Current PhD students

Dr Margaret Kay. Health access behaviours of doctors seeking medical care for themselves. Supervised by Prof Geoff Mitchell.

"As part of the DGP team, I was provided with the opportunity to explore an area of research that was of personal interest to me – Doctors’ Health. The breadth of general practice opened doors to engage with many other disciplines to broaden my understanding of my research topic from a social science perspective as well as a purely clinical perspective. I was able to develop new skills in searching the literature, performing systematic reviews and using quantitative and qualitative methods. The development of my academic writing skills and publishing my research has enabled me to contribute significantly to the debate surrounding doctors’ health in Australia. I am now looking forward to extending my research further and developing international partnerships. Teaching and research are integrally embedded in my work with students, registrars and colleagues. While other researchers may wonder whether the work they do ever makes a 'real' difference, working in DGP has enabled me to see the difference that I am making as I work.”

Mr Pastipon Vatcharavongvan. The relationship between community empowerment and health project outcomes in a Thai community in Brisbane, Australia. Supervised by Dr Julie Hepworth, Dr Deborah Askew, Prof Claire Jackson, Prof John Marley.

Dr Geoffrey Spurling. The applicability and validity of computerised Indigenous health checks for research purposes. Supervised by Dr Deborah Askew, Prof Wendy Hoy, Hon Prof Philip Schultzer.

Dr Caroline Nicholson. Optimal governance model(s) to support integrated health care in Australia. Supervised by Prof John Marley, Prof Claire Jackson, Prof Geoffrey Kiel.

Ms Glenda Hawley. In a maternity share environment, is the quality of care using a personally controlled electronic health record (PCEHR) better than a matched cohort using a paper-based pregnancy handheld record (PHR)? Supervised by Prof Claire Jackson and Dr Tina Janamian.

For more information regarding possible higher degree projects in our areas of research interest, please use the contact details provided in the Research Snapshot section or visit our website http://www.som.uq.edu.au/about/academic-disciplines/general-practice.aspx

HOW TO CONTACT US

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CENTRES FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

NHMRC Centre of Excellence in Improving Quality & Safety in Integrated Primary Care
Please visit http://primarysecondarycre.com or contact Ms Tina Connell-Clark t.connellclark@uq.edu.au

ACPHRI Centre of Excellence in Primary Health Care Microsystems
Please visit http://aphcricremicrosystems.org.au or contact Dr Tina Janamian tjanamian1@uq.edu.au
About Us

The Discipline of General Practice (DGP) is involved in a wide range of teaching, clinical and research activities. Our multidisciplinary team of general practitioners, public health and primary care professionals is dedicated to improving the quality of care provided to patients in the community. Many of our staff are actively involved in clinical practice, often working with disadvantaged groups in society.

Research Snapshot

Through research on models of care, clinical care and issues affecting special interest populations, we aim to contribute to the evidence base of our discipline and the translation of research to the community where it can make a difference.

Centres of Research Excellence - Health Service Models

The Discipline of General Practice has two flagship Centres of Research Excellence focusing on health service delivery research. The combined skills of the Centres’ researchers, national and international linkages and infrastructure support have an excellent capacity to provide research training at different levels.

NHMRC Centre of Excellence in Improving Quality & Safety in Integrated Primary Care

Led by Prof Claire Jackson, this CRE is investigating new models of care to improve the quality and safety of health care delivery at the interface between specialist (hospital outpatient) and community-based primary care (general practice) for patients with chronic and complex health care needs.

Contact Ms Tina Connell-Clark t.connellclark@uq.edu.au

ACPHRI Centre of Excellence in Primary Health Care Microsystems

Also led by Prof Claire Jackson, this CRE is investigating improved models in regional governance, effective multidisciplinary teamwork and primary care performance and accountability, by incorporating the clinical microsystems approach.

Contact Dr Tina Janamian tjanamian1@uq.edu.au

Evidence into Practice

We are committed to contributing to the evidence base that informs primary care and implementing research in day-to-day patient care. We have particular expertise in quality use of medicines research and systematic reviews covering a number of topics.

Contact: Prof Mieke van Driel m.vandriel@uq.edu.au

N-of-1 Trials

N-of-1 trials, otherwise known as single-patient trials, are used for testing the effectiveness of medicines in individual patients. Our group is leading the development and conduct of N-of-1 trials internationally, and have successfully completed over 400 of these single patient trials in the areas of palliative care and paediatric medicine.

Contact: Prof Geoff Mitchell g.mitchell@uq.edu.au

Palliative Care

Palliative care is evolving into a sophisticated specialty with a rapidly developing evidence base. Our research is dedicated to facilitating the provision of palliative care in the primary care context and we work with colleagues from a number of specialties to advance the research that supports palliative care treatments.

Contact: Prof Geoff Mitchell g.mitchell@uq.edu.au

Indigenous Health

In collaboration with the Inala Indigenous Health Service, we are focusing on the value of health checks in increasing access to preventive care in the Indigenous general practice setting. We are involved in a number of projects including investigating the role of health checks in preventative care, diabetic retinopathy screening, otitis media and childhood obesity.

Contact: Dr Geoff Spurling g.spurling@uq.edu.au

Maternal and Infant Care

Care of women and infants in the community in the months postpartum is an under-researched area of primary care. Women suffer significant morbidity during that time with both maternal and infant issues dynamically interacting. Our research focuses on exploring and improving the integrated care of mother and infant/child in the community.

Contact: Dr Wendy Brodribb w.brodribb@uq.edu.au

Refugee and Migrant Health

Our research in refugee and migrant health focuses on enabling refugees and migrants to access high quality health care. Most refugee and migrant health services are provided within the primary health care setting and our research focuses on improving access to these services.

Contact: Dr Margaret Kay m.kay@uq.edu.au

Other areas of research interest include aged care, HIV/ HCV education, doctor’s health and medical education.

For a more comprehensive overview of our research, visit www.som.uq.edu.au/research/research-centres/primary-healthcare-research-centre