

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Clinical Epidemiologist

NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Stillbirth (Stillbirth CRE)

Position Title	Clinical Epidemiologist		
Division	Stillbirth CRE		
Position Purpose	The Clinical Epidemiologist will lead high quality, advanced statistical analyses, provide interpretation of results, oversee quality assurance in relation to data management tasks, as well as support the statistical design of studies and trials. This position will also involve mentoring other team members, including training for data management and training with statistical programs for colleagues from non-statistical backgrounds. The Clinical Epidemiologist will work with clinicians and allied health colleagues to achieve high-level research outputs.		
Location	Level 3 Aubigny Place		
Occupational Category and Level	Negotiated		
Reporting Relationship	Stillbirth CRE Director		
Review Date	April 2021		
Next Review Due	April 2022		
Staff Member	TBC	Signature	Date
Direct Supervisor	Prof Vicki Flenady	Signature	Date:

1. OVERVIEW

Mater Group

As a Catholic not-for-profit ministry of Mercy Partners, Mater Group is committed to meeting the healthcare needs of our community through an integrated approach to our health education and research services, which is focused on delivering the highest quality care for our patients. For more than a century in Queensland, Mater has been defined by an abiding commitment to meeting the healthcare needs of the community.

Today, our Mission and Mercy Values continue to guide Mater people in making appropriate decisions for a sustainable, socially relevant healthcare service that is genuinely committed to the community it serves. Mater Group comprises Mater Health, Mater Education, Mater Research and Mater Foundation.

Mater Research

Mater Research (MR) is a world-class institute that is committed to conduct, enable and translate clinically relevant health research. With more than 300 laboratory and clinical researchers working across Mater's hospitals and the world-class Translational Research Institute (TRI), Mater Research is committed to working closely with Mater Health, Mater Education and our growing network of partners to turn scientific discovery into the best possible treatment, care, and outcomes for patients and our broader community.

Mater Research Institute – The University of Queensland

MRI-UQ is an alliance between Mater Research and UQ, providing strategic benefits to both partners. Mater Research brings to the alliance considerable clinical collaboration opportunities and UQ brings all its expertise as a research, education and teaching institution. Mater Research employees, through an affiliation to MRI-UQ have access to world-class research infrastructure and systems.

Translational Research Institute (TRI)

Focusing on a wide range of health and medical research areas, the Translational Research Institute (TRI) is a joint venture between Mater Research (MR) The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute (UQDI), Queensland University of Technology's Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (IHBI), and the Princess Alexandra Hospital's Centres for Health Research. The Translational Research Institute brings these research facilities together with the aim to improve and accelerate the translation of medical research into greater patient care.

NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Stillbirth (Stillbirth CRE)

The NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Stillbirth (Stillbirth CRE) has been established to tackle the problem of stillbirth in Australia. Specifically, the Stillbirth CRE recognises that stillbirth has enormous economic and psychosocial impacts; that there has been virtually no reduction in rates for over 20 years; that large equity gaps exist; and that families whose child is stillbirth often receive suboptimal care.

The Stillbirth CRE is a collaboration of parents, parent advocates, clinicians, researchers, professional colleges, and policy makers. Through a priority driven program, the Stillbirth CRE aims to reduce the rate of stillbirth and improve care for parents and families whose baby is stillborn.

2. HOURS

This is a full time appointment. Working hours need to be agreed with one's supervisor. As with all scientific institutes, we acknowledge the need for flexibility in working hours in order to undertake the experimental procedures appropriate to individual projects.

3. PURPOSE OF POSITION

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4. POSITION DESCRIPTION

4.1. Statistics and Data Management

- Advise researchers on clinical trial designs, sample size considerations, modelling and trial simulation
- Apply statistical techniques for the design, conduct and data analysis of clinical research
- Prepare reports detailing results of statistical analyses, including information in the form of figures and tables as required
- Develop and participate in education and training on clinical statistics if required
- Provide advice and support for researchers in the use of statistical software packages including: Stata, R, SPSS and Excel
- Support development and maintenance of databases for research projects
- Participate in short-term and long-term planning about research database projects including how to efficiently store, maintain, update and analyse various types of data
- Provide overall data management and statistical services for assigned projects and assist researchers to ensure continuity and compliance with milestones.

4.2 Safety in the Workplace and Human Resources

- Maintain a safe working environment.
- Report any potential hazards to the reporting officer.
- Ensure compliance with Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) Standards.
- Treat all clients with sensitivity and without discrimination.
- Responsible to ensure career development plan is met.

4.3 Expression of the Mater Values

- Promote and demonstrate the mission and objectives of MR Limited
- Promote and demonstrate the philosophy and values of the Sisters of Mercy
- Ensure that the mission, objectives, philosophy and values stated above are inherent in the delivery of the health care services by collaborating with and supporting other members of the health care team regarding clinical and research practices
- Demonstrate a strong commitment to the timely delivery of a high quality service to the staff of Mater Research.

5. PRIMARY DELEGATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITIES

- This person reports directly to the Stillbirth CRE Director
- Scientific activity will be undertaken according to the guidelines established by the Institute's Executive Leadership Team
- Demonstrated understanding and commitment to the joint NHMRC/AVCC Statement and Guidelines on Research Practice is required
- Demonstrated understanding and commitment to the NHMRC National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans
- Research activity will be undertaken according to the guidelines established by the Institute's Executive Team
- The use of Institute property, equipment and technical support facilities will respect the guidelines established by the Institute

- Preparation of applications for funding, commercial interactions and financial management of grants shall adhere to the process established by the Institute.

6. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Mater Research will require the assignment of all rights, in and to all discoveries, and inventions made, developed, or devised while working at or under the guidance of the Mater Research, during the term of the appointment.

7. SELECTION CRITERIA

Qualifications

Essential

- A relevant tertiary qualification in clinical epidemiology

Desirable

- A research higher degree qualification in a relevant field

Knowledge and Skills

Essential

- Ability to explain statistical requirements to non-statistical colleagues
- A superior knowledge of and practical experience in the application of mathematical and statistical techniques and ability to problem solve
- Ability to identify problems, research and implement appropriate solutions
- Confidence in statistical knowledge to interface effectively with clients
- Ability to continuously learn and utilise new information and tools
- Confidence in other analysis software tools and other databases
- Demonstrated highly developed administrative skills, including high-level proficiency in the use of MS Office suite
- Demonstrated excellent organisational skills and an ability to interact across multiple functional areas at senior levels
- Demonstrated excellent interpersonal skills and an ability to communicate with a diverse group of researchers
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively in a team, and to independently establish work priorities, to set realistic goals and to meet deadlines.

Desirable

- Knowledge of the policies and procedures related to clinical research
- An understanding of /or ability to acquire knowledge related to perinatal research

Experience

Essential

- Experience with Stata, R, SPSS and Microsoft Excel
- Experience in working with large clinical datasets
- Demonstrated experience with developing and maintaining databases.

Desirable

- Experience with perinatal research

Personal Qualities

Essential

- Highly developed organisational and time management skills
- Ability to work both independently and as a member of a team and to adopt a flexible work approach
- Establish work priorities and set realistic goals, meet deadlines and organise a work environment ensuring team participation
- Demonstrated understanding of and commitment to the promotion of the Hospitals' Philosophy and Mission Statement
- Personal attributes of integrity, tact, sound judgement and respect for confidentiality
- Enthusiasm and willingness to be a flexible part of a busy interactive and interdependent team

- Demonstrated commitment to continued professional development
- Commitment to the Promotion of the Philosophy and Mission of the Mater Misericordiae Hospitals and goals of the Mater Medical Research Institute.

8. REVIEW

The position will be subject to mutual review in 6 months.