

## Citation

Professor Kim Usher is a distinguished scholar and educator at the University of New England (UNE), Australia. She holds a prominent position within the School of Health, where her expertise in nursing, public health, and disaster preparedness has significantly contributed to the academic community and beyond.

Professor Usher's research spans various critical areas within the realm of health and disaster management. Her work has extensively explored the intersection of health, culture, and disaster resilience, with a particular emphasis on marginalised and vulnerable populations. Through rigorous qualitative and mixed-methods approaches, she has shed light on the unique challenges faced by these communities in times of crisis, advocating for more inclusive and equitable disaster preparedness and response strategies.

Her scholarship extends to the psychological and social impacts of disasters, addressing issues such as trauma, grief, and mental health outcomes among affected individuals and communities. Professor Usher's research not only advances theoretical understandings but also informs practical interventions and policies aimed at promoting well-being and resilience in the face of adversity.

As an educator, Professor Usher is committed to fostering the next generation of health professionals and researchers. She has played a pivotal role in curriculum development, incorporating innovative teaching methods and contemporary research findings into undergraduate and postgraduate programs. Through her mentorship and guidance, she has inspired countless students to engage critically with complex health issues and pursue excellence in their academic and professional endeavours.

Professor Usher's influence extends beyond academia, as evidenced by her active involvement in professional organisations and community initiatives. She is frequently sought after as a speaker and consultant, sharing her expertise with diverse stakeholders ranging from healthcare providers to policymakers. Her collaborative approach and dedication to evidence-based practice have earned her widespread recognition and respect within the field. Her dedication to improving the health and wellbeing of others includes a commitment to improving the health outcomes for indigenous Australians and encouraging First Nations community members to consider careers in healthcare.

Professor Usher's substantive position at the University is as a research-focused Professor of Nursing. Her multidisciplinary research, educational leadership, and professional contributions have significantly enriched the fields of nursing, public health, and disaster management. Her work embodies the highest standards of scholarship, integrity, and compassion, reflecting a deep commitment to improving the health and well-being of individuals and communities worldwide.