Academic GP Registrar Posts
Department of General Practice

GP Registrars who want to extend their teaching and research skills should consider a post in academic general practice at the Department of General Practice at Western Sydney University!

Our department works out of Campbelltown in the Southwest of Sydney and Blacktown in the West. We have a 5 year undergraduate medical program, and are repeatedly complimented on our enthusiastic students who are well prepared for their hospital years when they graduate.

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 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 diverse areas of expertise to suit any registrar’s interest! Examples of our work include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, research with culturally and linguistically diverse communities, integrated health care, the health of justice-involved people and clinical trials into ear health – see https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/medicine/som/research/general_practice

We are happy to involve you in the work we are already doing as a department or work up a project with you based on your particular interests.

You will contribute to GP teaching in the Year 3 and 5 GP rotations, clinical skills teaching in the early years and learn about curriculum design. Registrars may also like to assist with community initiatives such as the Homeless Hub, with evidence based journal clubs and other teaching innovations.

We are a small close-knit department, offering 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: Cultural competence in general practice; Healthcare access in prison; Motivation of medical students to work in urban areas of disadvantage; Student learning in linguistically diverse general practices; Exploring patient choices to see more than one GP; Knowledge and attitudes of Assyrian refugees in relation to cervical screening; diabetes management in the Samoan community in Sydney; Oral health management by GPs.

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

**Mission, Vision and Values**

**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.

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

**Areas of Research**
- Clinical
- Health Services
- Community Health
- Education

**Western Sydney University General Practice Research**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Registrar’s Role</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes – Registrars will develop skills in the following areas:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End of life preferences and advance care planning in CALD communities in Western Sydney (Supervisor Dr Steven Trankle)</td>
<td>This research will use a qualitative approach of interviews with culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community members and their GPs. It will explore preferences in seeking and receiving end-of-life care and for engaging in advance care planning (ACP). This knowledge will inform GP involvement in ACP in the future.</td>
<td>Review relevant literature and develop and implement a research plan to better understand end of life preferences and advanced care planning in people from CALD backgrounds.</td>
<td>Preparation of ethics application; literature review; interviewing skills; qualitative data analysis; academic writing skills.</td>
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<td>Social alcohol use and adherence to medication in people with chronic disease (Supervisor Dr Penny Abbott)</td>
<td>Adherence to medications may be vital for chronic disease management. However social alcohol use may be a reason for non-adherence on days when patients have consumed even light amounts of alcohol. We will explore this important issue.</td>
<td>Undertake a qualitative study looking at interactive toxicity beliefs about medications for chronic disease and social alcohol use.</td>
<td>Literature review, ethics application, qualitative interviews and thematic analysis, writing for publication or development of an educational initiative on adherence to medication and social alcohol use.</td>
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<td>How can GPs be best supported to manage substance misuse? (Supervisor Dr Penny Abbott)</td>
<td>Substance misuse, including prescription 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 and ways forward identified.</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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<tr>
<td>Pathways taken by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students undertaking an undergraduate medical course (Supervisor Prof Jenny Reath)</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 writing for publication.</td>
<td>Preparation of an ethics submission; literature review; interviewing skills; qualitative data analysis; academic writing skills.</td>
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Recent GP Registrar and Student Publications


Lewis E , Cardona-Morrell M, Ong KY, Trankle SA, Hillman KA. (2016) "Evidence still insufficient that advance care documentation leads to timely engagement of healthcare professionals in end-of-life discussions: A systematic review." Palliative Medicine, 30(9). 807-824.


+ three exciting papers currently under review – watch this space in 2019!