

**INVESTIGATING RADIOGRAPHERS' INVOLVEMENT IN MRI RESEARCH:
FACTORS DRIVING AND HINDERING PARTICIPATION FROM THE AFRICAN
PERSPECTIVE.**

Dear Participant,

Thank you for considering our study. Participation includes completing a confidential questionnaire on demographic information, work details, research engagement, motivations, perceptions of research impact, barriers, and insights on strategies to increase research involvement. The study is expected to take ~10 minutes.

By proceeding, you indicate your voluntary consent to participate in this study.

Yes

No

SECTION A: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS AND WORK DETAILS

1. What is your gender?

- Man
- Woman
- Prefer not to say Other

2. What is your country of practice?

3. What is your highest qualification?

- Diploma
- Post-graduate Diploma
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Ph.D.

4. What is your years of post-qualification experience?

- Less than 5 years
- 6-10 years

- 11-15 years
- More than 15 years

5. What is your work setting?

- Public
- Private
- Both

6. What is the nature of your work?

- Academic
- Clinical practice
- Both

7a. If academic in Q6 above, what is your rank?

- Graduate Assistant
- Assistant Lecturer
- Lecturer
- Senior Lecturer
- Professor

7b. If clinical practice in Q6 above, what is your rank?

- Intern
- Early Career Radiographer
- Senior Radiographer
- Manager or equivalent
- Senior Manager or equivalent

8. Do you have MRI equipment available at your institution? (If No, kindly move to Q12)

- Yes
- No

9. If yes, how often does it function

- Always
- Most times
- Rarely
- Never (it does not function at all)

10.If yes to Q8 above, what is/are the manufacturer(s) of the MR Scanner(s) in your facility?

- Philips
- Siemens
- Toshiba/ Canon
- GE Healthcare
- Hyperfine
- Hitachi
- Other, please state.....

11. What is the field strength of the MR Scanner at your facility?

- Less than 1.5 Tesla
- 1.5 Tesla
- 3 Tesla
- More 3 Tesla

SECTION B: RESEARCH ENGAGEMENT

12. How frequently do you read MRI-related journal articles?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Rarely
- Never

13. What limits your frequency of reading MRI-related journal articles (Tick all that apply.)

- Access to internet/journals
- Insufficient time

- Lack of interest
- Difficulty with Understanding
- Other.....

14. Have you been involved in any MRI research projects after graduating as a radiographer? (A research project is a systematic investigation of a particular concern or a problem by using scientific methods)

- Yes
- No (If no, proceed to Q 17)

15. Which of the following research activities did you participate in? (select all that apply)

- Planning the study and/or writing the research protocol
- Applying for project funding
- Applying to the ethical committee and/or applying for hospital or other approval
- Reviewing the background literature
- Recruitment of participants and/or collecting the data
- Analyzing the data
- Writing a scientific article/a conference abstract
- Presenting results in a conference

SECTION C: INTERESTS AND MOTIVATIONS

16. Which three factors promoted your participation in MRI research? (Tick all that apply)

- I got research training opportunities
- I got assigned working time to conduct research
- I got funding and other material resources
- I received support from my colleagues and other professionals (physicists, radiologists)
- I received support from department manager and/or higher management
- Found experienced radiography researchers for mentorship
- Recognition at organizational level I am a member of a research group

17. Are you interested in participating in MRI research activities?

- Very interested
- Somewhat interested
- Indifferent
- Not very interested
- Not interested at all

18. Please indicate three most important reasons for undertaking the research activities after graduating as a radiographer (Tick all that apply).

- As a part of working task
- For professional development
- To enhance promotion prospects
- For economic interest
- To improve patient care
- To provide evidence-based radiography practice
- To advance the profession of radiographers
- To strengthen the trademark of my workplace

19. For each statement, please choose the option that best describes your opinion using Strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree

- I have sufficient knowledge about scientific research process.
- I have sufficient skills to search background literature
- I have sufficient journal writing skills
- I have sufficient knowledge about research methodology
- I have sufficient knowledge about statistical analyses
- I am capable of participating in MRI research project

20. Which three factors might promote your participation in MRI research? (Tick all that apply)

- Getting research training opportunities
- Getting assigned working time to conduct research
- Getting funding and other material resources
- Receiving support from my colleagues and other professionals (physicists, radiologists)

- Receiving support from department manager and/or higher management
- Finding experienced radiography researchers for mentorship
- Recognition at organizational level
- Being a member of a research group
- Other

21. What three areas of MRI are you likely to research in? (Tick all that apply).

- MRI safety
- MR Image processing and software development
- MR hardware
- MR sequence development
- MR Education and training

SECTION D: PERCEPTIONS ON THE IMPACT OF RESEARCH ON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PATIENT OUTCOME

22. Are you familiar with the research strategy at your workplace?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know if we have a research strategy
- We don't have a research strategy.

23. For each statement, please choose the option that best describes your opinion using Strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree

- Clinical decisions in MRI practice should be based on research evidence
- Radiographers in my country are competent to conduct MRI research
- Only radiographers with postgraduate degrees should conduct MRI research
- Research can improve the current standard of MRI practice in my country
- Radiographers should be involved in MRI research projects
- MRI research projects should involve only Radiographers who work with MRI
- MRI research projects should involve only Radiographers who work in academic institutions

- h. Cooperation between educational and healthcare institutions in conducting MRI research is important

24. What are the three most important factors that would promote your utilization of research evidence in MRI practice? (Tick all that apply).

- Personal interest in the utilization of research evidence in practice
- Easy access to research evidence (for example access to databases, the availability of journals)
- Sufficient skills for searching research evidence
- Adequate amount of working time for applying research evidence into practice
- Participating in a journal club at the workplace
- Support from colleagues (radiographers and other colleagues)
- Support from department manager and/or higher management
- More access to MRI

SECTION E: BARRIERS AFFECTING RESEARCH ENGAGEMENT

25. What are the three most essential factors that prevent or might prevent your participation in MRI research projects? (Tick all that apply).

- Lack of knowledge and skills to conduct research
- Insufficient time at work to conduct research
- Lack of interest and motivation
- Lack of funding and other material resources
- Lack of support from my colleagues (radiographers and other colleagues)
- Lack of support from department managers and/or higher management
- Lack of knowledge about potential research projects to participate in.
- Lack of experienced radiography research mentors
- Little or no experience in MRI
- Other.....

26. In terms of research skills, what specific areas do you feel were not sufficiently addressed in your training or education? (Tick all that apply).

- Identifying research problems
- Study design and methodology
- Data analysis
- Manuscript preparation
- Proposal writing
- Seeking for funding

27. In your perspective, what strategies or initiatives could be implemented to enhance and encourage greater involvement of radiographers in MRI research activities within the African healthcare setting?