ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (RESEARCH) - NATIONAL CENTRE FOR HEALTH AGEING (NCHA) DATA PLATFORM – RESEARCH DATA LEAD

DEPARTMENT/UNIT  Peninsula Clinical School, Central Clinical School

FACULTY/DIVISION  Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences

CLASSIFICATION  Level D

WORK LOCATION  Peninsula Clinical School, Frankston Hospital

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

Monash is full of thinkers and doers who are looking for their next challenge. So if you’ve forged a rewarding career so far, this role provides the perfect platform to join us. You’ll have access to quality research facilities, infrastructure and teaching spaces to do exciting work, along with opportunities to collaborate internationally. You’ll be part of a university that’s made up of inspirational, challenging thinkers and doers – and continue doing work that makes a lasting impact. Discover more at www.monash.edu.

The Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, is the largest faculty at Monash University, and offers the most comprehensive suite of professional health training in Victoria. We consistently rank in the top 40 universities worldwide for clinical, pre-clinical and health sciences.

We want to improve the human condition. That is our vision - it has no expiration date. Through academic health centres, other translational models and by educating the healthcare workforce of the future, our staff, students and alumni directly improve quality of life.

Setting the global health care agenda, the Faculty aspires to lead in all areas of research activity and influence local, national and international policy to improve health and social outcomes and health inequalities. We’ve made a major impact in the world of medical research and become globally recognised for our quality education of over 41,000 doctors, nurses, and allied health professionals.

We are ambitious and aim to maintain our position as a leading international medical research university. We’re recognised for the breadth and depth of our research, for our commitment to translational research, for the quality and scale of our research capability, and as a thriving biotechnology hub.

To learn more about the Faculty, please visit monash.edu/medicine.
Central Clinical School encompasses the Departments of Anaesthesia and Perioperative Medicine, Clinical Haematology, Immunology and Pathology, Diabetes, Infectious Diseases, Gastroenterology, Allergy and Respiratory Medicine, Neuroscience, Medicine and Surgery. CCS also includes the Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, Monash Alfred Psychiatry research centre and the National Trauma Research Institute. It is located at the Alfred Hospital precinct in Melbourne, known as AMREP (Alfred Medical Research and Education Precinct). The school is involved in teaching students from both the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences and the Faculty of Science and its teaching and research is conducted at Alfred Health, Cabrini, Epworth Richmond, Peninsula Health and at Clayton.

Peninsula Health is one of Victoria’s 15 major metropolitan health services. It is a teaching hospital of Monash University and also provides postgraduate pre-vocational and vocational training in a range of specialties. Peninsula Health provides a comprehensive range of acute, rehabilitative, aged care, palliative, residential, psychiatric and community health services from 13 sites to a population of approximately 300,000 people at Frankston and surrounding suburbs and on the Mornington Peninsula.

Peninsula Health employs nearly 5,000 staff of all disciplines with 250 Senior Medical Staff and 250 Junior Medical Staff. Clinical services are provided under Clinical Directorates managed by Clinical (senior medical) and Operations Directors (nursing and allied health). There are two busy Emergency Departments at the Frankston and Rosebud Hospital sites with over 70,000 presentations pa and there are over 50,000 separations across all sites. A new state-of the art Theatre, ICU and Cardiac Angiography complex has just been completed.

Specific services provided include Emergency and Ambulatory, Medicine and Critical Care, Surgery and Anaesthetics, Women’s Health, Paediatrics, Aged Care Medicine, Rehabilitation, Palliative Care, and Psychiatry. There are four Community Health sites and there is a strong focus on integrated and ambulatory care. There are good links with General Practice and other local healthcare providers.

Overview of the National Centre for Healthy Ageing

Monash University and Peninsula Health have partnered to establish the National Centre for Healthy Ageing (NCHA), with initial funding of $32m from the Australian Government Department of Health to create a centralised hub for innovation and transformation of care practices to support the healthy ageing of all Australians. The NCHA will create better integrated care models to promote health and wellbeing across the lifespan and drive improvements in the way people seek out and access care, to ensure they reflect and align with their values and needs. During its first 5 years, the NHCA will establish brand new state-of-the-art NCHA facilities and platforms to support advanced research and development activity, making sure that the NCHA can be at the forefront of healthy ageing research, solution development, testing and implementation in an ongoing way.

During this time the NHCA will also undertake a series of research programs that will address some of our major barriers to healthy ageing. A priority activity is the establishment of a Health Data and Implementation Platform (Data Platform) at Peninsula Health that will enable testing of models of care through enhanced data linkage.

POSITION PURPOSE

A Level D research-only academic is expected to make major original contributions to the research enterprise of the area in which they are appointed and to play a significant role within their profession or discipline. Academics at this level may be appointed in recognition of marked distinction in their area of research or scholarship.

The Associate Professor (Research) - Data Platform – Research Data Lead will be responsible for overseeing all aspects relating to the development and implementation of the NCHA Data Platform to ensure that it meets the research requirements of the Centre and its users. The incumbent will be expected to have a deep and thorough understanding of the data and research requirements of the platform including data linkage, technical, governance, and implementation and draw upon best practice evidence-based approaches. The position will work closely with the Data Platform – Technical and Informatics Lead.

The incumbent will lead the development and implementation of the Health Data and Implementation Platform development, including overseeing the development of the platform minimum dataset and data governance.
processes, to ensure the platform meets the end user and project requirements with regards to governance, data management and data quality and draws on current evidence-based approaches.

The Associate Professor (Research) will oversee the design and implementation of the platform to enable secure and accurate health data linkage with external sources of data. Including leading scoping activities to identify and facilitate required data linkages and ensure appropriate governance and data security structures are in place to facilitate future implementation and supervise and develop a small team of platform staff members (non-academic and technical), including planning and allocating staff resources, developing, coaching and mentoring employees and managing performance to ensure the platform achieves the objectives of the NCHA and end user requirements.

Part of the role will include building and sustaining high-level relationships with an extensive network of colleagues and stakeholders, including liaising closely with NCHA researchers and Peninsula Health clinical and executive staff, to facilitate coordination and cooperation and ensure the delivery of the platform aligns with broad stakeholder needs.

The incumbent will lead community engagement and outreach activities to promote the transparent use of consumer health data and to support development of community level partnership and oversee the development of an evidence-based Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs program to allow regular and reliable collection of PROMS data for the region and to support the research needs of the NCHA.

They will also provide evaluations, recommendations and advice for consideration of strategic decisions and opportunities for progression of the platform. This includes delivering best practice in data collection, management, collation, linkage and analysis; and promoting new initiatives involving capabilities such as data linkages, direct data imports from hospitals & other clinical providers, international data-sharing, automated reporting, and Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) data collection.

The Associate Professor (Research) will identify future funding opportunities to support the ongoing activities and sustainability of the Data Platform, including leading the preparation of funding proposal submissions to external bodies and building collaborations with national and international leaders in this field and keep abreast of development, activities and protocols in health and medical research and data management through relevant professional development and continuous improvement activities and provide advice accordingly.

**Reporting Line:** The position reports to Professor of Medicine, Monash University, Peninsula Clinical School

**Supervisory Responsibilities:** This position will provide direct supervision of a small team (approx. 2-5) staff (academic and non-academic) involved in the development and implementation of the NCHA data platform, with potential for additional positions to be appointed

**Financial Delegation:** Not applicable

**Budgetary Responsibilities:** Not applicable

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**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Specific duties required of a Level D research-only academic may include:

1. The conduct of independent research in relation to the NCHA Data Platform as part of the NCHA Data Platform team and within the broader NCHA, including the production of conference and seminar papers and publications from that research

2. Supervision of research-support and administrative staff involved in the NCHA Data Platform

3. A major role in all aspects of major research projects related to the NCHA Data Platform including management and/or leadership of large research projects or teams

4. Supervision of the research of less senior research-only Academic staff involved in the NCHA Data Platform

5. Promotion of research links with outside bodies and building collaborations with national and international leaders aligned with the NCHA Data Platform and health data linkage requirements
6. Preparation of research proposal submissions to external bodies in relation to the NCHA Data Platform research requirements

7. Responsibility for the oversight of financial management of grants related to the NCHA Data Platform

8. Involvement in professional activities including, subject to availability of funds, attendance at conferences and seminars in the field of expertise, including best practice in health data management, data linkage and management, Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMS)

9. Occasional contributions to the teaching program within the field of the staff member’s research

10. Supervision of major honours or postgraduate research projects related to the NCHA Data Platform

11. Higher level research-related administrative functions related to the NCHA Data Platform

12. Some involvement in the development of research policy related to the NCHA Data Platform

13. Attendance at meetings associated with research or the work of the NCHA and the NCHA Data Platform and a major role in planning and commencing work

14. Significant contribution in the areas of health data management, data linkages and PROMS

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Education/Qualifications

1. The appointee will have:
   - Relevant post-graduate qualifications in epidemiology, biostatistics or a closely related discipline with relevant experience applying these skills within the context of health service research; and/or
   - Relevant experience in health data management.

Knowledge and Skills

2. Evidence of a national profile in the relevant discipline with an emerging trajectory of being an international leader in the field and health professional background and experience working within a health service in developing and evaluating new models of health care

3. A significant record of publishing research relevant to the role in high quality international scientific journals with a demonstrated ability to generate research income, including from both traditional and more innovative sources of research funding

4. Demonstrated skills and experience in managing and/or leading large research projects or teams within a laboratory environment, including director supervision of research staff and demonstrated experience in analysis of Electronic Medical Records and other routinely collected data for health services research and evaluation

5. A deep understanding of the research environment and an ability to interact and communicate with researchers as part of an effective inter-disciplinary research team and demonstrated leadership skills and capability, including experience in supervising, mentoring and coaching projects or teams, including direct supervision of research staff to establish and lead a successful research team

6. Strong record of successful supervision of major honours and postgraduate research projects

7. Demonstrated experience in overseeing the reporting and governance issues associated with external funding sources

8. Excellent organisational skills with the ability to work under pressure and to prioritise tasks to meet deadlines and project timelines, including the ability to plan and manage the use of research funds, with demonstrated capacity to establish and achieve goals.

9. Strong work ethic and commitment to team work and ability to work both independently and a demonstrated capacity to work collaboratively as a member of a team
10. Prior experience managing large health research data, including understanding of the data and research requirements related to establishment of the platform including significant experience in data linkage and the application of such processes to complex large-scale research projects

11. Proficiency in Stata, SAS or the R package and knowledge of applicability of advanced data science techniques such as machine learning and Natural Language Processing in health care models

12. Experience and expert knowledge in data linkage including acquisition and governance, data cleaning and analysis of linked data

13. Involvement in mixed methods quality improvement and/or implementation research

OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION

- Travel to other campuses of the University may be required
- There may be a requirement to work additional hours from time to time
- There may be peak periods of work during which taking of leave may be restricted

GOVERNANCE

Monash University expects staff to appropriately balance risk and reward in a manner that is sustainable to its long-term future, contribute to a culture of honesty and integrity, and provide an environment that is safe, secure and inclusive. Ensure you are aware of and adhere to university policies relevant to the duties undertaken and the values of the University. This is a standard which the University sees as the benchmark for all of its activities in Australia and internationally.