



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**

Department of Health Western Australia Human Research Ethics Committee

Project Summaries for Approved Proposals

July to September 2017 Quarter

Project summaries for proposals approved by the Department of Health Human Research Ethics Committee – July to September 2017 quarter.

The material contained in this document is made available to assist researchers, institutions and the general public in searching for projects that have ethics approval from the Department of Health Human Research Ethics Committee (DOH HREC). It contains lay description/summaries available for the July to September 2017 quarter.

Project Title	Establishment of Prostate Cancer Outcomes Registry Australia and New Zealand in Western Australia		
Principal Investigator	Associate Professor Angela Ives		
Institution	University of Western Australia		
Start Date	17 July 2017	Finish Date	31 March 2022
<p>The overall aim of this project is to establish a population-based prostate cancer outcomes registry (PCOR) to improve the quality of care provided to men diagnosed with prostate cancer in Western Australia (WA). It is hypothesised that the PCOR-WA, will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assess patterns of care • reduce variation in treatment and outcome • improve compliance with best practice-based guidelines for the treatment of prostate cancer • identify factors that predict favourable and unfavourable treatment outcomes, particularly in relation to the major adverse effects, and • provide information to patients about the risks and benefits of specific approaches to prostate cancer treatment. 			

Project Title	Enhanced Indigenous Mortality Data Collection		
Principal Investigator	Dr Fadwa Al-Yaman		
Institution	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare		
Start Date	3 August 2017	Finish Date	30 December 2022
<p>The aim of this project is to create an ongoing national collection, the Enhanced Indigenous Mortality Data Collection, containing national records of registered deaths (from the NOi) and enhanced Indigenous status information that can be used to prepare more reliable Indigenous mortality and life expectancy estimates. The Enhanced Indigenous Mortality Data Collection will be created by linking records of death in the National Death Index (NOi) to selected state and national datasets that contain information on Indigenous deaths and Indigenous identification. The collection will be used to prepare a time series of robust estimates of Indigenous mortality and life expectancy for research purposes as well as for statutory reporting.</p>			

Project Title	Spatio-temporal Analysis of Asthma Hospitalisation in the metro areas of Western Australia.		
Principal Investigator	Associate Professor Jianhong Cecilia Xia		
Institution	Curtin University		
Start Date	10 August 2017	Finish Date	15 January 2018
<p>The project will be one of the first studies in WA systematically examining the asthma hospitalisations and associated risk factors, in particular air quality and socioeconomic factors, at population level. The aim of this project is to look for spatio-temporal distribution of asthma and the factors affecting the hospitalisation rates of asthma in metropolitan areas of Western Australia for the years 2007-2016.</p> <p>Research findings will be used for the development of preventative health policies and health programs so that the need for hospitalisation will be reduced, individual asthma sufferers will potentially reduce their chance to develop asthma, and there will be reduced health system costs if hospitalisations due to asthma can be prevented using the findings from the study.</p>			

Project Title	Ribotyping analysis of repeated infections of Clostridium difficile for the Western Australian population		
Principal Investigator	Professor Angus Cook		
Institution	The University of Western Australia		
Start Date	14 August 2017	Finish Date	1 March 2018
<p>Clostridium difficile (CD) is the most common cause of healthcare associated and antibiotic-associated diarrhoea. The severity of infection varies from mild diarrhoea to pseudomembranous colitis, toxic megacolon and death. Hypervirulent strains that are associated with epidemic spread and high rates of severe disease and death have recently been identified in Australia. In Western Australia, the Healthcare Associated Infection Surveillance WA (HISWA) program has adopted national CDI definitions.</p>			

Project Title	HPV Partnership Project 1: Factors associated with non-initiation and non-completion of school-based HPV vaccination		
Principal Investigator	Associate Professor Rebecca Guy		
Institution	Kirby Institute (University of New South Wales)		
Start Date	13 September 2017	Finish Date	30 June 2022
<p>The project aim is to identify and address gaps in Australia's school-based Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination program. The state health departments in New South Wales, Tasmania, and Western Australia are partners in this project, along with the National HPV Vaccination Program Register.</p> <p>This project will involve calculating the proportion of adolescents who did not initiate or complete the HPV vaccination course in each school in New South Wales, Tasmania, and Western Australia. Then a statistical analysis will be conducted to examine factors correlated with higher levels of non-initiation and non-completion, including school characteristics, the sociodemographic profile of each school population, and additional characteristics of the area in which each school is located.</p>			

Project Title	Knowledge user capacity to engage with Evidence Based Decision Making practices: Exploring employer perceptions during the course of recruitment		
Principal Investigator	Ms Rochelle Tobin		
Institution	Curtin University		
Start Date	21 September 2017	Finish Date	30 September 2018
<p>The overall aim of the study is to explore the value of competencies in the creation, exchange, dissemination and use of evidence to employers in the context of recruitment for positions that are expected to engage in knowledge translation. This research will provide information about how the recruitment of public health practitioners may support the increased use of research evidence in public health.</p> <p>Employers can influence the skills of the public health workforce through both the recruitment and the time and effort which is allocated to certain activities such as professional development. It is hypothesised that the value employers place on particular knowledge and skills when recruiting public health practitioners may be a facilitator or barrier to improving workforce skills to use research evidence in decision making. This study will interview individuals who make recruitment decisions in government and non-government organisations.</p>			

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