Thank you in advance for supervising a medical student in research. Without your time and expert guidance – there would be no student research in the MD Degree.

**Considerations before you post a project and/or accept a volunteer student.**

**Matching Expectations:** Please be aware that many students who take on volunteer/extra-curricular research have limited research experience. Therefore it is very important that you take time, before you agree to take on a student, and discuss with them exactly what your project is about, and what you expect the student to do. Likewise be clear about what the student should expect to gain from working on your project.

**Full Time Medical Program:** Please remember that medical students are not provided with any time out of their scheduled MD timetable for work on their research. Dedicated time for research over periods other than holidays or weekends is highly unlikely and should not be expected.

**Flexible Projects:** Projects that are flexible and not ‘time critical’ work best for medical students. These may include secondary data analysis, chart reviews, data management, or systematic literature reviews. Wet lab and clinical research projects are best for suited for projects that can be undertaken at weekends and over holiday periods.

**Co-Supervisors:** The involvement of a post doc or junior staff member as an additional supervisor is often beneficial by providing extra time to a student while allowing junior staff to gain supervision experience and mentoring skills.

**Ethics approval:** If the project you are involving a student in requires ethics, then ethics approval must be in place before the student begins.

**Funding:** There is no funding available for student projects. Currently funded projects that are already running, or require minimal costs are most suitable.

**Hospital / Clinical Access:** If access to certain areas of a hospital or clinic or patient charts is required by your student to work on your project, this access must be arranged by your unit/department. The UQ Medical Program cannot arrange this type of access for students for purposes of extra/curricular research.

**Time Commitment:** The total time commitment for any project on a voluntary/extra-curricular basis should be equal to at least 8-10 weeks full time equivalent. However as mentioned above, this total time can be flexible and agreed upon between you and the student. Depending on the nature of the project and availability of the student it may span over several months.

**Research Outcomes:** All projects offered to students should result in some research outcome that is agreed upon between you and the student before they commence. Examples are co-authorship on an abstract, publication, or report.

- **Mutual Expectations:** It is important to discuss this early to ensure there are mutual expectations of and benefits from the research.

Comprehensive information on research options for medical students can be found on the [Student Research Portal](#) and [Research in your medical degree](#).

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Di Eley, Director of MD Research. d.eley@uq.edu.au 0439 516 342