



POSITION DESCRIPTION

1.

Department of Medicine, St Vincent's
Melbourne Medical School
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences

Research Fellow

POSITION NO	0056340
CLASSIFICATION	Level B
SALARY	Level B \$107,547-127,707 p.a. (pro rata) Plus clinical loading of \$19,034 (pro rata)
SUPERANNUATION	Employer contribution of 17%
WORKING HOURS	Part-time 0.2 FTE
BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT	Fixed term position available for 2 years
OTHER BENEFITS	http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/working/benefits
HOW TO APPLY	Online applications are preferred. Go to http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers , under 'Job Search and Job Alerts', select the relevant option ('Current Staff' or 'Prospective Staff'), then find the position by title or number.
CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES ONLY	Dr Priya Sumithran; priyas@unimelb.edu.au <i>Please do not send your application to this contact</i>

For information about working for the University of Melbourne, visit our websites:

about.unimelb.edu.au/careers

Position Summary

The research fellow will take on a leadership role in a growing research group that aims to reduce the impact of obesity on health and wellbeing. The two main areas our research focuses on are understanding the regulation of weight and eating behaviours to improve the outcomes of obesity treatment, and improving access to evidence-based clinical care. Our research projects comprise clinical cohort and interventional studies, data linkage, health services research, and collaborative translational studies in rodent models of obesity and disordered eating behaviour.

We are seeking an active clinician-scientist to contribute to the research and engagement activities of the group, including research development, program management, educational, supervision and engagement activities.

The role will require initiative, attention to detail, and strong communication and interpersonal skills. The appointee will build successful relationships and collaborations with internal and external research groups and other partners to foster high-quality research and its translation to excellence in clinical care of people with obesity.

The successful candidate will be seeking to establish a reputation as an expert in the management of obesity and/or its complications within their primary specialty (e.g. endocrinology/diabetes/ nephrology/gastroenterology/cardiovascular health). This position represents a great opportunity for a clinician researcher to develop their career as an academic clinician.

The position will report to the group leader, Dr Priya Sumithran, and will be primarily located within the Department of Medicine (St Vincent's), University of Melbourne in Fitzroy. Due to close collaborations with other sites in Melbourne (Parkville, Heidelberg) and the COVID-19 pandemic, some activities may require travel to other sites or working from home.

We are committed to developing the careers and wellbeing of our students and staff and expect all our people to uphold our Faculty values of collaboration and teamwork, compassion, respect, integrity and accountability.

2. Key Responsibilities

2.1 RESEARCH & RESEARCH TRAINING

Under the guidance of the group leader, you will provide leadership in advancing the group's research activities, including:

- ▶ Lead impactful research initiatives aligned with the group's research priorities
- ▶ Establish and build cross-disciplinary research collaborations within and beyond the University
- ▶ Analyse and interpret research data
- ▶ Write manuscripts for publication in high-quality peer-reviewed journals and present research findings at scientific meetings where appropriate
- ▶ Prepare high-quality applications for external and internal research funding, including grants from NHMRC, MRFF and philanthropic bodies
- ▶ Supervision of research students and staff
- ▶ Assist with recruitment of participants and study visits for clinical studies
- ▶ Attend to Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities as outlined in section 5

2.2 LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- ▶ Provide leadership and supervision of clinical trial activities
- ▶ Establish and build cross-disciplinary research collaborations within and beyond the University
- ▶ Actively participate in engagement activities relating to scientific communication and reducing the stigma of obesity
- ▶ Actively participate in educational activities aimed at increasing capability and confidence of clinicians in managing obesity
- ▶ Effectively demonstrate and promote University and Faculty values including diversity and inclusion and high standards of ethics and integrity
- ▶ Administrative duties including maintenance of equipment, staff management and purchasing

3. Selection Criteria

3.1 ESSENTIAL

- ▶ A medical degree recognised in Australia
- ▶ Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians or General Practitioners
- ▶ A research higher degree (PhD or DMedSci) in a relevant field
- ▶ A record of peer-reviewed publications showing excellence in research
- ▶ Demonstrated ability to attract research funding
- ▶ Experience in designing and conducting clinical research
- ▶ Excellent ability to communicate complex information clearly, both verbally and in writing, in English.
- ▶ High ethical standards and commitment to the Faculty values of Collaboration & Teamwork, Compassion, Respect, Integrity, and Accountability.
- ▶ Demonstrated interest in the health and wellbeing of people with obesity
- ▶ Excellent interpersonal skills including ability to work collaboratively and maintain good working relationships in a multidisciplinary environment, as well as work independently
- ▶ High-level organisational, time management and project management skills (the ability to set priorities and timelines, initiate and follow-up actions, meet deadlines)
- ▶ High-level problem-solving skills, and ability to exercise judgement and initiative

3.2 DESIRABLE

- ▶ Experience in medical education
- ▶ Desire to develop own research profile that supports and complements the group's research

4. Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Inclusion

The University is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to providing a workplace free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, bullying, vilification and victimisation. The University makes decisions on employment, promotion and reward on the basis of merit.

The University is committed to all aspects of equal opportunity, diversity and inclusion in the workplace and to providing all staff, students, contractors, honorary appointees, volunteers and visitors with a safe, respectful and rewarding environment free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, harassment, vilification and victimisation. This commitment is set out in the Advancing Melbourne strategy that address diversity and inclusion, equal employment opportunity, discrimination, sexual harassment, bullying and appropriate workplace behaviour. All staff are required to comply with all University policies.

The University values diversity because we recognise that the differences in our people's age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, physical ability and background bring richness to our work environment. Consequently, the People Strategy sets out the strategic aim to drive diversity and inclusion across the University to create an environment where the compounding benefits of a diverse workforce are recognised as vital in our continuous desire to strive for excellence and reach the targets of Advancing Melbourne.

5. Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)

All staff are required to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and that of other personnel who may be affected by their conduct.

OHS responsibilities applicable to positions are published at:

<http://safety.unimelb.edu.au/people/community/responsibilities-of-personnel>

These include general staff responsibilities and those additional responsibilities that apply for Managers and Supervisors and other Personnel.

6. Other Information

6.1 DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE, ST VINCENT'S HOSPITAL

www.medicine.unimelb.edu.au/medicine-and-radiology

The Department of Medicine and Radiology is a large and diverse department in the Melbourne Medical School that undertakes research, postgraduate and undergraduate teaching within the University of Melbourne teaching hospitals. The Department of Medicine, St Vincent's Hospital is a large, research-active node of the Department. Research at the Department of Medicine, SVH encompasses basic, clinical and applied research in a range of areas. The ultimate goal of our research is to improve the treatment of human disease. Driven by clinical questions, our work covers aspects of the basic mechanisms of biology and physiology, clinical and community-based epidemiology, and clinical trials for new therapies and devices. We have outstanding academic and professional staff, highly proficient in a diverse range of clinical, research, teaching and administrative skills.

6.2 MELBOURNE MEDICAL SCHOOL

Established in 1862, Melbourne Medical School (MMS) in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences at The University of Melbourne is the oldest medical school in Australia. It is internationally renowned for global leadership in teaching and training, health research, policy and practice. MMS is ranked 14th in the world (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022 for clinical, pre-clinical and health), has strong academic partnerships and ground-breaking collaborative research programs with leading public and private hospitals, as well as leading medical research institutes and centres in Australia and internationally.

Under the leadership of Professor John Prins, MMS spans all major fields of medicine and is comprised of thirteen clinical departments: Baker Department of Cardiometabolic Health; Clinical Pathology; Critical Care; General Practice; Medical Education; Infectious Diseases; Medicine; Obstetrics and Gynaecology; Paediatrics, Psychiatry, Radiology, Rural Health and Surgery.

- ▶ MMS has more than 1,000 academic and professional staff members located at the Parkville campus or embedded within health services throughout metropolitan Melbourne and rural Victoria. Staff are privileged to work alongside more than 2,725 honorary appointees from the health sector who generously contribute their time, knowledge, research and clinical expertise.
- ▶ MMS is committed to improving community wellbeing through the discovery and application of new knowledge. With annual research income of \$165 million, the school's research effort is highly collaborative, spanning research programs from basic to translational. The school has research collaborations across the 47 partner organisations in the vibrant Melbourne biomedical precinct, as well as nationally and internationally. These partnerships enable medical advances to impact healthcare delivery as rapidly and seamlessly as possible.
- ▶ The school's flagship Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree was the first masters level entry-to-practice qualification of its kind developed in Australia, setting a new benchmark in medical education. Now, the new curriculum launched in 2022 has created more responsive, modular, technology-enhanced learning for state-of-the-art curriculum delivery. Continuous research and discovery options, and an ability to tailor the degree, allows each student to gain deeper experience in areas of greatest interest. The md rural pathway offers students the opportunity to undertake their entire program in rural Victoria, with a \$6.5 million expansion of facilities in Shepparton to accommodate this. There is also an expanded range of joint degree pathways on offer. The school utilises the department of general practice's continually expanding network of general practitioners and primary healthcare providers in the community to ensure that md students are also provided with quality community-based medical education.
- ▶ In addition to the MD, MMS has an ever-expanding portfolio of other vocationally oriented programs. These teach research skills, leadership and continuing professional development in specific disciplines. An emphasis on the clinician-scientist career trajectory – with training, support and ongoing career pathways at graduate and postgraduate levels – is central to the school's development of future leaders in all aspects of healthcare, education, research and policy. Mms has over 600 higher degree by research candidates located both within departments and across its network of partners.

School staff and honorary appointees lead and participate in public debate and advocacy around key health issues and policy based on the MMS values of commitment, integrity, compassion, respect and service. The school also offers a range of initiatives and programs in support of its diverse and inclusive culture: <https://medicine.unimelb.edu.au/about/diversity-and-inclusion> mms is always looking to recruit talented individuals across a wide range of medical disciplines which include leadership roles. This presents a wonderful opportunity for appointees to help drive the strategy, growth and continued excellence of Australia's leading medical school.

6.3 FACULTY OF MEDICINE, DENTISTRY & HEALTH SCIENCES

The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences has an enviable research record and is the University of Melbourne's largest faculty in terms of management of financial

resources, employment of academic and professional staff, teaching of undergraduate and postgraduate (including research higher degree) students and the conduct of basic and applied research. The Faculty's annual revenue is \$628m with approximately 55% of this income related to research activities.

The Faculty has a student teaching load in excess of 8,500 equivalent full-time students including more than 1,300 research higher degree students. The Faculty has approximately 2,195 staff comprising 642 professional staff and 1,553 research and teaching staff.

The Faculty has appointed Australia's first Associate Dean (Indigenous Development) to lead the development and implementation of the Faculty's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), which will be aligned with the broader University – wide plan. To enable the Faculty to improve its Indigenous expertise knowledge base, the Faculty's RAP will address Indigenous employment, Indigenous student recruitment and retention, Indigenous cultural recognition and building partnerships with the Indigenous community as key areas of development.

Further information about the Faculty is available at <http://www.mdhs.unimelb.edu.au/>

6.4 THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

The University of Melbourne is a leading international university with a tradition of excellence in teaching and research. With outstanding performance in international rankings, Melbourne is at the forefront of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region and the world. The University of Melbourne is consistently ranked among the world's top universities. Further information about our reputation and global ranking is available at www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/explore/about/reputation-rankings

Established in 1853, shortly after the founding of Melbourne, the University is located just a few minutes from the centre of this global city. The main Parkville campus is recognised as the hub of Australia's premier knowledge precinct comprising eight hospitals, many leading research institutes and a wide range of knowledge-based industries.

The University employs people of outstanding calibre and offers a unique environment where staff are valued and rewarded. Further information about working at The University of Melbourne is available at about.unimelb.edu.au/careers.

6.5 ADVANCING MELBOURNE

The University's strategic direction is grounded in its purpose. While its expression may change, our purpose is enduring: to benefit society through the transformative impact of education and research. Together, the vision and purpose inform the focus and scale of our aspirations for the coming decade. Advancing Melbourne reflects the University's commitment to its people, its place, and its partners. Our aspiration for 2030 is to be known as a world-leading and globally connected Australian university, with our students at the heart of everything we do.

- We will offer students a distinctive and outstanding education and experience, preparing them for success as leaders, change agents and global citizens.
- We will be recognised locally and globally for our leadership on matters of national and global importance, through outstanding research and scholarship and a commitment to collaboration.
- We will be empowered by our sense of place and connections with communities. We will take opportunities to advance both the University and the City of Melbourne in close collaboration and synergy.
- We will deliver this through building a brilliant, diverse and vibrant University community, with strong connections to those we serve.

The means for achieving these goals include the development of the University of Melbourne's academic and professional staff and the capabilities needed to support a modern, world-class university. Those means require a commitment to ongoing financial sustainability and an ambitious infrastructure program which will reshape the campus and our contribution to the communities we engage with. This strategy, and the priorities proposed, is centred around five intersecting themes; place, community, education, discovery and global.

6.6 GOVERNANCE

The Vice Chancellor is the Chief Executive Officer of the University and responsible to Council for the good management of the University.

Comprehensive information about the University of Melbourne and its governance structure is available at www.unimelb.edu.au/strategy/governance