

INDIANA UNIVERSITY STUDY INFORMATION SHEET FOR RESEARCH

Becoming a Healer: A Survey of Healer Initiatory Experiences

About this research

You are being asked to participate in a research study. Scientists do research to answer important questions which might help change or improve the way we do things in the future.

This form will give you information about the study to help you decide whether you want to participate. Please read this form, and ask any questions you have, before agreeing to be in the study.

Taking part in this study is voluntary.

You may choose not to take part or may leave the study at any time. Leaving the study will not result in any penalty or loss of benefits to which you are entitled. Your decision whether or not to participate in this study will not affect your current or future relations with Margaret Moga, PhD, Indiana University School of Medicine

This research is intended for individual 18 years of age or older. If you are under age 18, do not complete the survey.

This research is open to participants in any country. The survey is in English. However, you may answer the open-ended questions in any language, and your responses will be translated into English.

Why is this study being done?

The purpose of this study is to examine the types of experiences that lead individuals to 'energy healing', and in particular, interest them into becoming 'energy healers'. Simply, this survey asks: how did you get interested in energy healing? What sorts of experiences and background led you to be an energy healing practitioner? Was it a metaphysical or spiritual perspective, influential persons, particular books, or healing experiences of your own or others? Energy healing is often considered a "fringe movement", but this movement has an international following and a historical precedent in Asian, Middle Eastern, and Western societies (e.g., hands-on or spiritual healing). It would help to understand how and why modern individuals become interested in this type of therapy.

You were selected as a possible participant because, 1) you have received training in an energy healing or biofield therapy (e.g., Reiki, Healing Touch), 2) you are a practitioner of energy healing, and/or 3) you self-identify as a healer. Healers of all kinds, at any level, including students, are welcome to participate.

The study is being conducted by Dr. Margaret Moga, Indiana University School of Medicine – Terre Haute, Department of Anatomy, Cell Biology and Physiology.

What will happen during the study?

If you agree to be in the study, you will do the following things:

- You will complete the online survey, powered by Qualtrics. The survey takes 15-20 minutes to complete. The survey consists of 4 questions about your practice and healing background, and 4 questions about the experiences that lead you to become a healer. All survey responses are anonymous.

What are the risks and benefits of taking part in this study?

One risk of participating in this research is being uncomfortable revealing personal life stories. Another risk of participating is that one or more of your responses may be used in a scientific publication as an example of healer initiatory experiences. We don't expect you to receive any benefit from taking part in this study, but we hope to learn things which will help scientists in the future, particularly to help advance the field of energy healing.

How will my information be protected?

All research includes at least a small risk of loss of confidentiality. Efforts will be made to keep your personal information confidential. We cannot guarantee absolute confidentiality. Your personal information may be disclosed if required by law. Your identity will be held in confidence in reports in which the study may be published.

Organizations that may inspect and/or copy your research records for quality assurance and data analysis include groups such as the study investigator and her research associates, the Indiana University Institutional Review Board or its designees, and any state or federal agencies who may need to access your research records (as allowed by law).

Will I be paid for participation?

You will not be paid for participating in this study.

Who should I call with questions or problems?

For questions about the study, contact the researcher Dr. Margaret Moga at mmoga@iu.edu or 812-238-4172.

For questions about your rights as a research participant or to discuss problems, complaints or concerns about a research study, or to obtain information, or offer input, please contact the IU Human Subjects Office at 800-696-2949 or at irb@iu.edu.