

Position Title	Research Associate or Research Fellow
Classification	Level A or Level B
School/Division	UWA Medical School
Centre/Section	The Rural Clinical School of WA
Supervisor Title	Senior Principal Research Fellow
Supervisor Position Number	305373
Position Number	NEW

Your work area

The Rural Clinical School of Western Australia (RCSWA) is a unit within the Medical School of the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, which provides rural clinical training for WA medical students. The RCSWA spans a breadth of some 3,500kms across multiple sites in WA.

RCSWA conducts collaborative community and health services research to improve health outcomes in rural and remote Australia. This includes the ORCHID Study, which aims to enable provision of culturally secure, targeted healthcare for Aboriginal women at high risk of adverse birth outcomes. The ORCHID team is based across WA, in the Kimberley, Great Southern and Southwest regions.

This ORCHID Study Phase 3 position is funded until 30th June 2027 and will help co-design and trial a family centred self-management support program for pregnant Aboriginal women with prediabetes. This position will also support the implementation of our simplified screening approaches for high blood glucose in pregnancy. The ORCHID Study will help empower Aboriginal women and their families to make positive lifestyle choices aimed at improving birth outcomes and preventing progression of chronic diseases.

This Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander identified position would be based in either **Albany, Bunbury, or Geraldton** (other regional Rural Clinical School of WA sites may be considered) and work with the entire state ORCHID Study team, including Aboriginal Research Fellows and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Investigators.

Reporting structure

Reports to: Senior Principal Research Fellow

Your role

Using your Aboriginal cultural knowledge and community networks you will work with the ORCHID Study team, participating communities and their health services to co-design and trial management strategies for pregnant Aboriginal women with prediabetes. You will also assist in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of simplified screening approaches for high blood glucose in pregnancy.

Your key responsibilities

Organise and yarn with Aboriginal women, their families and their health service providers
Contribute to analysis and interpretation of these yarns and co-design management strategies
Support trialling these co-design management strategies
Contribute to feeding back ORCHID Study results to Aboriginal women, communities and health services
Contribute to the preparation and dissemination of ORCHID Study research reports, and other publications, presentations and project resources
Provide cultural leadership, brokerage and advice to non-Indigenous staff
Adhere to any relevant cultural and ethics requirements
Other duties as directed

Level B to be considered:

Provide overall project co-ordination for your local region and all other non-Kimberley project sites
Establish and maintain linkages with relevant external agencies, including Aboriginal Elders, Aboriginal communities, regional, state and national stakeholders, human research ethics committees, and tertiary institutions
Support ORCHID Study Aboriginal Researchers and co-supervise students (e.g., MD Scholarly Activity by research and higher degree by research students)

Your specific work capabilities (selection criteria)

Essential

Demonstrated knowledge and deep understanding of Aboriginal culture and society, and health and wellbeing, and commitment to Aboriginal community consultation and control
Highly developed interpersonal, and verbal and written communication skills
Proficiency in a range of computing skills including word processing, spreadsheets, and email
Highly developed organisational skills and demonstrated ability to plan, set priorities and meet deadlines
Ability to work independently, show initiative and work productively as part of a team

Desirable

Demonstrated skills and experience in community research design, analysis and reporting
Relevant tertiary qualification or demonstrated equivalent competency such as community consultation and engagement

Level B to be considered:

Experience and training to a level equivalent to a Doctor of Philosophy in a relevant health related research field or demonstrated equivalent competency such as community project co-ordination
Post-graduate qualifications in relevant fields (e.g., public health) is desirable

Special requirements (selection criteria)

Aboriginality is a genuine requirement for this position as defined under Section 50(d) of the Equal Opportunity Act 1984

Current 'C' class driver's licence

Regional and interstate travel may be required

Some after-hours work may be required

Compliance

Ensure you are aware of and comply with legislation and University policy relevant to the duties undertaken, including:

The University's Code of Conduct hr.uwa.edu.au/policies/policies/conduct/code/conduct

Inclusion and Diversity web.uwa.edu.au/inclusion-diversity