

**Purpose:** You are invited to participate in a research study investigating the attributes that distinguish decision-makers in complex triage contexts and how these attributes affect trust in other decision makers. The U.S. Department of Defense is providing support for the research. You must be a current U.S. resident with experience as a medical professional (e.g., physician, nurse, EMT), be 18 years old or older, and be fluent in English to participate in this research study.

**Procedure** In this study, you will read several scenarios about difficult decisions in the context of a medical emergency, and see how other decision-maker answered questions about how they would think, feel, and behave in these specific situations. We will ask you to answer questions about your thoughts and feelings about these decision makers. We will also ask you questions about how you think, feel, and act in general, and for demographic information including your experiences in medical contexts. Please note that you may be asked to view images or videos of simulated injuries during this study.

These tasks are expected to take approximately 45 minutes to complete.

**Voluntary Participation and Freedom to Withdraw:** You understand that your participation is voluntary and, should you decide not to participate, there will be no penalty or loss of benefits to which you would otherwise be entitled. There is no alternative procedure for this study except to not participate. If you decide to withdraw there will be no penalty or loss of benefits to which you would otherwise be entitled.

**Privacy and Confidentiality:** You understand that your identity will remain undisclosed in any report of this research. In addition to your survey responses, researchers will collect demographic data relevant to the study's objectives, including (but not limited to) your age, gender, educational background and language proficiency. The U.S. Department of Defense personnel responsible for the protection of human subjects will have access to research records. Raw data will be available to members of the research team, the United States Department of Defense, and the WCG IRB only, who will treat it as confidential. In order to process payments and to link data across different study tasks, we will collect your contact information using a separate website using a randomly generated linking code. After payments are processed and data from different tasks are aggregated, we will remove this linking code from the data. This deidentified data will be made available via online repositories for other researchers to use. Non-identifiable data could be used for future research studies or distributed to another investigator for future research studies without additional informed consent from you.

You have the right to request through the investigator access to your personal data and the right to request rectification of any data that are not correct or complete. Reasonable steps will be taken to respond to such a request, taking into consideration the nature of the request, the conditions of the study, and the applicable laws and regulations. Because research data are anonymous, access to and rectification of those data will only be possible until the study is complete, when linking codes will be permanently destroyed.

**Potential Benefits and Risks:** There are no known risks associated with your participation in this study other than the risk of a breach in confidentiality and loss of anonymity. Successful

completion of this study will potentially provide benefits to society and the scientific community. For example, a better understanding of how medical professionals make difficult decisions could be used to improve triage processes and tools to support this decision-making process.

**Costs and Remuneration:** You will incur no costs as a result of participating in this study other than your personal time and internet access. You will receive Prolific payment for participating in this study. You will be paid for a completed survey but not for an incomplete survey.

**Active Duty and Reservist Participants:** It is the responsibility of any active duty or reservist participants to comply with regulations and requirements specific to each DoD component (Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps). Each DoD component may have specific requirements regarding compensation paid to DoD affiliated personnel when off-duty. Compensation while on duty is not allowed for general research participation.

**Whom to Contact:** If you have questions or concerns related to your rights, the research procedures, or research purpose, concerns about the research, complaints about the research, or you think you have been hurt by the research, you can contact the investigator through the Prolific platform.

If you have any questions, concerns or complaints about the study, questions about giving consent or your rights as a research participant in this research study, you can also call the WCG IRB at 855-818-2289 or [researchquestions@wcgirb.com](mailto:researchquestions@wcgirb.com)

**Agreement to Participate:** This consent certifies your willingness to participate in this study. You understand that by clicking the "I agree" button at the end of this consent form, you give your consent to participate in this study.

☐ I agree      ☐ I do not agree