

POSITION STATEMENT ACADEMIC STAFF

UTS:HUMAN RESOURCES

POSITION: Health Economist Research Fellow (Level B),
Palliative Care Clinical Studies Collaborative

FACULTY: Health

ACADEMIC SUPERVISOR'S NAME: David Currow

POSITION: Professor Palliative Medicine, IMPACCT

DUTIES OF THE POSITION:

The Palliative Care Clinical Studies Collaborative (PaCCSC) Health Economist Fellow will undertake independent and supervised health economics research including methodological development, application, monitoring and reporting on health economic aspects of the PaCCSC clinical trials and other analysis as necessary. PaCCSC undertakes palliative care clinical trials and has a national office based within IMPACCT in the Faculty of Health, University of Technology Sydney. Other team members are based in Queensland and South Australia.

PaCCSC is partnering with Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation (CHERE) to establish a program of health economic research focused on palliative and end-of-life care. The Health Economist Research Fellow will have a joint appointment with the Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation. Working collaboratively across both teams, the PaCCSC Health Economics Research Fellow will undertake independent research on health economic measures in palliative care, commissioned work and perform critical appraisal of palliative care interventions. A key component of the role will be evaluating clinical interventions in palliative care at a level that could inform applications to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) and/or Medicare Benefits Advisory Committee as appropriate.

This is a unique opportunity to work with the PaCCSC clinical academics and researchers at CHERE to develop a program of research in palliative care. The PaCCSC Health Economics Research Fellow is expected to act autonomously on key research project tasks under the direction of their supervisor and project leaders, within the rules and guidelines set by the university. They will also actively contribute to nationally competitive grant applications and the publication and dissemination of PaCCSC clinical trial results, and to enhancing the profile of research within the Faculty of Health at University of Technology Sydney. Whilst based within IMPACCT, Faculty of Health the Fellow will have access to office space and support at CHERE, where it is expected they will spend 1-2 days per week.

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

- To provide specialist health economics research expertise and assist in assessing the cost effectiveness of health and medication interventions in palliative care, including the measurement and valuation of health related quality of life and treatment preferences.
- To conduct health economic analysis for PaCCSC trials
- To undertake independent and supervised research in applied health economic methods in palliative care
- To work with PaCCSC, and the collaborating sites where appropriate, on relevant design and methodological matters for new project proposals and current trials
- To work closely with the Professor of Supportive and Palliative Care to further the work of PaCCSC
- Publication and dissemination of research in academic journals and at relevant conferences
- Analysis of clinical trial and patient data from interventional studies

- Contributing health economic expertise to researcher initiated clinical trials
- Preparing high quality written reports and peer-reviewed journal articles
- Critical appraisal of funding / subsidy submissions
- Prepare modelled cost-effectiveness analyses, and critiques of cost-effectiveness analyses
- Develop more appropriate measures of health economic outcomes in palliative care

TEACHING AND LEARNING / EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Contribute to and participate in research seminars as required
- Active participation in the supervision and training of research students
- Co-supervision or, where appropriate, supervision of major honours or postgraduate research projects within the field of the staff member's area of research
- Complete the Foundation Subjects of the *Graduate Certificate in Higher Education Teaching and Learning (GradCertHEd)* during the Fellowship

ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

- Administration of any research grant, as applicable
- Supervise technical or research assistants as required
- Manage records consistent with university procedures
- Participate in Faculty and University community
- Involvement in professional activities including, subject to availability of funds, attendance and presentations at conferences and seminars
- Take a leading role to fostering research collaboration and research opportunities with other groups within University of Technology Sydney
- Participate in the Early Career Researcher Development Programs
- Other duties as requested from time to time.

CONSULTING/EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES

- Maintain effective and collaborative relationships with collaborating organisations.
- Develop and sustain relationships with key stakeholders including government departments, palliative care services, research and academic institutions
- Liaise with clinical research experts undertaking other clinical trials in other areas of health care and to adapt learnings to PaCCSC studies where appropriate
- Foster industry engagement and attract industry funded research projects

SAFETY & WELLBEING RESPONSIBILITIES

All staff must:

- Take reasonable care of, and cooperate with actions taken to protect, the health and safety of both themselves and others
- report all accidents, incidents and hazards to their supervisor as soon as is practicable

Supervisors and managers of staff and facilities must do whatever is reasonably practical to ensure that both the workplace and the work itself are safe, in consultation with staff affected.

LEADERSHIP CAPABILITIES

Pipeline Category	Leading Strategically	Collaborating and Engaging	Leading Teams	Presence and Awareness	Leading Performance
Capabilities	Role models organisational agility	Encourages collaboration	Manages diversity	Influences others	Demonstrates technical expertise
				Demonstrates resilience	Informs others

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA ACADEMIC STAFF

UTS:HUMAN RESOURCES

POSITION: Health Economist Research Fellow

FACULTY/SCHOOL/DEPARTMENT/UNIT: Health

Skills and Attributes

- Demonstrated ability to work both independently and in collaboration with others.
- Strong quantitative and bio-statistical skills
- Ability to assist in the initialisation and resourcing of clinical research
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills with proven ability to effectively analyse information and produce clear, succinct reports and documents.
- Planning and organisational skills, with the ability to prioritise multiple tasks and set and meet deadlines.
- Demonstrated ability to work in partnership with other collaborators of various health disciplines to develop new study design and achieve current project outcomes.
- The proven ability to obtain external grants for research
- Ability to analyse and solve problems
- Ability to develop independent research track and coordinate research projects
- Proven ability to publish in high quality peer reviewed journals
- The ability to successfully supervise undergraduate and postgraduate research students

Knowledge

- Clear understanding and commitment to social accountability as applies to research in health economics
- Knowledge of Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Council
- Understanding of palliative care research
- General knowledge of social science research methods
- Familiarity with the Australian health system an advantage but not essential

Qualifications

- A PhD (awarded or nearing completion) in health economics
- Post-graduate degree in economics, health economics, health services research, statistics, public health, epidemiology, pharmacy or equivalent

Experience required

- Experience in the conduct of clinical trials and/or palliative care
- Experience in economic evaluation and health technology assessment, or related research
- Experience in health services or health economics research
- Track record of contributing to/ first authoring peer reviewed publications
- Experience in writing grant applications, tenders and reports
- Experience in research project management and ethics applications
- Demonstrated capacity to use a range of software packages; ie: Excel, SPSS (or similar), Access, MS Office, End Note, NVivo and TreeAge, modelling software.