

Dear Family Caregivers

My name is Michelle Lobchuk, RN, PhD and I am an Associate Professor at the College of Nursing at the University of Manitoba. This letter serves as an invitation for you to consider participating in the study, “A pilot study of an intervention to enhance student nurses’ empathic discussions with family caregivers about unhealthy behaviours” that is being conducted by me, Gayle Halas, Research Associate, Family Medicine Research, College of Medicine, Nicole Harder, Assistant Professor, College of Nursing, Christina West, Assistant Professor, College of Nursing, and Zulfiya Tursunova, Post-doctoral Fellow, College of Nursing at the University of Manitoba.

We are doing intervention research about how to help student nurses dialogue empathically with family caregivers about their health and health risk behaviours. Your participation will help these researchers to develop an empathy-related video-feedback intervention for a larger study and future uptake in basic education and continuing education of student and postgraduate nurses.

This study is being conducted in three phases. Phase 1 requires that student nurses participate in a half-hour, one-to-one session with the Research Assistant (Ms. Chantal Ramraj) on how to engage in the empathic process of perspective-taking. Phase 2 requires that the same student nurses participate in a one-time, 10 minute video-recorded session at the College of Nursing where they will dialogue with a family caregiver about his or her health risk behaviours. Phase 3 requires that family caregivers and student nurses engage separately in a 30 minute follow-up exercise to review their video-recorded dialogue and answer some exit interview questions about the study.

If you decide to participate in phase two and phase three of this study, you will receive a \$20 Sobeys grocery card. Your participation is completely voluntary. If you decide not to participate, this decision will not lead to any penalty to you.

If you are interested in learning more about this study, you can contact Chantal Shivanna Ramraj, research technician at 204-474-8973 or at [Chantal.Ramraj@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Chantal.Ramraj@umanitoba.ca). Thank you for your time in considering your participation in this important study.

This study has been approved by the Education/Nursing Research Ethics Board. If you have any concerns or complaints about this project, you may contact the Human Ethics Coordinator at 204-474-7122 or email: [Margaret.Bowman@umanitoba.ca](mailto:Margaret.Bowman@umanitoba.ca)

Thank you,

Michelle Lobchuk, RN, PhD  
Associate Professor, College of Nursing