

The System Audit Family Violence Evaluation (SAFE) Project Expanded



Expression of interest

Background

The University of Melbourne, in collaboration with The Royal Women's Hospital, have received Commonwealth National Partnership funding for an expansion of the System Audit Family Violence Evaluation (SAFE) Project. This work will be conducted over 2023 and 2024.

The SAFE Project administered a System Audit Tool (SAFE Tool) at 18 Victorian hospitals and health services between November 2019 and April 2021 to evaluate the impact of the Strengthening Hospital Responses to Family Violence (SHRFV) program, and responses to domestic and family violence more generally across participating organisations. This work also formed an evidence base for how change is occurring in health settings to inform domestic and family violence related policy and practices across Victoria and Australia. Information about the original SAFE Project can be found at <https://www.saferfamilies.org.au/safeproject>

Expression of interest process

We are now recruiting 20 *new* hospitals and health services to participate in the SAFE Project Expanded *and* inviting sites who participated in the original SAFE Project to also be part of this work. Participating sites will receive \$5,000.00 each to support staff administer (or readminister) the System Audit Tool.

Recruitment is being conducted via an Expression of Interest (EOI) process – for further details see the SAFE Project Expanded webpage: <https://www.saferfamilies.org.au/safe-audit-home> or contact Minerva Kyei-Onanjiri from the University of Melbourne: minerva.kyeionanjiri@unimelb.edu.au

Responsibilities of participating sites

Participating hospitals and health services will administer (or readminister) the SAFE Tool, or SAFE Lite Tool (for small rural sites). These are System Audit Tools and provide a mechanism for whole-of-hospital evaluation concerning identification and response to patients and staff who experience domestic and family violence across three broad areas: Patient, Staff and Organisational.

Data collection includes audits of clinical files and policies, review of documentation and training, assessment of hospital culture and environment and review of collaborative arrangements.

Participating sites are required to collect data, populate the SAFE/SAFE Lite Tool and provide the completed Tool to the University of Melbourne. Note that the SAFE Tool and SAFE Lite Tool are provided to participating hospitals and health services as an Excel Form (interactive excel file).

Work to administer the SAFE/SAFE Lite Tools at participating sites will be conducted during 2023 and 2024.



Opportunities and benefits for participating sites

Participating organisations will contribute to building the evidence base for a whole-of-hospital approach to responding to family violence thereby informing policy and practice and advocacy for the ongoing sustainability of domestic and family violence programs within the hospital and health service setting.

A final report will be disseminated broadly. This will present results in a de-identified manner and provide an overall summary of the findings and recommendations as appropriate.

Participating hospitals will also receive an individual confidential organisational report that includes their final audit findings. This allows hospitals to understand the contribution of the Strengthening Hospital Responses to Family Violence (SHRFV) program and why the results have or have not occurred. Further, this is an opportunity for hospitals to gain a deeper understanding of which components of the SHRFV program have had the greatest impact in their service, as well as providing practice recommendations for further resourcing, development and action.

Support for participating sites

Professor Kelsey Hegarty, Director, Centre for Family Violence Prevention, University of Melbourne and The Royal Women's Hospital, is overseeing the project and will provide expert support to hospitals and health services. Dr Minerva Kyei-Onanjiri from the University of Melbourne is managing the project; she will provide advice and support to participating hospitals and health services and assist them to navigate the implementation of the SAFE/SAFE Lite Tool.

The SAFE Research Team from the University of Melbourne will also guide participating sites in completion of ethics approval – it is anticipated this will be in the form of *quality assurance/audit/evaluation activity* rather than a full ethics application.

Participating hospitals will receive \$5,000 to support staff to administer (or readminister) the System Audit Tool in their hospital/health service.

Expression of Interest Form

Hospitals and health services who would like to participate in the SAFE Project Expanded, including those who participated in the original SAFE Project (2019-21), should please complete and submit the EOI form which can be accessed via this link:

https://melbourneuni.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3n411OeXVAZNoTc

A copy of the form can also be found at the end of this document.

Depending on interest, organisations may also be required to participate in an interview as part of the recruitment process. Organisations will be assessed on their capacity to effectively implement and collect data using the SAFE/SAFE Lite Tool, including the level of organisational and leadership support for the research project.

Want more information?



For further information about the SAFE Project Expanded, what participation in the project involves, or the Expression of Interest process, please contact Minerva Kyei-Onanjiri, The University of Melbourne, Phone: +61 3 8344 8585, Email: minerva.kyeionanjiri@unimelb.edu.au



SAFE Project Expanded: Expression of Interest Form

Return to Minerva Kyei-Onanjiri, minerva.kyeionanjiri@unimelb.edu.au or complete the form online at https://melbourneuni.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3n41IOeXVAZNoTc

Q1	Name of hospital or health service:	
Q2	Number of staff employed at your hospital or health service:	
Q3	Number of volunteers at your hospital or health service:	
Q4	Length of time your organisation has been implementing SHRFV	
Q5	Please describe your organisations primary patient cohort/s	
Q6	Please describe your organisations diverse patient cohort/s	
Q7	Has your organisation undertaken any SHRFV evaluation to date? If so, please describe your evaluation methodology and the outcomes of this work.	
Q8	Does your organisation have the capacity to deliver on the project responsibilities? If not, which practice area/s does your organisation require additional support?	
Q9	Does your organisation have a clinical champion/s that can support the implementation of the System Audit Tool? If so, please provide details of their clinical background/s.	
Q10	Will your organisation sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Melbourne that details roles and responsibilities, the deliverables and research obligations associated with the project?	
Q11	Please describe your organisation's level of Executive support for, and engagement with the SHRFV project?	
Q12	Does this project (SAFE Project Expanded) have support from the Executive? If so, is a member of Executive prepared to participate in project consultations and champion the project?	
Q13	Is your organisation able to make a contribution to this research project (in-kind staff time)? Is so, please provide details of this contribution.	
Q14	Name of key contact person:	
Q15	Name of Executive sponsor:	
Q16	Signature of Executive sponsor or CEO:	