

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

TITLE: Emergency clinicians' knowledge, preparedness and experiences of managing COVID-19 during the 2020 global pandemic in Australian healthcare settings

Emergency Nurses and COVID-19: Have your say!

EMERGENCY NURSES' KNOWLEDGE, PREPAREDNESS AND EXPERIENCES OF MANAGING SARS-COV-2 and COVID-19 IN AUSTRALIAN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDY

Participant Information Statement (HREC 2020/200)

(1) What is this study about?

We would like to invite you to take part in a CENA approved research study about emergency nurses' knowledge, preparedness and experiences of managing SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 in the Australian healthcare settings. You have been invited to participate in this study because you are a member of CENA. CENA has approved this study of its members, emergency nurses, who are front-line healthcare workers with a fundamental role in managing the health and wellbeing of the Australian community.

This Participant Information Statement tells you about the research study. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research. Please read this sheet carefully and ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about. Participation in this research study is voluntary. By giving your consent to take part in this study you are telling us that you understand what you have read, agree to take part in the research study as outlined below, and agree to the use of your personal information as described.

(2) Who is running the study?

The study is being led by Professor Ramon Z. Shaban from the University of Sydney and Western Sydney Local Health District with his emergency nursing colleagues Professor Margaret Fry, Professor Julie Considine, Professor Kate Curtis and Mr Sergey Kuznetsov together with researchers Dr Cecilia Li, Dr Cristina Sotomayor-Castillo and Dr Shizar Nahidi from the University of Sydney. This study is an unfunded investigator-initiated project, and we do not require any additional resources than those available to us in our usual employment to ensure successful completion of this study. The researchers declare no conflicts of interest.

(3) What will the study involve for me?

We would like you to complete a short, anonymous online survey comprising of four sections. Section 1 asks a few demographic questions about you. Section 2 asks questions about your knowledge of COVID-19. In Section 3 we explore aspects about your preparedness for COVID-19, including training, provision of information and availability of guidelines. In the last section we explore your experiences of working as an emergency nurse in the context of COVID-19. We ask that you do not include any personally identifying information in the survey responses. Most questions will have pre-defined answers; however, some will ask for a written response. Should you wish to do so, you are welcome to expand your replies or make any other comments at the end of the survey. By ticking the "I agree to participate" checkbox at the end of this statement you consent to participate in this study.

(4) How much of my time will the study take?

We estimate the survey will take you 10 minutes to complete.

(5) Who can take part in the study?

This is a survey of members of CENA. We are conducting a similar survey of 8 other frontline healthcare workers including infectious diseases physicians, general practitioners, emergency physicians, infection control specialists, intensivists, critical care nurses, public health physicians and paramedics via their professional college or society.

(6) Do I have to be in the study? Can I withdraw from the study once I've started?

Participation in this study is completely voluntary and you do not have to take part. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relationship with CENA, the researchers, or anyone else at the University of Sydney and/or any other organisation. Submitting your completed questionnaire is an indication of your consent to participate in the study. You can withdraw your responses at any time before you have submitted the questionnaire. Once you have submitted it, your responses cannot be withdrawn.

(7) Are there any risks or costs associated with being in the study?

The risks to you participating in this study are low/negligible. The study is an anonymous online survey and participation is voluntary. Aside from giving up your valuable time, we do not expect that there will be any risks or costs associated with taking part in this study. There is no information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you. All collected information will remain confidential and will only be accessed by the investigators. No data that identifies you will be reported in publications or presentations arising from the study. The information you provide will only be used for the purpose of this research study, and will only be disclosed with your permission, except as required by law.

(8) Are there any benefits associated with being in the study?

While we cannot guarantee that you will receive any direct benefits from being in the study, this study will provide valuable information about your knowledge, preparedness and experiences of managing COVID-19 in the Australian healthcare settings. This information will help to identify gaps in infection control preparedness, inconsistencies between international and national guidelines, and any evidence-practice gaps in emergency nursing.

(9) What will happen to information about me that is collected during the study?

By providing your consent, you are agreeing to us collecting your survey responses for the purposes of this research study. The information you provide will only be used for the purposes outlined in this Participant Information Statement. There is no information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you. All collected information will remain confidential and will only be accessed by the researchers. The information you provide will be stored securely and kept strictly confidential, except as required by law. It is anticipated that the results of this research study will be published and/or presented in a variety of scientific forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you or your healthcare facility cannot be identified, except with your express permission. All data will be stored on password-protected confidential servers within the Western Sydney Local Health District and the University of Sydney Westmead Campus, in accordance with prevailing legislation policies at both institutions. In accordance with The University of Sydney Policy, records for this study will be stored securely for five years following publication of the results before destruction.

(10) Can I tell other people about the study?

Yes, you are welcome to tell other people about the study.

(11) What if I would like further information about the study?

For more information about the study please contact Coordinating Principal Investigator Professor Ramon Z. Shaban via email office.professor-shaban@sydney.edu.au or telephone 02 8627 3117

(12) Will I be told the results of the study?

You have the right to receive feedback about the overall results of this study. This feedback will be in the form of a one-page lay summary. No personalised feedback will be provided. If you wish to receive the one-page lay summary, please provide your email address at the end of the survey. You will receive this feedback after the study is completed.

(13) What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the study?

Research involving humans in Australia is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). The ethical aspects of this study have been approved by the HREC of the University of Sydney (HREC 2020/200). The study has also been approved for distribution by CENA. As part of this process, we have agreed to carry out the study according to the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007). This statement has been developed to protect people who agree to take part in research studies. If you are concerned about the way this study is being conducted or you wish to make a complaint to someone independent from the study, please contact the University HREC using the details outlined below quoting the study title and protocol number:

The Manager, Human Ethics Administration, University of Sydney. Telephone +61 2 8627 8176. Email: human.ethics@sydney.edu.au, Facsimile: 02 8627 8117

By ticking the "I agree to participate" checkbox, you consent to participate in this study.

I agree to participate

This is a list of the acronyms used in the survey:

ED: Emergency Department SARS-CoV-2: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 COVID-19: Coronavirus Disease 2019

SECTION 1: DEMOGRAPHICS

1. What is your country of residence?

- Australia
- New Zealand
- Other

2. In which Australian state or territory do you currently or ordinarily work?

- Australian Capital Territory
- New South Wales
- Northern Territory
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Tasmania
- Victoria
- Western Australia
- I don't live in Australia

3. How many years have you worked in your professional field as of 01 January 2020?

4. What is your current position?

- Enrolled nurse
- Registered nurse
- Clinical nurse specialist
- Clinical nurse consultant
- Clinical nurse educator
- Nurse manager
- Nurse practitioner
- Nursing unit manager
- Other (please specify below)

5. Do you work in any of these areas? (Please select all that apply)

- Patient screening for COVID-19
- COVID-19 clinic
- Triage and streaming of patients to appropriate mode of care
- Resuscitation and trauma
- Acute respiratory patient care

SECTION 2: KNOWLEDGE In this section we would like to ask some questions about what you know about COVID-19.

6. Where do you routinely go for up-to-date information about COVID-19? (Please select all that apply)

- World Health Organization website
- US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website
- Australia Government Health Protection Principal Committee
- 2019 Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare
- Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) Guidelines
- State/territory departments of health website
- Commonwealth Department of Health website
- Colleagues
- Scientific literature and journals
- Social media (e.g. Twitter, Facebook),
- Television, radio or newspaper
- CENA website
- National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce
- Other

7. Which of the following CENA website COVID-19 resources do you use? (Please select all that apply)

- National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce
- Global and Australian situation links
- PPE-related recommendations
- CENA Webinar: Caring for the critical and ventilated COVID-19 Patient in the ED
- General patient management recommendation links
- Looking after yourself-related resources
- None of the above

8. How would you rate your current level of knowledge about COVID-19?

- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Very good
- Excellent

9. Information about this outbreak changes rapidly. How easy or difficult is it to keep up-to-date with the following areas of information about COVID-19?

	Very difficult	Difficult	Neutral	Easy	Very easy
Case definition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Epidemiology (Data on the number of cases and locations)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clinical presentation, signs, symptoms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Laboratory testing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Infection prevention and control measures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of personal protect equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Treatment and management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Isolation practices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Contact tracing and outbreak management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Travel advisory and restrictions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public health orders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

SECTION 3: PREPAREDNESS**In this section we want to know about aspects of preparedness for COVID-19.**

10. Have you completed any general outbreak management education and training? Yes
 No

10a. Who provided this education and training? Internal program run within my workplace
 CENA
 External program

11. Are you a member of a COVID-19 planning or response committee? (Please select all that apply) Yes, at public hospital level
 Yes, at private hospital level
 Yes, at health district level
 Yes, at state level
 Yes, at national level
 Yes, at international level
 No

12. How prepared were you for COVID-19 on 31 December 2019? Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

13. How prepared are you for COVID-19 today? Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

14. How prepared do you think your workplace is to manage COVID-19 into the future? Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

15. How prepared do you think Australia was for COVID-19? Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

16. In your opinion, has your workplace provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19? Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

17. In your opinion, has your state or territory government health department provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19? Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

18. In your opinion, has the Australian Government Department of Health provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19?

- Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

19. Have you received specific education, training or instruction about COVID-19 within your workplace?

- Yes
 No

19a. What kind of education, training or instruction did you receive?(Please select all that apply)

- In-house practice education
 Lectures or Grand Rounds
 Practical Personal Protective Equipment instruction
 Written materials

19b. How would you rate the adequacy of this education, training or instruction?

- Not at all adequate
 Slightly adequate
 Somewhat adequate
 Mostly adequate
 Entirely adequate

20. Have you received any education, training or instruction within your unit or department for the following?

	Yes	No
Screening for COVID-19	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of screening criteria to triage COVID-19 patients	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Alterations to procedures (e.g. aerosolizing procedures) in COVID - 19 suspected/confirmed patients	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Patient care for COVID-19 suspected/confirmed patients	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New hospital guidelines and policies regarding COVID-19	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Patient workflow and segregation of patients	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

21. Have you received training or certification in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Yes
 No

21a. How would you rate the adequacy of this training or certification in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Not at all adequate
 Slightly adequate
 Somewhat adequate
 Mostly adequate
 Entirely adequate

22. How confident are you in using personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Not at all confident
 Slightly confident
 Somewhat confident
 Mostly confident
 Entirely confident

23. Overall, how satisfied are you about the PPE availability at your facility?

- PPE is rarely available
- PPE is sometimes available
- PPE is generally available
- PPE is mostly available
- PPE is always available

24. Does your workplace have COVID-19 guidelines and an outbreak response plan?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

24a. How familiar are you with your workplace's COVID-19 guidelines and outbreak response plan?

- Not at all familiar
- Slightly familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Moderately familiar
- Entirely familiar

24b. How easy or difficult is it for you to adhere to your workplace's guidelines and outbreak response plan for COVID-19?

- Very difficult
- Difficult
- Neutral
- Easy
- Very easy

SECTION 4: EXPERIENCES

In this section we want to hear about your experiences of working in the hospital environment during COVID-19 outbreak.

25. Is your workplace involved in assessing suspected cases of COVID-19?

Yes
 No
 Don't know

26. Does your workplace refer suspected or confirmed cases COVID-19 to other facilities?

Yes
 No
 Don't know

27. Is your workplace involved in treating suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19?

Yes
 No
 Don't know

28. How likely do you think you are to contract SARS-CoV-2 in your workplace?

Not at all
 Unlikely
 Somewhat likely
 Very likely
 Extremely likely

29. Have you been directly involved in caring for confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19?

Yes
 No
 Don't know

30. How concerned are you currently about contracting SARS-CoV-2?

Not at all concerned
 Slightly concerned
 Somewhat concerned
 Moderately concerned
 Extremely concerned

31. Have you taken annual leave because you are, or have been, concerned about contracting SARS-CoV-2 at work?

Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

32. Have you taken sick leave because you are, or have been, concerned about contracting SARS-CoV-2 at work?

Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

33. Have you, or would you, avoid telling others that you have cared for patients with COVID-19 because you are afraid of a negative reaction from them?

Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

34. Do you feel that your family or friends have, or are, avoiding contact with you due to the nature of your work?

Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

35. Have you experienced or witnessed racial or other forms of discrimination at work associated with the COVID-19 outbreak?

Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

36. Has the COVID-19 outbreak increased your workload (i.e. added to your normal, daily duties)?

- No, it has lessened
 No, it has stayed the same
 Slightly more
 Somewhat more
 Moderately more
 Considerably more

37. Do you feel more stressed than usual at work due to the outbreak of COVID-19?

- Not at all
 Slightly
 Somewhat
 Moderately
 Extremely

38. Have you participated in any of the following COVID-19 outbreak response activity? (Please select all that apply)

- Reviewing and updating policies or procedures
 Establishing fever clinics
 Training in donning and doffing PPE
 Supporting healthcare staff
 Supporting other staff
 Planning for surge capacity
 None of the above

39. Does your workplace provide debriefing or staff psychological support services to you regarding COVID-19?

- Yes, debriefing only
 Yes, staff psychological support only
 Yes, both
 Neither
 Don't know

40. Have you attended debriefings in your workplace regarding COVID-19, and were they useful?

- No
 Yes, but it was not useful
 Yes, and it was slightly useful
 Yes, and it was moderately useful
 Yes, and it was extremely useful

41. Have you accessed psychological support services in your general practice/healthcare facility regarding COVID-19, and was it useful?

- No
 Yes, but it was not useful
 Yes, and it was slightly useful
 Yes, and it was moderately useful
 Yes, and it was extremely useful

42. What is for you the single biggest issue about COVID-19?

43. Do you have any other comments to make about SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19?

If you wish to receive a summary of the survey findings, please provide your email address.

Emergency physicians and COVID-19: Have your say!

EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS' KNOWLEDGE, PREPAREDNESS AND EXPERIENCES OF MANAGING SARS-COV-2 and COVID-19 IN AUSTRALIAN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDY

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(1) What is this study about?

We would like to invite you to take part in an ACEM approved research study about emergency physicians' knowledge, preparedness and experiences of managing SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 in the Australian healthcare settings. You have been invited to participate in this study because you are a member of ACEM. ACEM has approved this study of its members, emergency physicians, who are front-line healthcare workers with a fundamental role in managing the health and wellbeing of the Australian community.

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(2) Who is running the study?

The study is being led by Professor Ramon Z. Shaban from the University of Sydney and Western Sydney Local Health District with his emergency physician colleagues Dr Kavita Varshney, Dr Brian Doyle and Dr Viet Tran together with researchers Dr Cecilia Li, Dr Cristina Sotomayor-Castillo and Dr Shizar Nahidi from the University of Sydney. This study is an unfunded investigator-initiated project, and we do not require any additional resources than those available to us in our usual employment to ensure successful completion of this study. The researchers declare no conflicts of interest.

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(4) How much of my time will the study take?

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(5) Who can take part in the study?

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(6) Do I have to be in the study? Can I withdraw from the study once I've started?

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By ticking the "I agree to participate" checkbox, you consent to participate in this study.

I agree to participate

This is a list of the acronyms used in the survey:

SARS-CoV-2: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 COVID-19: Coronavirus Disease 2019

SECTION 1: DEMOGRAPHICS

1. What is your country of residence?

- Australia
- New Zealand
- Other

2. In which Australian state or territory do you currently or ordinarily work?

- Australian Capital Territory
- New South Wales
- Northern Territory
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Tasmania
- Victoria
- Western Australia
- I don't live in Australia

3. What is your professional level?

- Senior FACEM Emergency Physician (>10 years post-Fellowship)
- FACEM Emergency Physician (< 10 years post-Fellowship)
- Emergency Medicine Advanced Trainee
- Emergency Medicine Provisional Trainee
- Other (please specify)

4. What is your primary place of work?

- Tertiary/Teaching Hospital
- Metropolitan Hospital
- Regional/Rural Hospital
- Private Hospital
- Other (please specify)

5. How many years have you worked in your professional field as a FACEM specialist or trainee of the College (as of 01 January 2020)?

SECTION 2: KNOWLEDGE In this section we would like to ask some questions about what you know about COVID-19.

6. Where do you routinely go for up-to-date information about COVID-19? (Please select all that apply)

- World Health Organization website
- US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website
- Australia Government Health Protection Principal Committee
- 2019 Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare
- Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) Guidelines
- State/territory departments of health website
- Commonwealth Department of Health website
- Colleagues
- Scientific literature and journals
- Social media (e.g. Twitter, Facebook),
- Television, radio or newspaper
- ACEM website
- National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce
- Other

7. Which of the following ACEM website COVID-19 resources do you use? (Please select all that apply)

- Emergency Departments clinical guidelines
- Management of respiratory diseases outbreaks
- Managing COVID-19 across the Indo-Pacific
- COVID-19 online support forum
- Oxygen therapy with limited resources
- Critical Care Airway Management Modules
- COVID-19 webinars
- EM:RAP
- REBEL EM blog
- SGEM
- None of the above

8. How would you rate your current level of knowledge about COVID-19?

- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Very good
- Excellent

9. Information about this outbreak changes rapidly. How easy or difficult is it to keep up-to-date with the following areas of information about COVID-19?

	Very difficult	Difficult	Neutral	Easy	Very easy
Case definition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Epidemiology (Data on the number of cases and locations)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clinical presentation, signs, symptoms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Laboratory testing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Infection prevention and control measures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Use of personal protect equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Treatment and management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Isolation practices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Contact tracing and outbreak management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Travel advisory and restrictions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public health orders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

SECTION 3: PREPAREDNESS**In this section we want to know about aspects of preparedness for COVID-19.**

10. Have you completed any general outbreak management education and training?

- Yes
 No

10a. Who provided this education and training?

- Internal program run within my workplace
 ACEM
 External program

11. Are you a member of a COVID-19 planning or response committee? (Please select all that apply)

- Yes, at hospital level
 Yes, at health district level
 Yes, at state level
 Yes, at national level
 Yes, at international level
 No

12. How prepared were you for COVID-19 on 31 December 2019?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

13. How prepared are you for COVID-19 today?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
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 Extremely prepared

14. How prepared do you think your workplace is to manage COVID-19 into the future?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

15. How prepared do you think Australia was for COVID-19?

- Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared

16. In your opinion, has your workplace provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19?

- Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

17. In your opinion, has your state or territory government health department provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19?

- Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

18. In your opinion, has the Australian Government Department of Health provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19?

- Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

19. Have you received specific education, training or instruction about COVID-19 within your workplace?

- Yes
 No

19a. What kind of education, training or instruction did you receive?(Please select all that apply)

- In-house practice education
 ACEM education / Webinar
 Other external provider education / Webinar

19b. How would you rate the adequacy of this education, training or instruction?

- Not at all adequate
 Slightly adequate
 Somewhat adequate
 Mostly adequate
 Entirely adequate

20. Have you received training or certification in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Yes
 No

20a. How would you rate the adequacy of this training or certification in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Not at all adequate
 Slightly adequate
 Somewhat adequate
 Mostly adequate
 Entirely adequate

21. How confident are you in using personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Not at all confident
 Slightly confident
 Somewhat confident
 Mostly confident
 Entirely confident

22. Does your workplace have COVID-19 guidelines and an outbreak response plan?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

22a. How familiar are you with your workplace's COVID-19 guidelines and outbreak response plan?

- Not at all familiar
 Slightly familiar
 Somewhat familiar
 Moderately familiar
 Entirely familiar

22b. How easy or difficult is it for you to adhere to your workplace's guidelines and outbreak response plan for COVID-19?

- Very difficult
 Difficult
 Neutral
 Easy
 Very easy

SECTION 4: EXPERIENCES

In this section we want to hear about your experiences of working during COVID-19 outbreak.

23. Is your workplace involved in assessing suspected cases of COVID-19?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

24. Does your workplace refer suspected or confirmed cases COVID-19 to other facilities?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

25. Is your workplace involved in treating suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

26. Have you been directly involved in caring for confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

27. How concerned are you currently about contracting SARS-CoV-2?

- Not at all concerned
 Slightly concerned
 Somewhat concerned
 Moderately concerned
 Extremely concerned

28. Have you taken annual leave because you are, or have been, concerned about contracting SARS-CoV-2 at work?

- Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

29. Have you taken sick leave because you are, or have been, concerned about contracting SARS-CoV-2 at work?

- Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say

30. Have you, or would you, avoid telling others that you have cared for patients with COVID-19 because you are afraid of a negative reaction from them?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

31. Do you feel that your family or friends have, or are, avoiding contact with you due to the nature of your work?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

32. Have you experienced or witnessed racial or other forms of discrimination at work associated with the COVID-19 outbreak?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

33. Has the COVID-19 outbreak increased your workload (i.e. added to your normal daily duties)?

- No, it has lessened
 No, it has stayed the same
 Slightly more
 Somewhat more
 Moderately more
 Considerably more

34. Do you feel more stressed than usual at work due to the outbreak of COVID-19?

- Not at all
- Slightly
- Somewhat
- Moderately
- Extremely

35. Have you participated in any of the following COVID-19 outbreak response activity? (Please select all that apply)

- Reviewing and updating policies or procedures
- Establishing fever clinics
- Training in donning and doffing PPE
- Supporting healthcare staff
- Supporting other staff
- Planning for surge capacity
- None of the above

36. Does your workplace provide debriefing or staff psychological support services to you regarding COVID-19?

- Yes, debriefing only
- Yes, staff psychological support only
- Yes, both
- Neither
- Don't know

37. Have you attended debriefings in your workplace regarding COVID-19, and were they useful?

- No
- Yes, but it was not useful
- Yes, and it was slightly useful
- Yes, and it was moderately useful
- Yes, and it was extremely useful

38. Have you accessed psychological support services in your general practice/healthcare facility regarding COVID-19, and was it useful?

- No
- Yes, but it was not useful
- Yes, and it was slightly useful
- Yes, and it was moderately useful
- Yes, and it was extremely useful

39. What is for you the single biggest issue about COVID-19?

40. Do you have any other comments to make about SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19?

If you wish to receive a summary of the survey findings, please provide your email address.

Paramedics and COVID-19: Have your say!

PARAMEDICS' KNOWLEDGE, PREPAREDNESS AND EXPERIENCES OF MANAGING SARS-COV-2 and COVID-19 IN AUSTRALIAN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDY

Participant Information Statement (HREC 2020/200)

(1) What is this study about?

We would like to invite you to take part in an Australasian College of Paramedicine (ACP) approved research study about Paramedics' knowledge, preparedness and experiences of managing SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 in the Australian healthcare settings. You have been invited to participate in this study because you are a member of the ACP. The ACP has approved this study of its members, Paramedics, who are front-line healthcare workers with a fundamental role in managing the health and wellbeing of the Australian community.

This Participant Information Statement tells you about the research study. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research. Please read this sheet carefully and ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about. Participation in this research study is voluntary. By giving your consent to take part in this study you are telling us that you understand what you have read, agree to take part in the research study as outlined below, and agree to the use of your personal information as described.

(2) Who is running the study?

The study is being led by Professor Ramon Z. Shaban from the University of Sydney and Western Sydney Local Health District with his paramedicine colleagues A/Professor Tony Walker, Adjunct A/Professor Dominic Morgan, Mrs Alaine Burgess and Dr Hamish Carver, together with researchers Dr Cecilia Li, Dr Cristina Sotomayor-Castillo and Dr Shizar Nahidi from the University of Sydney. This study is an unfunded investigator-initiated project, and we do not require any additional resources than those available to us in our usual employment to ensure successful completion of this study. The researchers declare no conflicts of interest.

(3) What will the study involve for me?

We would like you to complete a short, anonymous online survey comprising of four sections. Section 1 asks a few demographic questions about you. Section 2 asks questions about your knowledge of COVID-19. In Section 3 we explore aspects about your preparedness for COVID-19, including training, provision of information and availability of guidelines. In the last section we explore your experiences of working as a Paramedic in the context of COVID-19. We ask that you do not include any personally identifying information in the survey responses. Most questions will have pre-defined answers; however, some will ask for a written response. Should you wish to do so, you are welcome to expand your replies or make any other comments at the end of the survey. By ticking the "I agree to participate" checkbox at the end of this statement you consent to participate in this study.

(4) How much of my time will the study take?

We estimate the survey will take you 10 minutes to complete.

(5) Who can take part in the study?

This is a survey of members of the ACP. We are conducting a similar survey of 8 other frontline healthcare workers including infectious diseases physicians, infection control practitioners, emergency physicians, emergency nurses, intensivists, critical care nurses, public health physicians, and general practitioners via their professional college or society.

(6) Do I have to be in the study? Can I withdraw from the study once I've started?

Participation in this study is completely voluntary and you do not have to take part. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relationship with the ACP, the researchers, or anyone else at the University of Sydney and/or any other organisation. Submitting your completed questionnaire is an indication of your consent to participate in the study. You can withdraw your responses at any time before you have submitted the questionnaire. Once you have submitted it, your responses cannot be withdrawn.

(7) Are there any risks or costs associated with being in the study?

The risks to you participating in this study are low/negligible. The study is an anonymous online survey and participation is voluntary. Aside from giving up your valuable time, we do not expect that there will be any risks or costs associated with taking part in this study. There is no information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you. All collected information will remain confidential and will only be accessed by the investigators. No data that identifies you will be reported in publications or presentations arising from the study. The information you provide will only be used for the purpose of this research study, and will only be disclosed with your

permission, except as required by law.

(8) Are there any benefits associated with being in the study?

While we cannot guarantee that you will receive any direct benefits from being in the study, this study will provide valuable information about your knowledge, preparedness and experiences of managing COVID-19 in the Australian healthcare settings. This information will help to identify gaps in infection control preparedness, inconsistencies between international and national guidelines, and any evidence-practice gaps in paramedicine practice.

(9) What will happen to information about me that is collected during the study?

By providing your consent, you are agreeing to us collecting your survey responses for the purposes of this research study. The information you provide will only be used for the purposes outlined in this Participant Information Statement. There is no information obtained in connection with this research project that can identify you. All collected information will remain confidential and will only be accessed by the researchers. The information you provide will be stored securely and kept strictly confidential, except as required by law. It is anticipated that the results of this research study will be published and/or presented in a variety of scientific forums. In any publication and/or presentation, information will be provided in such a way that you or your organisation cannot be identified, except with your express permission. All data will be stored on password-protected confidential servers within the Western Sydney Local Health District and the University of Sydney Westmead Campus, in accordance with prevailing legislation policies at both institutions. In accordance with The University of Sydney Policy, records for this study will be stored securely for five years following publication of the results before destruction.

(10) Can I tell other people about the study?

Yes, you are welcome to tell other people about the study.

(11) What if I would like further information about the study?

For more information about the study please contact Coordinating Principal Investigator Professor Ramon Z. Shaban via email office.professor-shaban@sydney.edu.au or telephone 02 8627 3117

(12) Will I be told the results of the study?

You have the right to receive feedback about the overall results of this study. This feedback will be in the form of a one-page lay summary. No personalised feedback will be provided. If you wish to receive the one-page lay summary, please provide your email address at the end of the survey. You will receive this feedback after the study is completed.

(13) What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the study?

Research involving humans in Australia is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). The ethical aspects of this study have been approved by the HREC of the University of Sydney (HREC 2020/200). The study has also been approved for distribution by the ACP. As part of this process, we have agreed to carry out the study according to the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007). This statement has been developed to protect people who agree to take part in research studies. If you are concerned about the way this study is being conducted or you wish to make a complaint to someone independent from the study, please contact the University HREC using the details outlined below quoting the study title and protocol number:

The Manager, Human Ethics Administration, University of Sydney. Telephone +61 2 8627 8176. Email: human.ethics@sydney.edu.au, Facsimile: 02 8627 8117

By ticking the "I agree to participate" checkbox, you consent to participate in this study.

I agree to participate

This is a list of the acronyms used in the survey:

SARS-CoV-2: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 COVID-19: Coronavirus Disease 2019

SECTION 1: DEMOGRAPHICS

1. What is your country of residence?

- Australia
- New Zealand
- Other

2. In which Australian state or territory do you currently or ordinarily work?

- Australian Capital Territory
- New South Wales
- Northern Territory
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Tasmania
- Victoria
- Western Australia
- I don't live in Australia

3. How many years have you worked in your professional field as of 01 January 2020?

4. What is your current level of certification?

- Intensive care paramedic
- Advanced care paramedic
- Paramedic
- Trainee paramedic
- Patient transport officer
- Other (please specify)

SECTION 2: KNOWLEDGE In this section we would like to ask some questions about what you know about COVID-19.

5. Where do you routinely go for up-to-date information about COVID-19? (Please select all that apply)

- World Health Organization website
- US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website
- Australia Government Health Protection Principal Committee
- 2019 Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare
- Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) Guidelines
- State/territory departments of health website
- Commonwealth Department of Health website
- Colleagues
- Scientific literature and journals
- Social media (e.g. Twitter, Facebook),
- Television, radio or newspaper
- Own organisation website
- National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce
- The Australasian College of Paramedicine (ACP) website
- Own organisation email
- Other

6. Which of the following ACP website COVID-19 resources do you use? (Please select all that apply)

- Department of Health - Australia resource links
- Ministry of Health New Zealand resource links
- AHPRA COVID-19 updates
- Department of Health COVID-19 infection control training
- Ambulance Victoria video resources
- CAE digital learning resources
- Safe airway society resources
- Wellbeing resources
- None of the above

7. Which channel(s) has your organisation used to disseminate information regarding COVID-19? (Please select all that apply)

- National Webinars
- Podcasts
- Own organisation website
- Own organisation portal
- Own organisation email
- Own organisation social media
- Own organisation video
- Own organisation journal
- The Australasian College of Paramedicine

8. How would you rate your current level of knowledge about COVID-19?

- Poor
- Fair
- Good
- Very good
- Excellent

9. Information about this outbreak changes rapidly. How easy or difficult is it to keep up-to-date with the following areas of information about COVID-19?

	Very difficult	Difficult	Neutral	Easy	Very easy
Case definition	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Epidemiology (Data on the number of cases and locations)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clinical presentation, signs, symptoms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to testing locations and ease of testing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Infection prevention and control measures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of personal protect equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Treatment and management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Isolation practices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Contact tracing and outbreak management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Travel advisory and restrictions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public health orders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

10. How often did your organisation communicate with you to ensure you were up to date with COVID-19 information?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Fortnightly
- Monthly
- Not at all

SECTION 3: PREPAREDNESS

In this section we want to know about aspects of preparedness for COVID-19.

11. Have you completed any general outbreak management education and training? Yes
 No
-
- 11a. Who provided this education and training? Internal program run within my own organisation
 ACP
 External program
-
12. Are you a member of a COVID-19 planning or response committee? (Please select all that apply) Yes, at organisational level
 Yes, at health district level
 Yes, at state level
 Yes, at national level
 Yes, at international level
 No
-
13. How prepared were you for COVID-19 on 31 December 2019? Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared
-
14. How prepared are you for COVID-19 today? Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared
-
15. How prepared do you think your organisation is to manage COVID-19 into the future? Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared
-
16. How prepared do you think Australia was for COVID-19? Not at all prepared
 Slightly prepared
 Somewhat prepared
 Moderately prepared
 Extremely prepared
-
17. In your opinion, has your organisation provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19? Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree
-
18. In your opinion, has your state or territory government health department provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19? Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

19. In your opinion, has the Australian Government Department of Health provided clear, timely and authoritative information about COVID-19?

- Strongly disagree
 Somewhat disagree
 Neutral
 Somewhat agree
 Strongly agree

20. Have you received specific education, training or instruction about COVID-19 within your organisation?

- Yes
 No

20a. What kind of education, training or instruction did you receive?(Please select all that apply)

- Organisational education
 State Health Department
 Other external provider Education / Webinar

20b. How would you rate the adequacy of this education, training or instruction?

- Not at all adequate
 Slightly adequate
 Somewhat adequate
 Mostly adequate
 Entirely adequate

21. Have you received training or certification in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Yes
 No

21a. How would you rate the adequacy of this training or certification in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Not at all adequate
 Slightly adequate
 Somewhat adequate
 Mostly adequate
 Entirely adequate

22. How confident are you in using personal protective equipment (PPE) for managing COVID-19?

- Not at all confident
 Slightly confident
 Somewhat confident
 Mostly confident
 Entirely confident

23. Does your organisation have COVID-19 guidelines and an outbreak response plan?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

23a. How familiar are you with your organisation's COVID-19 guidelines and outbreak response plan?

- Not at all familiar
 Slightly familiar
 Somewhat familiar
 Moderately familiar
 Entirely familiar

23b. How easy or difficult is it for you to adhere to your organisation's guidelines and outbreak response plan for COVID-19?

- Very difficult
 Difficult
 Neutral
 Easy
 Very easy

24. Does your organisation have a pandemic response plan?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know

24a. How familiar are you with your organisation's pandemic response plan?

- Not at all familiar
- Slightly familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Moderately familiar
- Entirely familiar

SECTION 4: EXPERIENCES

In this section we want to hear about your experiences of working during COVID-19 outbreak.

25. Is your organisation involved in assessing suspected cases of COVID-19? Yes
 No
 Don't know
-
26. Does your organisation refer suspected or confirmed cases COVID-19 to other facilities? Yes
 No
 Don't know
-
27. Have you been directly involved in caring for confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19? Yes
 No
 Don't know
-
28. Have you been re-deployed away from the front-line work during the outbreak for any reason? Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say
-
29. How concerned are you currently about contracting SARS-CoV-2? Not at all concerned
 Slightly concerned
 Somewhat concerned
 Moderately concerned
 Extremely concerned
-
30. How easy or difficult is/was to clean the ambulance and associated equipment after assisting a positive COVID-19 patient? Very difficult
 Difficult
 Neutral
 Easy
 Very easy
-
31. Have you taken annual leave because you are, or have been, concerned about contracting SARS-CoV-2 at work? Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say
-
32. Have you taken sick leave because you are, or have been, concerned about contracting SARS-CoV-2 at work? Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say
-
33. Have you taken special leave because you are, or have been, concerned about contracting SARS-CoV-2 at work? Yes
 No
 Prefer not to say
-
34. Have you, or would you, avoid telling others that you have cared for patients with COVID-19 because you are afraid of a negative reaction from them? Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say
-
35. Do you feel that your family or friends have, or are, avoiding contact with you due to the nature of your work? Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

36. Have you experienced or witnessed racial or other forms of discrimination at work associated with the COVID-19 outbreak?

- Yes
 No
 Don't know
 Prefer not to say

37. Has the COVID-19 outbreak increased your workload (i.e. added to your normal daily duties)?

- No, it has lessened
 No, it has stayed the same
 Slightly more
 Somewhat more
 Moderately more
 Considerably more

38. Do you feel more stressed than usual at work due to the outbreak of COVID-19?

- Not at all
 Slightly
 Somewhat
 Moderately
 Extremely

39. Have you participated in any of the following COVID-19 outbreak response activity? (Please select all that apply)

- Reviewing and updating policies or procedures
 Establishing fever clinics
 Training in donning and doffing PPE
 Supporting healthcare staff
 Supporting other staff
 Planning for surge capacity
 None of the above

40. Does your organisation provide debriefing or staff psychological support services to you regarding COVID-19?

- Yes, debriefing only
 Yes, staff psychological support only
 Yes, both
 Neither
 Don't know

41. Have you attended debriefings in your organisation regarding COVID-19, and were they useful?

- No
 Yes, but it was not useful
 Yes, and it was slightly useful
 Yes, and it was moderately useful
 Yes, and it was extremely useful

42. Have you accessed psychological support services in your organisation regarding COVID-19, and was it useful?

- No
 Yes, but it was not useful
 Yes, and it was slightly useful
 Yes, and it was moderately useful
 Yes, and it was extremely useful

43. What has been the most positive outcome/experience in your work during COVID-19?

44. What is for you the single biggest issue about COVID-19?

45. Do you have any other comments to make about SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19?

If you wish to receive a summary of the survey findings, please provide your email address.
