



## POSITION DESCRIPTION

**Department of General Practice**  
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

### Research Fellow – Value Based Cancer Care

<b>POSITION NO</b>	0055570
<b>CLASSIFICATION</b>	Level B
<b>SALARY</b>	\$107,547 - \$127,707 p.a.
<b>SUPERANNUATION</b>	Employer contribution of 17%
<b>WORKING HOURS</b>	Full-time (1.0 FTE)
<b>BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT</b>	Fixed term for 2 years
<b>OTHER BENEFITS</b>	<a href="https://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/staff-benefits">https://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers/staff-benefits</a>
<b>HOW TO APPLY</b>	Online applications are preferred. Go to <a href="http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers">http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers</a> , select the relevant option ('Current Opportunities' or 'Jobs available to current staff'), then find the position by title or number.
<b>CONTACT FOR ENQUIRIES ONLY</b>	Prof. Jon Emery Tel +61 3 8559 7044 Email <a href="mailto:jon.emery@unimelb.edu.au">jon.emery@unimelb.edu.au</a>  <i>Please do not send your application to this contact</i>

For information about working for the University of Melbourne, visit our website:  
[about.unimelb.edu.au/careers](http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers)

## ***Position Summary***

The University of Melbourne is a member of the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre Alliance (VCCC). As part of its investment in clinical informatics and health services research, the VCCC and University of Melbourne have co-developed a data-driven research hub that enables better use of existing health data for research. The research hub supports the growth of health services research including work on value-based health care.

The Cancer in Primary Care Research Group is leading studies within the research hub on patterns of care including a newly funded project on value-based diagnostic testing. We are seeking an experienced health economist to join our healthcare data team to support the conduct of this new project which includes discrete choice experiments and analyses of linked primary care, hospital and clinical registry data.

The role requires expertise in health economics, including health services research and epidemiology, with a demonstrated understanding of the interpretation of health service administrative and clinical data.

This role is a University of Melbourne appointment and is based in the VCCC building.

We foster a values-based culture of innovation and creativity to enhance the research performance of the University and to achieve excellence in teaching and research outcomes.

## ***1. Key Responsibilities***

### **1.1 RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING**

- ▶ With broad direction from the supervisor and manager of the VCCC data hub, provide expertise and leadership to the cancer in primary care research data program, with specific focus on value-based care.
- ▶ Supervise doctoral and other research students working on value-based care within the cancer in primary care research data program.
- ▶ Work on your own research projects mapping patterns and costs of care using linked data sets.
- ▶ Produce high quality research outputs in leading peer reviewed journals and disseminate research findings through presentations at conferences and other public forums.
- ▶ Support the preparation of research proposal submissions to external funding bodies.
- ▶ Attend to administrative functions primarily connected with the staff member's area of research and for the research group.
- ▶ Provide input into decisions about future studies including the sourcing of potential funds and the development of grant applications.
- ▶ Prepare materials for ethics submissions and obtain relevant data.
- ▶ Assist with responding to enquiries from external stakeholders and other clinical groups, including enquiries from hospital administrators and external researchers wishing to have advice on, access to and interpretation of data within the VCCC Data Hub.

## 1.2 LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- ▶ Positively engage with team members, and contribute to learning and career development of self and others

## 1.3 TEACHING AND LEARNING

- ▶ Contribute to and participate in teaching and learning activities in the VCCC and the Department of General Practice to develop research capacity in using primary care, hospital and other linked data sources, with specific focus on value-based care.
- ▶ Support the development of educational programs to build researcher capabilities in use of large-scale linked data for research.
- ▶ Actively participate in meetings and committees as appropriate
- ▶ Other duties commensurate with the position as directed by the Supervisors.

## 1.4 RESPONSIBILITY AND COMPLIANCE

- ▶ Maintain a sound knowledge of current University Policy and Procedures, and reliably follow these or provide compliant advice to others.
- ▶ Reliably follow communications protocols and/or policies as appropriate.
- ▶ Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities as outlined in Section 5.
- ▶ Behavioural Expectations - All staff are expected to maintain the following behaviours:
  - Treat everyone equitably; act fairly with staff and demonstrate respect for diversity
  - Be an effective team player who is cooperative and gains the trust and support of staff, peers and clients through collaboration.
- ▶ Create ethics applications and report to the ethics committees
- ▶ The responsibilities as specified above may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the position.

## 2. Selection Criteria

In order to be considered for interview by the Selection Panel, applicants must address the following Criteria in their application. Please visit the University website how to address [Essential Selection Criteria](#)

### 2.1 ESSENTIAL

- ▶ PhD in relevant discipline such as health economics, data sciences, or health services research
- ▶ Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively within a research team to achieve project goals and meet deadlines, and manage their time effectively
- ▶ Demonstrated ability to work independently using a range of health economic methods and analytical approaches.
- ▶ Demonstrated ability to articulate research through presentation in a public forum including conferences.

- ▶ Demonstrated excellent verbal and written communication skills for effective research collaboration and engagement.

## 2.2 DESIRABLE

- ▶ Experience conducting discrete choice experiments or similar stated preference methods
- ▶ Experience with primary care or hospital data and registries, and the analysis of linked data sets for health services research
- ▶ Demonstrated knowledge of relevant statistical and database software packages.
- ▶ Demonstrated knowledge of or familiarity with cancer health services
- ▶ Demonstrated experience of supervision of research higher degree students

## 2.3 SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE ROLE

Staff may be required to travel to, or work from, other sites and campuses as required both, local and/or international travel.

## 3. *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 addresses 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.

## 4. *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:

<https://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.

## 5. Other Information

### 5.1 DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL PRACTICE

[www.gp.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.gp.unimelb.edu.au)

The Department of General Practice originated as a unit within the Department of Community Medicine in 1977. It was established as a separate department within the School of Medicine in 2001 and established the Primary Care Research Unit (PCRU) as a centre of excellence in primary care research, research training and knowledge exchange in 2006. The Department has 68 (full time equivalent) staff supported by an operating budget of \$7 million and research income of approximately \$11 million annually.

With an increased profile within the Melbourne Medical School, the Department has utilised its growing network of general practitioners (GPs) and primary health care providers in the community to ensure that University of Melbourne medical students are provided with quality community-based medical education. The Department delivers postgraduate training for primary care nurses, and research training for medical, honours, masters (4) and PhD students (18). For more than 20 years, the Department has run a very successful General Practice academic registrar program where doctors who are training to be GPs (GP registrars) undertake a half time special skills post in academic medicine to experience an introduction to research and university teaching. We average around three academic registrars per year.

The Department has a successful Primary Care Research Unit (PCRU), including a Trials Unit with a practice-based research and education network (VicREN), which comprises our community-based general practices (600+) and other primary care providers who contribute to and drive teaching and research. A proportion of our VicREN members are a part of our Data for Decisions (D4D) Community of Practice. In this D4D program general practices have an agreement with the Department to share their electronic medical record (EMR) data for research and policy advocacy; participating practices have also undertaken a process with their patients to opt out if they do not want their data shared. The EMR data is de-identified before it leaves the practice and is stored in a secure data repository managed by the Department, called Patron. Patron has a management group and an independent governance group with representatives who are consumers, GPs, practice managers, researchers, IT technical, and legal experts.

Our cross-cutting research themes include clinical biostatistics, implementation science, clinical informatics, co-design, and health services research. Central to our work is understanding the patient and practitioner experience and through co-production methodologies involving them in identifying the challenges and designing and testing solutions. Using clinical data analytics, we explore patient pathways through health care and describe the epidemiology of health and disease in primary care. With a focus on primary care innovation, we develop, test and implement simple and complex interventions including digital technologies, such as a range of risk stratification and point-of-care decision making tools. The Department also has successful research programs in specialised areas in Cancer; Children and Young People's Health; Clinical Data Informatics, Data Driven Quality Improvement, Integrated Mental Health; Sexual Health, and Abuse and Violence.

## 5.2 UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE CENTRE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Led by Professor Sean Grimmond, the University of Melbourne Centre for Cancer Research (UMCCR) aims to foster innovation and integration in cancer care, research, education and training to achieve a world-leading cancer centre and workforce. It brings together leading cancer researchers from across the University to enable collaboration that ultimately results in improved outcomes for cancer patients.

## 5.3 VICTORIAN COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTRE (VCCC)

The vision for the VCCC is to save lives through the integration of cancer research, education and patient care. Founded in the holistic principles of the internationally-recognised Comprehensive Cancer Centre model, the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre is a powerful alliance of 10 leading research and clinical institutions with a shared commitment to working together to advance and accelerate cancer research, treatments, preventions and cures. The VCCC's multi-site, multi-disciplinary model brings together the complementary strengths of Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne Health (including The Royal Melbourne Hospital), The University of Melbourne, The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, The Royal Women's Hospital, The Royal Children's Hospital, Western Health, St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne (including St Vincent's Institute), Austin Health (including the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Research Institute and Austin Lifesciences) and Murdoch Children's Research Institute.

## 5.4 FACULTY OF MEDICINE, DENTISTRY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

[www.mdhs.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.mdhs.unimelb.edu.au)

The Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and 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 \$630M 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.

## 5.5 THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Established in 1853, the University of Melbourne is a leading international university with a tradition of excellence in teaching and research. The main campus in Parkville 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. With

outstanding performance in international rankings, the University is at the forefront of higher education in the Asia-Pacific region and the world.

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 <http://about.unimelb.edu.au/careers>

## 5.6 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.

## 5.7 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 <https://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy/governance>