

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION LETTER (PIL)

National Interest and Content Validity Survey — OTD(C) Certification Course in Canada

EDOT Research Program | Brock University | Department of Nursing

REB Protocol #: 25-410 - SILVA E SILVA | Version: 1.0 | Date: July 31, 2026

1. What Is This Study About?

You are being invited to take part in a research study titled: "National Interest and Content Validity Survey for the Organ and Tissue Donation Specialist (OTD(C)) Certification in Canada." This study is conducted by Dr. Vanessa Silva e Silva and Dr. Amina Silva at Brock University.

The purpose of this study is to understand whether Canadian critical care, acute care, and emergency nurses are interested in pursuing a new national specialist certification, the OTD(C), through the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA). We also want to understand what course content you believe is most relevant and how you would prefer to access the course.

2. Who Can Participate?

You may participate in this study if you are:

- A Registered Nurse (RN) currently working in an intensive care unit (ICU) or critical care setting in Canada, of any province and territory with active donation programs.

3. What Will I Be Asked to Do?

You will be asked to complete a single anonymous online survey hosted on Qualtrics. The survey covers the following topics:

- Your current role and professional background (anonymous demographics)
- Your awareness of and interest in the OTD(C) certification
- Your willingness to complete a specialty preparation course
- Barriers and facilitators to pursuing certification
- Your ratings of proposed curriculum topics for relevance (Content Validity Index)
- Your preferred course delivery format
- Optional open-ended comments

The survey takes approximately 15–20 minutes to complete.

4. Is My Participation Voluntary?

YES — your participation is entirely voluntary. You may choose not to participate, and you may stop the survey at any time without any consequence. There is no penalty for declining or withdrawing.

5. Will My Responses Be Anonymous?

YES — this survey is COMPLETELY ANONYMOUS. We do not collect your name, email address, employee ID, or any other information that could identify you. Qualtrics is configured to suppress IP address and location metadata. Demographic data (province, years of experience) will only be reported in aggregate form across all respondents. Your individual responses cannot be linked back to you in any way.

6. What Are the Risks?

This study poses minimal risk. There are no physical risks. Some questions ask about your career intentions and professional opinions, which are standard for professional surveys. If at any point you feel uncomfortable with a question, you may skip it or exit the survey.

7. What Are the Benefits?

You will not receive direct compensation for your participation. However, your responses will directly contribute to the development of the first national specialist certification for donation nursing in Canada. Your feedback will help ensure that the OTD(C) course content and delivery approach meet the real needs of critical care, acute care, and emergency nurses.

8. How Will My Data Be Used?

Data will be analyzed by the research team and reported in aggregate only. Findings will be:

- Published in a peer-reviewed nursing or transplantation journal (open access)
- Shared with the Canadian Nurses Association to inform OTD(C) program development
- Presented at the CACCN Annual Conference and related professional events
- Used to produce a summary report for participating organizations

9. How Will My Data Be Stored?

Survey data will be stored on Brock University's secure institutional Qualtrics server and on password-protected encrypted drives accessible only to the named research team. Data will be retained for a minimum of 5 years in accordance with Brock University and TCPS2 requirements, then securely deleted.

10. Who Do I Contact with Questions?

Principal Investigators:

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For concerns about your rights as a research participant, contact the Brock University Social Sciences Research Ethics Board (SSREB):
Email: reb@brocku.ca
Website: www.brocku.ca/research/resources/research-ethics

By clicking 'Next' to begin the survey, you confirm that you have read and understood this information and agree to participate.