



Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
Trinity College Dublin

Ollscoil Átha Cliath | The University of Dublin

F.A.O. Andrew Pringle

Approval ID: SPREC072019-01

School of Psychology Research Ethics Committee

**SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY
Áras an Phiarsaigh
Trinity College
Dublin 2**

14st August 2019

Dear Andrew,

The School of Psychology Research Ethics Committee has reviewed your application entitled "**The Neureka Project**" and I am pleased to inform you that it was approved.

Please note that you will be required to submit a completed **Project Annual Report Form** on each anniversary of this approval, until such time as an **End of Project Report Form is submitted** upon completion of the research. Copies of both forms are available for download from the Ethics section of the School website.

Please note that you must be familiar with and adhere to the attached 'Safety Protocol for Adults'. Adverse events associated with the conduct of this research must be reported immediately to the Chair of the Ethics Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Carson
Chair,
School of Psychology Research Ethics Committee

Scoil na Siceolaíochta

Dámh na nEolaíochtaí Sóisialta agus Daonna,
Áras an Phiarsaigh,
Coláiste na Tríonóide,
Baile Átha Cliath,
Ollscoil Átha Cliath,
Baile Átha Cliath 2, Éire.

School of Psychology

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences,
Trinity College Dublin,
The University of Dublin,
Dublin 2, Ireland.

+353 1 896 1886
psychology@tcd.ie
www.tcd.ie/psychology

Safety protocol for adults
Version 28/11/2017
TCD Security: 01 896 1317

SCENARIO 1: Participant becomes distressed without apparent cause. No risk of harm is evident to researcher.

The lab environment may be intimidating. During testing, a participant becomes notably distressed or uncomfortable.

Response:

- End data collection.
- Ask how the participant is feeling to identify problem: e.g., *are you feeling overwhelmed/claustrophobic/uncomfortable etc?*
- Remind the participant of their right to end data collection and/or withdraw from the study at any time.
- Offer a break. Offer water. Ask if they'd like to step outside. Ask if they have any strategies (e.g., mindfulness) that help when they are feeling distressed.
- After the session has ended, inform study PI. Review study procedures to understand the source of the distress and to identify if recurrence can be prevented.

SCENARIO 2: Participant discloses a history of self-harm or current plans to self-harm

It is possible a participant will disclose information that suggests that they are at risk through their own behaviour. Here, assess the risk level and decide an appropriate response.

Risk assessment is informed by three pieces of evidence. Any one of these alone may be sufficient to prompt a response

1. Excessive concern of experimenter.
 - *Does the participant's behaviour, words, or actions worry you?*
 - *Have they indicated (e.g., on a clinical assessment) that they are experiencing high levels of distress and/or have a suicide plan?*
2. Immediacy of risk.
 - Do the participant's words or actions suggest that they are at immediate risk – e.g., suicide plan is ready.
3. Availability of support services – what is the answer to the following questions?
 - *"Are you in counselling?"*
 - *"Are you in contact with a mental health service?"*
 - *"Does anyone else know about these feelings?"*
4. Is the participant a TCD student or someone from outside the College?



