Honours 2022
Information Session
Department of General Practice
Melbourne Medical School
25 August 2021

http://mdhs-study.unimelb.edu.au/degrees/honours/overview
Acknowledgement of Country

On behalf of the Department of General Practice, we would like to respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we are all meeting today.

We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with us today.
Housekeeping

**Audio:** Mute when not in use; use spacebar to unmute temporarily

**Video:** Leave on at the beginning then switch off during session (if poor connectivity)

Use the **chat** to raise question

**Raise hands** if need to ask question

Choose your view type (gallery / individual)

Session will be **recorded**
Honours Team

Dr Ruby Biezen

Honours Co-ordinator

Ms Sam Parkin

Honours Administrator

Prof Meredith Temple-Smith

Director of Research Training
About Us

**Department of General Practice** sits within the Melbourne Medical School, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

~50 staff, many with non-medical backgrounds

(psychology graduates, anthropologists, sociologists, statisticians, nurses, as well as GPs working on a range of research programs)

~25 graduate research students (Master of Primary Health Care, MPhil & PhD)
~15 MD Research Project students
~13 Honours students

plus Graduate Certificate in Primary Care Nursing (online) cohort
Teaching and research training

The Department teaches medical students

Approximately 300 urban and rural general practices take our students for placement
Research Area Leaders

Prof Lena Sanci
Children & Young People’s Health

A/Prof Jo-Anne Manski-Nankervis
Data driven quality improvement in general practice

A/Prof Victoria Palmer
Integrated Mental Health

Prof Jon Emery
Cancer in Primary Care

Prof Douglas Boyle
Health Data Science for Medical Research

Prof Meredith Temple-Smith
Sexual and Reproductive Health

Dr Phyllis Lau
Inter-professional collaboration; Indigenous health

Prof Kelsey Hegarty
Abuse & Violence (SAFE)
Integrated Mental Health: Examples of Current Projects

**WiserAD study** - A randomised controlled trial supporting appropriate antidepressant use in primary care.


**Diamond** - Ten years of longitudinal data about the diagnosis, management and outcomes of depression in primary care.

**Assertive Cardiac Care Trial [ACCT]** - A randomised controlled trial to reduce cardiovascular risk in people living with severe mental illness.
Cancer in Primary Care

**SMARTscreen**: A cluster randomised controlled trial of SMS messaging in general practice to increase participation in the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program in Victoria.

Anna Wood

**Fake news: Countering misinformation about the role of primary care in cancer on social media**: Aims to identify misinformation about cancer in primary care on social media.

Kristi Milley
Test the utility of the core elements for an interprofessional diabetes and oral health care model in Australia

What are the clinical and economic costs and benefits of including an oral health check in diabetes annual cycle of care?

Normalising oral health in alcohol and other drug recovery services (NORMAD): Empowering clients and service providers
Children’s and Young People’s Health

Advancing the health and wellbeing of children and young people through an accessible and responsive primary care workforce and health system, and through effective interventions.
Data driven quality improvement in general practice

The program currently has three main themes:

• Future Health Today
• Antimicrobial stewardship
• Analysis of general practice and health data
Sexual and Reproductive Health

Psychosocial support for miscarriage - health practitioner and patient views, views of special populations

How is pelvic and period pain experienced by adolescent girls currently managed and recorded within general practice?

Sexually transmissible infections

Photo by Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition on Unsplash
VicREN

Victorian Primary Care Practiced-based Research and Education Network

- Stimulate and support interdisciplinary research to improve health outcomes
- Enhance general practice through excellent education that engages with the community and the wider health care system

VicREN:
- Was established in 2007 with 5 foundation practices
- Now includes all teaching (approx 300) and research-associated (over 500) practices
- These partnerships are needed because general practices are the ‘laboratories’ for primary care research

www.gp.unimelb.edu.au/vicren
Health Data Science for Medical Research

The Data for Decisions research initiative

- Uses de-identified data from approx 100 general practices' medical records (Patron primary care data repository)
- Overseen by Data Governance & Ethics committees
- Expands knowledge and ultimately promotes service and population health improvements

https://youtu.be/YTRI3wBhtOY

www.gp.unimelb.edu.au/datafordecisions
Sexual Abuse and Family Violence: SAFE

I-DECIDE – online healthy relationship tool & safety decision aid for women experiencing domestic violence

eMATE – early intervention with men who use violence

PROSPER – prevalence & health effects of unwanted sexual contact in women attending GP
Structure of Honours year

Introduction to Biomedical Research
- Subject taught at faculty level
- Stats & experimental design assignment
- Two short essays

https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/subjects/biom40001

Introduction to Primary Care Research (Mar-May)
- 4 short assignments
- Assignments lead into the writing of the thesis

Primary Care Research Project (Jun-Oct)
- Literature review
- 2 oral presentations
- Thesis
Honours teaching & training program

- **Research training sessions** in first semester
- Weekly **tutorials** on Mondays (March-May)
- Weekly **workshops** on Wednesdays
- Weekly **tutorials** on Fridays
- Attend **DGP Research Matters**; a seminar series of presentations from staff, visiting Academics, Graduate Research student confirmation and completion seminars
- **Morning tea** on Fridays

- Cohort experience and supportive department
- Qualitative, quantitative or mixed methods
- Supported for analysis
- Future – Master & PhD students; publication of the work

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2021 Date</th>
<th>2021 Training session</th>
<th>2021 Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 2 March</td>
<td>Introduction to primary care research</td>
<td>9.30am-3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 2 March</td>
<td>Why we need research in General Practice &amp; Primary Care</td>
<td>10.30-11.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 4 March</td>
<td>Assignment 1: Primary care researchers &amp; developing your research topic; Academic writing style</td>
<td>10.30-11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 4 March</td>
<td>Literature database searching and EndNote session</td>
<td>2-4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 6 March</td>
<td>Intro to Biomed synopsis due</td>
<td>5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 6 March</td>
<td>How to do a literature review search / develop a research strategy</td>
<td>1.30-2.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 6 March</td>
<td>DGP morning tea – Welcome to Honours students</td>
<td>10.30am-11am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 9 March</td>
<td>Planning the semester</td>
<td>2.15-3.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 12 March</td>
<td>ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE: Primary care researchers</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 11 March</td>
<td>Introduction to critical appraisal - qualitative and quantitative</td>
<td>10-11am</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 11 March</td>
<td>Critical appraisal - practical session 1 (Quantitative)</td>
<td>11-12pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 13 March</td>
<td>RIOT training</td>
<td>ONLINE</td>
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<td>Monday, 16 March</td>
<td>The difference between a literature review and a systematic review</td>
<td>2.15-3.15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 18 March</td>
<td>Critical appraisal - practical session 2 (Qualitative)</td>
<td>9-10am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 18 March</td>
<td>Critical appraisal - practical session 3 (Mixed methods)</td>
<td>10-11am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, 23 March</td>
<td>Recruitment in research/Assignment 2: Review of an Ethics application</td>
<td>2.15-3.15pm</td>
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### Available projects

**https://medicine.unimelb.edu.au/school-structure/general-practice/study/honours**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Primary Supervisor Title</th>
<th>Primary Supervisor First Name</th>
<th>Primary Supervisor Surname</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health providers’ views of the need for emotional support for women following early medical abortion.</td>
<td>The purpose of this study is to gain a better understanding of psychosocial support needs of women utilising early medical abortion (EMA) and pathways of care. We intend to use this information to inform the development of further tools and resources that can be used to enhance EMA support care.</td>
<td>Prof</td>
<td>Meredith</td>
<td>Temple-Smith</td>
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<td>Process evaluation of Future Health Today trial</td>
<td>The student will take a lead role in the process evaluation of the Future Health Today trial, a trial which is exploring the impact of a digital intervention to optimise chronic disease management in primary care. Depending on the student interest, this may include (1) interviewing health professionals about their experiences in participating in the Future Health Today trial (2) exploring the perceptions of trial participants of the value and experience participating in ECHO education sessions. The student will gain skills in qualitative research and primary care trials and become a member of a multidisciplinary team.</td>
<td>A/Prof</td>
<td>Jo-Anne</td>
<td>Manski-Nankervis</td>
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<td>The Bowel Cancer Prevention Study: How does receiving a brochure in general practice about bowel cancer prevention strategies influence people’s behaviour? A process evaluation</td>
<td>In 2020, bowel cancer was the 4th most commonly diagnosed cancer in Australia but it is preventable through screening and lifestyle changes. In Australia, screening through the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program is free but only 42% of people complete the test each year. Maintaining a healthy weight, being physically active, taking low dose aspirin, eating a healthy diet, quitting smoking and taking calcium supplements are all other ways people can reduce their chances of getting bowel cancer.</td>
<td>Miss</td>
<td>Shakira</td>
<td>Milton</td>
</tr>
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<td>The UPBEAT-50 interview study: What factors influence the pathway to diagnosis and treatment of people with young-onset colorectal cancer (aged under 50), and what do younger patients and GPs think can be done to achieve earlier diagnosis?</td>
<td>The incidence of colorectal cancer in people aged younger than 50, young-onset colorectal cancer (yCRC), is increasing globally. Of concern, younger people tend to have more advanced stage disease at diagnosis, leading to poorer survival, greater treatment burden and worse quality of life. Delays in colorectal cancer diagnosis and treatment may contribute to why yCRC patients have poorer outcomes. However, there are no qualitative studies in Australia that seek to understand how and why delays may occur from the perspective of young patients or their GPs. This research will address this gap in the literature by determining factors influencing yCRC diagnostic pathways and explore perspectives on how to achieve earlier diagnosis.</td>
<td>Ms</td>
<td>Rebecca</td>
<td>Bergin</td>
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<td>Development of a multi-cancer polygenic risk report for use in primary care</td>
<td>Genomics can now predict future risk of many different cancers. This risk information can be used to target cancer screening to those in the population who need it most. Primary care can be used to make such a genomic test available to all in the population but we do not know how general practice patients will respond to genomic risk information for several cancers at once and if that will help them make better decisions regarding their cancer screening.</td>
<td>Ms</td>
<td>Sibel</td>
<td>Saya</td>
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<td>PRESIDE</td>
<td>New pharmacogenomic tests are available that can help GPs prescribe the right drugs for their patients, resulting in better responses and fewer side-effects. The PRESIDE trial looks at using pharmacogenomics to direct antihypertensive prescribing in general practice.</td>
<td>Ms</td>
<td>Sibel</td>
<td>Saya</td>
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<td>Co-design of strategies to improve CALD community engagement in the development of cancer research</td>
<td>Engaging people with a lived experience of cancer is important in developing high-quality cancer research. Unfortunately, it is very difficult to engage with some culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Using co-creation with key stakeholders, this study will aim to develop key strategies for engaging with cancer survivors and carers from Vietnamese, Chinese and Italian communities in Victoria.</td>
<td>Dr</td>
<td>Kristi</td>
<td>Milley</td>
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## 2022 Honours Intake dates

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<tr>
<th>Start Year Intake</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Round 1 Application Closing Date</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 31 October 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Round 1 Project Preferences Submission Deadline</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 12 November 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Round 1 Outcomes are issued</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>By Friday 17 December 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Round 1 Offer Lapse Date</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic unconditional offer lapse date: 24/12/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>International unconditional offer lapse date: 24/12/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Round 2 Application Closing Date</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 21 January 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Round 2 Project Preferences Submission Deadline</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 28 January 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Round 2 Outcomes are issued</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>By Monday 7 February 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Round 2 Offer Lapse Date</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic unconditional offer lapse date: 3 days</td>
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<tr>
<td>International unconditional offer lapse date: 11/02/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Course Commencement</strong></td>
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<td>14/02/2022</td>
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Any questions?

Photo by Aurélien Lemasson-Théobald on Unsplash
Reflections and Q&A with current students
Thank you!
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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