



Point-of-Care Ultrasound in Ireland Information & Consent 2023

Research contact

Ms Aine Lunney

Section of Radiography and Diagnostic Imaging

UCD School of Medicine

C/O Room A221 Health Sciences Centre,

University College Dublin,

Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland

Email: aine.lunney@ucd.ie

Other researchers on this project:

Dr. Shane Foley, Dr. Kevin Cronin and Dr. Cian McDermott

Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Please **DO** complete this survey if you meet all the following inclusion criteria:

- You are over 18 years of age.
- You are a doctor, nurse, midwife, allied health professional, paramedic or other working in **The Republic of Ireland**

Please **DO NOT** participate in the survey if you meet the following criteria:

- You are a radiologist.
- You are a sonographer.
- You are a radiographer.
- You are a cardiac physiologist.
- You are a vascular technician.
- You are working outside of The Republic of Ireland.



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Background & Aims

This survey is aimed at healthcare professionals (outside of the typical radiology setting) using, seeking to use, contemplating using, reluctant to use or wanting to know more about point-of-care ultrasound. Your responses are useful to us whether you use or do not use ultrasound.

Point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) or 'bedside' ultrasound is a safe, cost-effective, portable modality which has proven to improve patient care, waiting times and costs when used by trained medical professionals. Recent technological advances in the form of 'miniaturisation' of POCUS devices as well as reduced cost has made the modality accessible to the general medical population.

POCUS has emerged onto the medical and research scene with its applications noted in almost every discipline of medicine. Although its usefulness is well documented in the literature particularly in the United States, Canada and Australasia, there is little documented in the literature about the degree of POCUS use in Ireland.

The aim of the study is to establish the scope of POCUS use in Ireland. The study aims to find out the prevalence of POCUS use in Ireland, the clinical applications of POCUS as well as educational and accreditation opportunities available to POCUS users.

The overarching aim is to address the educational needs of the POCUS community in Ireland. This study has been granted ethical approval (ref LS-LR-23-84-Lunney-Foley) by University College Dublin.



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Survey Outline

Approximate completion time: 15 minutes.

You can exit the survey at any time and pick up where you left off by clicking on the survey link again.

The survey consists of approximately 60 questions but each participant will have a varying number of these to answer, based on their experience. These are mostly close-ended questions.

Most questions are optional.

FAQs

1. What is this research about?

The aim of the study is to establish the scope of POCUS use in Ireland with special interest in clinical applications, education, accreditation, equipment and governance.

2. How will your data be used?

The data from the survey will be anonymous and analysed using SPSS statistical analysis tools using mainly descriptive statistics including averages, means and standard deviations.

3. What will happen if you decide to take part in this research study?

Your consent is required for you to participate in this survey. If you agree to participate in this study, you will be directed to the online survey questions and your response automatically received upon completion.

4. How will I protect your privacy?

We will not gather any identifying information and the study will be completely anonymous. Your data will be stored in an encrypted file which is password protected and can only be accessed by the lead investigators.

5. What are the benefits of taking part in this research study?

There is no direct benefit to you, however your participation in this study will help us to further understand the scope of POCUS in Ireland which will help us in tailoring bespoke education for its users.

6. What are the risks of taking part in this research study?

This is not considered a sensitive topic, therefore there are no known risks to taking part in this study.



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7. Can you change your mind at any stage and withdraw from the study?

Once the survey has been submitted, you will be unable to withdraw after this point as the data will be completely anonymous and we will be unable to identify your response in the dataset.

8. How will you find out what happens with this project?

The intention is that this data will be published and disseminated through various online groups and organisations.

9. Full contact details for further information

Should you have any questions about the study or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Consent

I have read this information sheet and have had time to consider whether to take part in this study. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw from the research at any time without disadvantage. I agree to take part in this research.

I understand that my name will not be identified. I agree that the data can be used in the publication of higher degrees, scientific publications.