We are pleased to provide opportunities for GP Registrars interested in extending their teaching and research skills through a post in academic general practice at the Department of General Practice at Western Sydney University.

We are a new and rapidly growing department working out of Campbelltown in the Southwest of Sydney and Blacktown in the West. We have close links with the regional Primary Health Networks and Local Health Districts, the Regional Training Organisation, and the Department of General Practice at the University of Sydney-Westmead.

We have a strong commitment to local communities and our research interests are informed by the needs and hopes of the communities with which we work. Our current research addresses clinical issues, community/public health concerns, innovations in health professional education, and also improvement of health services.

Our overarching aims are to promote equity, work collaboratively, use innovative evidence based strategies, and to value the people with whom we work. We have growing national and international recognition of our expertise, particularly in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, research with culturally and linguistically diverse communities, evaluation of integrated health care and care of those in Correctional Services as well as in clinical trials.

At Western Sydney we promote an innovative student centred approach to teaching. There are opportunities to contribute to GP teaching in the Year 3 community/GP rotations, Year 4 community research projects, Year 5 GP rotations as well as PBL and clinical skills teaching in the early years of our 5 year undergraduate course.

Our small close-knit department offers a friendly, supportive environment for GP Registrars. Registrars not only receive research training and supervision, but may also complete Western Sydney Foundations of Learning and Teaching courses, and will have opportunities for further training to assist with research. Registrars are active team players across all research and teaching activities and receive our every support in engaging in their chosen field of research.

Past Registrar Projects have included:
- Assessing cultural safety of GPs working with Aboriginal patients: what is important and how can confidence and skills of GP trainers be enhanced;
- Transitions from Justice Health into community care for CALD women;
- Factors influencing motivation of medical students to work in urban areas of disadvantage;
- Medical student learning in linguistically diverse general practices.

You are also welcome to bring your own research ideas or contribute to projects in our Department – see [http://www.uws.edu.au/medicine/som/disciplines/general_practice](http://www.uws.edu.au/medicine/som/disciplines/general_practice).

If you would like more information regarding Academic Registrars at Western Sydney University, please contact Dr Penny Abbott Mobile: 0414645062 or Email: p.abbott@westernsydney.edu.au

OR Professor Jennifer Reath, Chair of General Practice Mobile: 0412586135 or Email J.Reath@westernsydney.edu.au
General Practice Research has a strong commitment to research in local communities

Western Sydney University
General Practice Research

Areas of Research
Clinical
Health Services
Community Health
Education

Collaborative approach
We value a collaborative approach to research where research participants are partners

Community Engagement
Our research is driven by the needs and hopes of the communities with which we work

Health Inequalities
Our research focuses on areas of need and disadvantage

Team Skills & Interests
Qualitative
Quantitative
Participatory
Community-based
Action Research

Outcomes Focused
Our research informs best practice and improves health outcomes
# Potential Research Projects for Academic GP Registrars at WSU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Registrar’s Role</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes – As a result of their research experience Registrars will develop skills in the following areas:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>End of life preferences and advance care planning in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities in Western Sydney</strong></td>
<td>This research will use a qualitative approach of interviews with CALD community members and their GPs. It will explore preferences in seeking and receiving end-of-life (EoL) care and for engaging in advance care planning (ACP). This knowledge will inform GP involvement in ACP in the future.</td>
<td>The GP registrar will review relevant literature and work with a research team to develop a research plan including an interview schedule, recruitment strategy, and ethics submission. The registrar will assist with analysis and prepare a report for publication.</td>
<td>Preparation of ethics application; literature review; interviewing skills; qualitative data analysis; academic writing skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The impact of social alcohol use on adherence to medication in people with chronic disease</strong></td>
<td>Social alcohol use may be a reason for not taking medications for chronic disease due to patient lack of awareness of the safety or otherwise of taking medications on days when they have also consumed even light amounts of alcohol, yet this has been little studied in the area of chronic disease medication adherence. In this study we will explore the views of people taking medications for chronic disease as to factors affecting adherence, particularly interactive toxicity beliefs.</td>
<td>Undertake a qualitative study or survey looking at interactive toxicity beliefs about medications for chronic disease and social alcohol use.</td>
<td>Literature review, preparing an ethics application, qualitative interviews and thematic analysis, or survey approaches, writing for publication or development of an educational initiative on adherence to medication and social alcohol use.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The role of GPs in providing health care for people with substance misuse</strong></td>
<td>Substance misuse, including opioid misuse, is a common health problem in the community, though not always confidently managed in general practice. The interaction between people with substance misuse and GPs will be explored.</td>
<td>Undertake a qualitative study of the views of people receiving health care for substance misuse as to the roles of GPs in assisting with their health.</td>
<td>Literature review, preparing an ethics application, undertaking semi-structured interviews, thematic analysis, writing for publication</td>
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Research Projects at WSU

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<tr>
<td>Pathways taken by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students undertaking an undergraduate medical course</td>
<td>This qualitative research project will explore the barriers and facilitators to entry and completion of the Western Sydney University undergraduate medical program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and graduates.</td>
<td>The GP Registrar will liaise with Aboriginal academic and support staff at Western Sydney to develop an ethics proposal including interview guide. They will undertake interviews and assist in analysis of the interview data and completing a report and publication.</td>
<td>Preparation of an ethics submission; literature review; interviewing skills; qualitative data analysis; academic writing skills.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recent GP Registrar and Student Publications


