

Online Consent to Participate in Research

Page 1 of 3

Title of Research Study: Examining the switch to remote-delivered mental health services among college counseling center clinicians

Principal Investigator: [REDACTED]

Supported By: This research is supported by the Department of Medical Social Sciences.

Key Information about this research study:

The following is a short summary of this study to help you decide whether to be a part of this study. Information that is more detailed is explained later on in this form.

- The purpose of this study is to examine how the switch to remote-delivered mental health services has affected college center clinicians.
- You will be asked to complete an online survey which will include questions about your demographics, counseling experience, experience with remote-delivery services, willingness to use technology, and staff wellness.
- We expect that this survey will take approximately 30 minutes.
- The primary potential risk of participation is breach of confidentiality despite any steps taken to protect your privacy. All questionnaires are framed as requiring voluntary responses only. You can choose to withdraw from the study without penalty if you do not wish to provide the requested information.
- The main benefit of being in this study is that it may help researchers understand how to better serve college counseling center clinicians switching to remote-delivered services.

Why am I being asked to take part in this research study?

I am asking you to take part in this research study because you are employed at a college counseling center in the Chicago area and you are over 18 years of age.

How many people will be in this study?

We anticipate that a minimum of 25 and a maximum of 200 participants will be enrolled in this study.

What should I know about participating in a research study?

- Whether or not you take part is up to you.
- You can choose not to take part.
- You can agree to take part and later change your mind.
- Your decision will not be held against you.
- You can ask all the questions you want before you decide.
- You do not have to answer any question you do not want to answer.

Online Consent to Participate in Research

What happens if I say, “Yes, I want to be in this research”?

You will be asked to complete an online survey which will include questions about your demographics, counseling experience, experience with remote-delivery services, willingness to use technology, and staff wellness. We expect that this survey will take approximately 30 minutes.

Will being in this study help me in any way?

We cannot promise any benefits to you or others from your taking part in this research. However, possible benefits include a greater understanding of how to support college counseling center clinicians delivering mental health services remotely.

Is there any way being in this study could be bad for me?

A possible risk for any research is that confidentiality could be compromised – that is, that people outside the study might get hold of confidential study information. We will do everything we can to minimize this risk, as described in more detail later in this form.

What happens if I do not want to be in this research, or I change my mind later?

Participation in research is voluntary. You can decide to participate or not to participate. If you do not want to be in this study or withdraw from the study at any point, your decision will not affect your relationship with Northwestern University/Northwestern Memorial Healthcare or the counseling center at which you are employed.

You can leave the research at any time and it will not be held against you. If you decide to withdraw from this study, the researchers will ask you if information already collected from you can be used.

How will the researchers protect my information?

You will be identified only by a unique subject number. Your email address will be stored separately from your survey data, and is only being collected for payment purposes. All information will be kept on a password protected computer only accessible by the research team. The results of the research study may be published, but your name will not be used. This survey is being hosted by NUIT REDCap Electronic data capture software and involves a secure connection. Terms of service, addressing confidentiality, may be viewed at: <https://projectredcap.org/partners/termsfuse/>.

Who will have access to the information collected during this research study?

Efforts will be made to limit the use and disclosure of your personal information, including research study records, to people who have a need to review this information. We cannot promise complete secrecy.

There are reasons why information about you may be used or seen by other people beyond the research team during or after this study. Examples include:

- University officials, government officials, study funders, auditors, and the Institutional Review Board may need access to the study information to make sure the study is done in a safe and appropriate manner.

Online Consent to Participate in Research

- The research team may give information to appropriate authorities for reasons of health and safety – for example, if you indicate that you plan to harm yourself or others, or for public health reasons.

How might the information collected in this study be shared in the future?

We will keep the information we collect about you during this research study for study recordkeeping. Your name and other information that can directly identify you will be stored securely and separately from the rest of the research information we collect from you.

De-identified data from this study may be shared with the research community, with journals in which study results are published, and with databases and data repositories used for research. We will remove or code any personal information that could directly identify you before the study data are shared. Despite these measures, we cannot guarantee anonymity of your personal data.

The results of this study could be shared in articles and presentations, but will not include any information that identifies you.

Will I be paid or given anything for taking part in this study?

If you agree to take part in this research study, you will be entered into a raffle to win one of ten \$50 Amazon gift cards. The raffle will take place after the survey has closed. You will receive an email if you are one of the winners.

Who can I talk to?

If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, you can contact the Principal Investigator, [REDACTED]

This research has been reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board (“IRB”) – an IRB is a committee that protects the rights of people who participate in research studies. You may contact the IRB by phone at (312) 503-9338 or by email at irb@northwestern.edu if:

- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.
- You cannot reach the research team.
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team.
- You have questions about your rights as a research participant.
- You want to get information or provide input about this research.

Consent

If you want a copy of this consent for your records, you can print it from the screen.

If you wish to participate, please click the “I Agree” button and you will be taken to the survey.

If you do not wish to participate in this study, please select “I Disagree” or select X in the corner of your browser.

Email Address: _____