

Project Title: Exploring barriers and facilitators to the implementation of a national Lung Cancer Screening Program in Australia

Overview: This qualitative focus group study is the second component of an NHMRC Ideas Grant project (NHMRC-GA65812: *Accelerating translation: Acceptability and feasibility of potential lung cancer screening implementation in Australian communities*) that aims to generate evidence about the acceptability, barriers, motivators and feasibility of lung cancer screening in Australia. We will conduct focus groups with key stakeholders involved in the care of patients with lung cancer.

Significance: Lung cancer is the fifth most commonly diagnosed cancer in Australia (12,817 cases diagnosed in 2019) and the leading cause of cancer death. There is high quality evidence that screening in high-risk individuals will significantly reduce lung cancer mortality using low dose computed tomography (LDCT). In Australia, a national screening program using LDCT is not currently recommended, and acceptability and feasibility remain relatively unexplored.

Purpose: to identify barriers and enablers to implementation of a LDCT screening program from the perspectives of key stakeholders (health professionals and policymakers)

Method: This component will engage stakeholders in NSW/ACT, including general practitioners (GPs), primary care nurses, respiratory physicians, policy makers and screening program (breast, bowel) staff. We will focus on regional, rural and remote areas in NSW (and extend to other states and territories where possible). Focus groups will be conducted via Zoom and will be audio-recorded, transcribed and analysed thematically. It is anticipated that groups will run for 1 hour.

All participants will be reimbursed for their time with a \$100 gift voucher.

This research has been approved by The University of Sydney Human Research Ethics Committee (2020/743). Participants will be asked to complete a consent form and a short questionnaire about their demographic information.

Team:

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Dr Emily Stone (Co-investigator; Thoracic Physician, St Vincent's Hospital Sydney);
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Prof Annette McWilliams (Co-investigator; Thoracic Physician, Fiona Stanley Hospital, Perth)
Ms Sue McCullough (Co-investigator; Consumer representative).
Ms Kate Dunlop (Research Officer; PhD candidate, The University of Sydney);
Ms Ashleigh Sharman (Research Assistant, The University of Sydney).