

Project Title	Department	Project Site	Supervisors	Description
Communicating the benefits and harms of colorectal cancer risk-reducing medication (aspirin) to patients between 40 and 75 years old attending primary care.	Department of General Practice	DGP, VCCC and fieldwork	Prof Jon Emery, Dr Jennifer Walker	This project aims to determine the most effective method of communicating the potential benefits and harms of taking aspirin to reduce colorectal cancer risk in a population of patients recruited from a GP waiting room. This project will be part of the development and implementation of a colorectal cancer risk prediction tool for use in general practice. The Honours student would have added experience in being part of a large multi-disciplinary research group.
Problem gambling and depression: Is it an issue in primary care and what do GPs need to know?	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Jane Gunn	This project is nested within a longitudinal cohort study of patients with depressive symptoms - the diamond study. The student will use literature review, existing survey data and patient interviews to examine associations between <b>people with depressive symptoms and gambling.</b>
The use of reading groups as a treatment for depression	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Jane Gunn	This student will conduct a literature review on the use of reading groups as a treatment for depression and will be assisted to design, implement and evaluate a <b>reading group program within the primary care setting.</b>
Can household pets help you to recover from depression?	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Jane Gunn	This project is nested within a longitudinal cohort study of patients with depressive symptoms - the diamond study. The student will use literature review, existing survey data and patient interviews to examine whether having a household pet is associated with better outcomes for people experiencing depression.
Does attending the cinema or theatre help people recover from depression?	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Jane Gunn	This project is nested within a longitudinal cohort study of patients with depressive symptoms - the diamond study. The student will use literature review, existing survey data and patient interviews to examine whether attending the cinema or theatre is associated with better health and wellbeing for patients with <b>depression.</b>
Use of the creative arts (singing, acting, playing music) by people with depressive symptoms	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Jane Gunn	This project is nested within a longitudinal cohort study of patients with depressive symptoms - the diamond study. The student will use literature review, existing survey data and patient interviews to examine the use of singing, acting or playing music by patients with depression and compare them against the <b>evidence for the effectiveness of these techniques.</b>
Can volunteering help with depression, stress and worries?	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Jane Gunn	This project is nested within a longitudinal cohort study of patients with depressive symptoms - the diamond study. The student will use literature review, existing survey data and patient interviews to examine whether volunteering is associated with better health and wellbeing for patients with depression.

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Barriers and facilitators to using clinical prediction tools in primary care	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Jane Gunn	The student will use literature reviews and interview/focus groups to explore the attitudes and behaviour of GPs regarding the use of clinical prediction tools to estimate the risk of condition specific poor outcomes in their patients.
Where you go, I go: The relationship between substance use and depressive symptoms in primary care patients	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Jane Gunn	This project is nested within a longitudinal cohort study of patients with depressive symptoms - the diamond study. The student will use literature review, existing survey data and patient interviews to examine the relationship between substance use and depressive symptoms in a cohort of primary care patients with depressive symptoms.
Treating depression through psychological therapy	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Jane Gunn	This project is nested within a longitudinal cohort study of patients with depressive symptoms - the diamond study. The student will use literature review, existing survey data and patient interviews to examine the different psychological treatments used by a group of people experiencing depressive symptoms.
Participatory health care in the networked society - what are the limits and ethical issues?	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Dr Victoria Palmer	Students will review published literature on a current development in participatory health and the networked society (e.g. digital technologies, use of patient data, and use of apps for mental well-being) to examine the impact of this on future primary medical care. The project may include participating in a small focus group with medical practitioners or patients to identify their views on the impact and implications of the networked society. The student will complete an overview of the ethical issues and the considerations that need to be made in participatory health.
The social worlds of people living with severe mental illness	Department of General Practice	DGP	Dr Victoria Palmer	Students will undertake secondary data analysis of data collected from a sub-sample of people engaged in a recently completed cluster randomised controlled trial in the community mental health setting (The CORE Study). The data collection processes involved a sub-sample of individuals' providing self-reported information about their social networks and weekly activities. Students will analyse the networks and weekly journals for patterns and consider this in conjunction with the published literature on social networks, isolation and social participation for people with severe mental illness.

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Experiences of violence for people living with severe mental illnesses	Department of General Practice	DGP	Dr Victoria Palmer	Students will undertake secondary data analysis of data collected from a sub-sample of people engaged in a recently completed cluster randomised controlled trial in the community mental health setting (The CORE Study). The data collection processes involved a sub-sample of individuals' providing self-reported information about experiences of violence in their lives. Students will analyse the open ended responses provided to identify the common experiences and consider this in conjunction with the published literature on violence in the lives of people with mental illnesses. The student will consider current interventions and the findings and explore if the data indicates the need for new interventions to respond to experiences of violence.
Exploring sexual health care for older Australians	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Meredith Temple-Smith, Prof Jane Hocking	Sexual activity enhances physical and mental health during ageing, however as individuals age, they also develop more chronic conditions which may impact on their sexual ability. This study will explore the availability of both information (including online), and practitioners who provide such information or services to older Australians with a view to populating a website on sexual health for older Australians. Interviews with health service providers will be undertaken either face to face or by phone.
Exploring Early Pregnancy Assessment Centres	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Meredith Temple-Smith, Dr Jade Bilardi	One in four pregnancies ends in miscarriage, a distressing event which may cause significant depression and anxiety. In Australia there is a variety of care pathways to manage pregnancy and miscarriage and one of these is through Early Pregnancy Assessment Centres which are based in some hospitals. This study will explore the availability of these centres and examine their similarities and differences, with a view to providing recommendations to improve provision of care for families experiencing miscarriage.
Primary care research: student's choice	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Meredith Temple-Smith	By use of literature reviews, surveys and/or interviews with patients and practitioners will explore an issue of interest to the student, in an area related to the work conducted within the Department.
Are stem cells an option for me?: The experience of patients seeking advice from GPs	Department of General Practice	DGP and Centre for Stem Cell Systems	Prof Meredith Temple-Smith, A/Prof Megan Munsie, Dr Claire Tanner	The student will undertake a literature review to determine what is known about the experience of patients seeking advice from GPs about possible stem cell interventions for novel non-haematological applications. Interviews will be conducted with Australian patients who have sought advice from GPs as to whether marketed stem cell treatments being offered outside conventional medical practices were an option for them and the impact of these discussions on their long-term health journey.

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Can stem cells be used to restore joint function?: GPs' perspectives and practices	Department of General Practice	DGP and Centre for Stem Cell Systems	Prof Meredith Temple-Smith, A/Prof Megan Munsie, Dr Claire Tanner	The student will undertake a literature review to determine what is known about the use of stem cells for the treatment of osteoarthritis and other musculoskeletal conditions, including risks and benefits of unproven interventions and positions held by professional bodies and patient support services. Interviews will be conducted with GPs to determine their views on stem cell interventions for joint problems, the resources they rely upon to form their views and their experience in discussing these interventions with their patients.
Dr Google: GPs' perspectives and practices	Department of General Practice	DGP and Centre for Stem Cell Systems	Prof Meredith Temple-Smith, A/Prof Megan Munsie, Dr Claire Tanner	The student will undertake a literature review to determine what is known about the role of the internet in consultations between GPs and their patients, especially the use of the internet as a resource for information about non-evidenced based treatments such as stem cell interventions for non-haematological applications. Interviews will be conducted with GPs to determine their views on patients' use of the internet to research non-evidenced based medicine ('Dr Google') and their own experiences using online resources in these consultations. The student may also interview Australians about how they use the internet in conjunction with visits to their GP.
Incentives for youth participation in research: do they make a difference?	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	A/Prof Lena Sanci	This project will involve field work and secondary data analysis to determine whether young people are more likely to take part in research with an individual incentive versus a raffle with a chance to win a prize.
Culture, class and research participation by youth	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	A/Prof Lena Sanci	This project will study the response rates to a large research project across Melbourne and determine the sociodemographic factors that might be associated with research participation.
Vital connections: Supports for rural primary care working with families experiencing domestic violence	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Ms Kirsty Forsdike, Prof Kelsey Hegarty	A qualitative project exploring rural, regional and remote primary care's perceptions of supports needed when working with families experiencing domestic violence. In particular it will look at the role technology might play.
Engaging early with men who use violence in their intimate relationships through a smartphone application	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Ms Kirsty Forsdike, Prof Kelsey Hegarty	The student will undertake a qualitative project embedded within an established study to develop and pilot a smartphone application with men who use violence in their intimate relationships. The smartphone app aims to raise awareness of behaviours, encourage self-reflection and help-seeking. The honours project will compliment the pilot testing by interviewing a sub-sample of men who are using the tool for their feedback.

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Exploring health practitioners' knowledge and attitudes towards intimate partner sexual violence	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Dr Laura Tarzia	Recent research suggests that almost half of women attending Australian general practices have experienced some form of sexual violence, including rape, sexual assault, coercion, and reproductive control. However, little is known about how health practitioners' identify and respond to these issues in their female patients. This project will use interviews to investigate how health practitioners respond to women who have experienced recent or lifetime SV, and what their current level of knowledge and understanding might be.
Sexual violence crisis care in Melbourne: Who is attending and why?	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Dr Laura Tarzia	What do men who have used violence in their intimate relationships think of a smartphone application that aims to raise awareness of their behaviour and encourage self-reflection and help-seeking before the violence escalates?
Assessing the benefits of sexual violence counsellor/advocate training and education	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Dr Laura Tarzia	This qualitative project will involve interviews with counsellor/advocates at the Centre for Sexual Assault (CASA House) to determine whether the education and training programs being delivered meet their needs and expectations. CASA House currently responds to a very high volume of clients, and it is therefore essential that its workers be appropriately and adequately trained and supported in their work. The project will identify any areas for improvement that will help to further refine the delivery of future training programs.
Trauma-informed yoga for survivors of sexual violence	Department of General Practice	DGP, CASA House and fieldwork	Dr Laura Tarzia	This project involves using surveys or interviews (to be determined) with sexual violence survivors to evaluate a trauma-informed yoga program run by the Centre Against Sexual Assault (CASA House).
Health professionals views about screening for partner violence in antenatal care	Department of General Practice	DGP and The Women's Hospital	Prof Kelsey Hegarty, Ms Elizabeth McLindon	A qualitative project exploring health practitioner's perceptions of supports needed when screenign women for domestic violence. In particular it will look at the role technology might play.
LGBTIQ intimate partner violence: exploring the demographics of those accessing flexi-support packages and how they are used to support victims/survivors	Department of General Practice	DGP and Victorian AIDS Council	Prof Kelsey Hegarty, Dr Kate O'Halloran	This project will address the following questions: who is accessing the LGBTI Relationship Violence Flexi-Support Packages (provided by Victorian AIDS Council)? How have the packages helped assist victims of LGBTI intimate partner violence?
LGBTIQ intimate partner violence: understanding the drivers and dynamics	Department of General Practice	DGP and Drummond Street Services	Prof Kelsey Hegarty, Dr Kate O'Halloran	This qualitative project will interview victims/survivors or LGBTI intimate partner violence, to understand the drivers and dynamics of LGBTI intimate partner violence.
Exploring GPs knowledge and attitudes of existing guidelines and training resources regarding abuse and violence	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Prof Kelsey Hegarty, Ms Kirsty Forsdike	The student will map existing training resources and guidelines for general practice and conduct qualitative interviews with GPs to explore knowledge and attitudes towards such resources to develop an understanding of information sources used and perceived as needed by GPs in this area.

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Exploring management of type 2 diabetes in General Practice	Department of General Practice	DGP	A/Prof John Furler, Dr Jo-Anne Manski-Nankervis	The student(s) undertaking this project will undertake a secondary analysis of data from a large randomised controlled trial of insulin initiation in type 2 diabetes in General Practice (the Stepping Up study). This could involve, for example, an analysis of medication adherence, health service use and/or costs, individualisation of clinical targets or glucose monitoring data.
Glycaemic variability in T2D	Department of General Practice	DGP	A/Prof John Furler, Dr Jo-Anne Manski-Nankervis	The student(s) undertaking this project will undertake a secondary analysis of baseline data from a large randomised controlled trial of continuous glucose monitoring in type 2 diabetes in General Practice (the OSMOTIC study). This will have a specific focus on glycaemic variability and hypoglycaemia.
Managing common chronic conditions in General Practice	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Dr Jo-Anne Manski-Nankervis, Dr Phyllis Lau	This project is offered as a generic topic to be negotiated between the student and the supervisor(s). This will form part of the overall work of the Diabetes and Cardio-Metabolic research team in the Department of General Practice and will involve a practice based study exploring aspects of chronic condition management in General Practice including dementia, CVD and T2D.
What do GPs think about referring to each other?	Department of General Practice	DGP	Dr Phyllis Lau, Dr Malcolm Clark	With the increasing number of GPs with a special interest, what do GPs think about referring a patient to a GPSI colleague? The student in this study will conduct interviews with GPs and explore their perspectives around referral practices, barriers to referral to other GPs, and their opinions of GPSIs as an <u>alternative to specialist doctors</u> .
Assessing oral health in diabetes care: a practical GP tool	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Dr Phyllis Lau, Prof Ivan Darby, A/Prof John Furler, Dr Malcolm Clark	Diabetes is a common problem managed in general practice. Oral health is an issue in these patients but is commonly overlooked. Periodontal disease is more common in people with diabetes and leads to loss of teeth prematurely and this can impact on diet. Recognizing and treating early may reverse periodontal disease. eventually be lost. The student will pilot and evaluate an oral care intervention developed by the team in recruited general practices.
Managing pharmacotherapy in geriatric patients	Department of General Practice	DGP and fieldwork	Dr Phyllis Lau, Dr Jane Crowe	The student will undertake a literature review to determine what is known about pharmacotherapy needs for geriatric patients. Interviews will be conducted with GPs and geriatricians to determine their practices around prescribing for geriatric patients with multimorbidities.