

Plain Language Information Statement

Centre for eResearch and Digital Innovation Research and Innovation Portfolio

PROJECT TITLE:	Longitudinal research into the impact of technology on informing decision making and supporting practice change
PRINCIPAL RESEARCHER:	Dr Angela Murphy
OTHER/STUDENT RESEARCHERS:	Dr Birgita Hansen, Jennifer Corbett, Alison Ollerenshaw, Meghan Taylor and Patrick Bonney

Since 2012 a range of web portals have been developed by the Centre for eResearch and Digital Innovation (CeRDI) at Federation University Australia using new technologies to access current and past industry and sector research, reports, evidence and context specific information. Through the federation of multiple data sets, the CeRDI web portals provide a resource for individuals, groups, industry sectors, government representatives and researchers to better respond to industry challenges such as climate shifts and community.

Dr Angela Murphy, together with research colleagues at Federation University Australia (Dr Birgita Hansen, Jennifer Corbett, Meghan Taylor, Alison Ollerenshaw and Patrick Bonney), is undertaking research into the implementation of the web portals and seeks to explore factors relating to: project implementation and development; knowledge building, behaviour change and informed decision making; the impact of the portal on decision making and practice change; and enterprise enhancement and change over time. The research team also seeks to use this information to inform future web portal developments.

In order to maximise the insights gained, the research will take place over an extended time of four years and will involve four data collection points. The first wave of data collection will be completed by the end of 2016, with surveys to be repeated in 2017, 2018 and 2019. This means that the same research process will be completed four times over a four year timeframe. The research team will do this in order to measure changes as they occur, and to be able to understand the impacts of web portals in shaping practice and decision making over time.

As an individual who has been involved in the development and use a web portal developed by CeRDI, you are invited to participate in this research by completing a short survey. The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete and is available online. It can also be requested in hardcopy format through the link provided on the website. The survey will ask questions that will elicit information about your usage of the web portal and the benefits and limitations of the portal. The same survey will be repeated in 2017, 2018 and 2019 and we would value your involvement at each of these points in time.

The results of this research will provide important insights into the application value of the web portal for you, your industry and/or your community. Insights into the functionality of the web portal will also be explored to ensure that it continues to be useful and effective. The data will also be used by the project team to prepare academic journal articles and conference papers to inform national and international knowledge about how web portals impact on knowledge building and decision making in your sector. The collated data may also be shared via a report to the project partners and government organisations.

Approval for this project has been gained from the Human Research Ethics Committee at Federation University Australia (approval number: A16-137), in accordance with the guidelines provided by the National Health and Medical Research Council for research involving humans.

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All information that you provide will be treated confidentially and will only be used to identify the main themes and insights drawn out relating to the impact of the web portal. No information collected through the survey (online or hardcopy) will be used to identify individuals. The researchers are the only people who will have access to this information at any time following data collection and analysis. You may also choose not to respond to all questions in the survey – just answer the questions you are comfortable with.

Consent to participate in this research will be assumed when you complete and submit the survey.

All data collected for this research will be stored securely, and data will be destroyed after a minimum period of five years post data collection.

Your participation in this research is voluntary and your confidentiality will be maintained at all times. You are free at any time up until and when completing the survey to withdraw your participation in this research, without explanation. There are no consequences to withdrawing from this research.

It is extremely unlikely that you will experience any distress as a result of questions asked in this survey however, in the unlikely event that you are concerned with any of the questions included in the online survey, or with the research project itself, we advise that you contact Lifeline on telephone 13 11 14.

For further details about this research, or participating in this research, please contact Dr Angela Murphy on telephone (03) 5327 6198.

If you have any questions, or you would like further information regarding the project titled Longitudinal research into the impact of technology on informing decision making and supporting practice change, please contact the Principal Researcher, Dr Angela Murphy of the Centre for eResearch and Digital Innovation:

EMAIL: aa.murphy@federation.edu.au

PH: (03) 5327 6198

Should you (i.e. the participant) have any concerns about the ethical conduct of this research project, please contact the Federation University Ethics Officers, Research Services, Federation University Australia,
P O Box 663 Mt Helen Vic 3353 or Northways Rd, Churchill Vic 3842.

Telephone: (03) 5327 9765, (03) 5122 6446

Email: research.ethics@federation.edu.au

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