical-trial-research/how-to-make-an-hrec-application-for-clinical-trials>.

The HREC may conduct an audit of the project at any time.

Yours sincerely

Alyaa Mohamed
Research Ethics Assistant