THE **BOUNDARIES** LONGITUDINAL **STUDY**

Physicians' responses to government initiatives to legislate mandatory reporting of undocumented patients

RESEARCH PROJECT: Physicians' positions on the question of reporting undocumented patients seeking care

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

We are reaching out to you as a physician or future physician engaged in medical humanitarianism. We would like to ask if you would be willing to participate in a study by taking part in an interview and/or by having a researcher follow you through one or more of your shifts in humanitarian contexts (participant observation). The interview would cover your thoughts, perceptions, and responses regarding the proposed legislation on reporting undocumented patients seeking care. Participant observation would be conducted to observe, with great sensitivity to your work and the patients' situation, what happens during a shift in encounters with patients and colleagues. In this document, you will find information about the purpose of our research project and what it means to participate in the study.

What the study is about and why we would like you to participate

The study seeks to increase understanding of what it would mean for physicians and their daily work if they were to be made responsible for reporting patients without legal permission to stay in the country to the police or the migration authorities. The study is longitudinal, which means that we will follow the development of the medical community's positions on this issue over time. NOTE. Taking part in several interviews/participant observations is not a requirement for participation in the study.

We are asking you to take part because you are a physician or medical student engaged in humanitarian contexts, where you may come to encounter undocumented patients more often than in the public healthcare system.

What taking part entails

Participating in the study involves taking part in an interview lasting approximately 30-60 minutes. We will make efforts to accommodate your wishes regarding a place and time for the interview. The interview can also be conducted via videocall or over the phone, if this is more practical for you. The interviews are conducted in Swedish or English, based on your preference. Participant observation involves one of the researchers presented below following you during a shift, or parts of a shift in medical humanitarianism, to create understanding and knowledge about the challenges of providing healthcare for people living as undocumented migrants, as well as examining your thoughts, responses, and positions that the proposed legislation on mandatory reporting of these patients may give rise to during a shift. As mentioned, participant observation is done with great sensitivity on the part of the researcher to the situations that may arise during a shift, which means that the researcher will withdraw if they perceive that it unexpectedly becomes inappropriate ethically to continue observing.

If you choose to participate in the study, we may ask you if you would be willing to be contacted again for further interviews. The timing of any further interviewing would again be based on your wishes. We may also ask if we may continue participant observation with you during a day in healthcare or in any other location that you consider relevant to the research. We are interested in following physicians and future physicians in several contexts to investigate how the context affects the question. We will also ask you if you would like to be involved in trying new and creative methods of data collection, that we are developing as part of the project together with participants who wish to do so.

Potential risks involved in participating in this study

During the conducting of this research, situations may arise that may be experienced as emotionally sensitive for you as a participant. No questions that could infringe on your integrity will be asked, but some might find it uncomfortable to share professional and personal positions they hold, or to share sensitive personal information about themselves. If any questions arise after the interview, we can answer these via phone, email, or with a meeting if you so wish.

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If a need for support related to your participation should arise, this will be met either through follow-up conversations with the researchers, or referral to professional support if desired. If professional support is needed, the lead researcher responsible for the project will ensure that a point of contact is provided.

How information about you will be handled

Your answers will be recorded and then transcribed for analysis. All information collected will be processed ensuring that no unauthorised person can access it. The results will be synthesised for publications in scientific journals, presented at international conferences, and in an anthology aimed for the medical profession, medical students, and government bodies. No information or opinions in publications will be traceable to any single individual.

The principal research entity, the University of Gothenburg, is responsible for your personal data. In accordance with the EU's data protection regulation (GDPR), you have the right to access any information about you that is handled as part of the study free of charge, and, if necessary, have any errors corrected. You can also request that information about you be deleted, or that the processing of your personal data be restricted. However, the right to erasure and to limit the processing of personal data does not apply if the data is deemed necessary for the research. If you want to access the data, please contact the lead researcher responsible for the project (see below). The Data Protection Officer can be reached at dataskyddsombud@gu.se. If you are dissatisfied with the way your personal data is processed, you have the right to file a complaint with the Swedish Authority for Privacy Protection as the supervisory authority.

The research is funded by the Swedish Research Council and the University of Edinburgh and the research project has been approved by the Swedish Ethical Review Authority, Drn: 2024-03257-01 E-mail: registrant@etikprovning.se.

Your participation is entirely voluntary

Participation in the study, in one or multiple interviews is entirely voluntary, and you do not have to participate on several occasions if you agree to an interview. No compensation is provided for your participation. If you choose not to participate or wish to withdraw your participation, this will be accommodated with you having to give any reason for doing so. To withdraw from the study, you can contact the researcher responsible for the project at any time.

PRINCIPLE RESEARCH ENTITY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STUDY

The University of Gothenburg

LEAD RESEARCHER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROJECT

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