POSITION DESCRIPTION



Department of General Practice

Melbourne Medical School

Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

Research fellow: Clinical trials in young people’s mental health

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| Position No | 0050065 |
| Classification | Research Fellow 1, Level A or Research Fellow 2, Level BLevel of appointment is subject to qualifications and experience |
| Salary | $72,083 to $97,812 p.a. (pro-rata) (Level A)$102,967 to $110,685 p.a. (pro-rata) (Level B.1 – B.3) |
| Superannuation | Employer contribution of 9.5% |
| WORKING HOURS | Part-time (0.8 FTE)  |
| BASIS OF EMPLOYMENT | Fixed-Term until 31 December 2023 Work Focus Category: Research |
| 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](http://hr.unimelb.edu.au/careers), select the relevant option (‘Current Staff’ or ‘Prospective Staff’), then find the position by title or number. |
| contactFor enquiries only | Ysabella VoTel +61 3 8344 9010Email Ysabella.vo@unimelb.edu.auPlease do not send your application to this contact |

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

Position Summary

The Department of General Practice works with communities and practitioners to improve the healthcare system, placing the person at the heart of healthcare and improving health outcomes. We have strength in a wide variety of research methodologies such as analysing and interpreting primary care data, randomised trials of complex interventions, mixed methods research including qualitative design, cohort and cross-sectional studies, and robust evaluation methods. The Children and Young People’s Research Program is seeking to appoint a Research Fellow (Youth Mental Health clinical trials) to manage an intervention study in the Million Minds initiative entitled: *Bringing family, community, culture and country to the centre of health care: culturally appropriate models for improving mental health and wellbeing in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people*. In this exciting new role, you will work with expert researchers in primary care, Indigenous health, mental health, health economics, and population health. You will work closely with the two lead investigators Professor Lena Sanci, Head of the Department of General Practice, University of Melbourne and Professor Sandra Eades, Head of the Curtin Medical School, Curtin University. You will report directly to Professor Lena Sanci and your role will include occasional travel to the trial site in Western Australia.

This exciting and challenging role will suit you if you are a researcher with an interest in the health and wellbeing of Indigenous young people, co-design of interventions and their implementation with youth and community, interventions which include but reach beyond medical to embrace psychosocial perspectives, and service navigation in health services. You will also need considerable knowledge, experience and confidence in quantitative research methods and in randomised controlled trial methodology to test the effectiveness of clinical interventions. As the Research Fellow you will manage all phases of the intervention study from co-design to trial phase, analysis and reporting. You will work with a team of experienced Principal Investigators, a data manager, a Biostatistician and some administrative assistance. A high level of initiative will be required.

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.

We invest in developing the careers and wellbeing of our students and staff and expect all our leaders to live our values of:

* Collaboration and teamwork
* Compassion
* Respect
* Integrity
* Accountability

# Key Responsibilities

## research and research training

* Co-ordinate and manage all phases of the intervention study from the co-design to trial phase, participant recruitment, data management, data analysis and reporting.
* Oversee the trial implementation according to regulations and standards for good clinical practice and adherence to study protocols, ethical requirements and timelines
* Engage and communicate effectively with key stakeholders
* Liaise closely with study investigators to ensure the smooth running of the trial
* Monitor and track progress and obstacles during the clinical trial and respond to day-to-day problems.
* Establish and coordinate the data monitoring committee.
* Contribute to the preparation of manuscripts related to the trial for submission to peer-reviewed journals and conference presentations, or others relevant to the Children and Young People’s Research Program as directed
* Undertake other suitable duties commensurate with the position as directed by your supervisor.
* Contribute to the development of research funding applications.

### In addition to the above, the Research Fellow, Level B appointee will be required to:

* Lead the development of the study trial protocols, trial registration ethics applications, procedure manuals and study materials
* Develop, implement and monitor enrolment strategies of study participants including training and preparation of research and support staff for the recruitment function (such as, recruitment, data collection and data processing)
* Manage the budget and schedule during the clinical trial.
* Design and implement a communication strategy about the trial for external stakeholders including contributing to the development of policy briefs.
* Identification of sources of funding to support individual projects, relating to research practice in the discipline and assistance in the preparation of high quality funding applications

## teaching and learning

* Opportunities to be involved in tutoring in the medical curriculum, research short-courses and research student supervision as appropriate

## SErvice and Leadership

* Actively contribute to the team and demonstrate flexibility in adapting to team priorities
* Contribution to the research culture of the School, Faculty and broader University through attendance at meetings and membership of committees
* Effective demonstration and promotion of University values including diversity and inclusion and high standards of ethics and integrity
* Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) responsibilities as outlined in section 4.

# Selection Criteria

Essential

* Extensive experience and tertiary qualification or a Postgraduate qualification in a health, social or behavioural related discipline
* Demonstrated interest and experience in establishing and overseeing trials of complex intervention on the healthcare setting and working with teams to achieve this.
* Demonstrated experience in large scale project management and excellent organisational skills.
* Demonstrated ability to apply research methodologies and quantitative and qualitative data analysis
* Knowledge of research design, excellent critical appraisal and literature reviewing skills
* Demonstrated excellent verbal and written communication skills, and ability to adapt communication style as required
* Demonstrated experience and effectiveness working both independently and as a part of a team, and of leading others in a team to achieve project goals and meet agreed deadlines
* Demonstrated ability to interact in an effective, collegial and courteous manner with staff, stakeholders and study participants
* A high level of initiative with the ability to contribute to new project development

## Desirable

* Prior experience in Indigenous health and/or working in Indigenous communities
* Prior experience with young people’s health

In addition to the above, to be appointed at level B:

* PhD in a related field
* Track record of leading or contributing to peer-reviewed journal publications and conference presentations
* Demonstrated success in obtaining research funding

## Special Requirements

* Driver’s licence
* Willingness and capacity to undertake approximately two to three field trips per year to Western Australia (Perth and Bunbury) region as appropriate.

# 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 University’s People Strategy 2015-2020 and policies 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 deserve to service for excellence and reach the targets of Growing Esteem.

# 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/topics/responsibilities/>

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

# Other Information

department of general practice

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 51 (full time equivalent) staff supported by an operating budget of $5.6 million and research income of approximately $6 million annually.

With an increased profile within the MMS, 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 (6) and PhD (26) students. For more than 20 years the Department has run a very successful General Practice academic registrar program.

The Department has a successful Primary Care Research Unit (PCRU) including a Clinical Trials Unit with a practice-based research and education network (VicREN) comprised of our community-based general practices and other primary care providers who contribute to and drive teaching and research.

A proportion of our VicREN members are a part of our PATRON Community of Practice where de-identified electronic practice data are stored to drive impactful research to advance primary care policy and practice. Our cross-cutting research themes include clinical data analytics, implementation science and health services research. Central to our work is understanding the patient and practitioner experience, 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, Diabetes and Cardio-Metabolic Conditions, Mental Health, and Abuse and Violence.

## melbourne medical school

http://medicine.unimelb.edu.au/

The Melbourne Medical School (MMS) was established in 1862 and has a substantial international reputation for its leadership in teaching and training, health research, policy and practice. The MMS is committed to working with the communities we serve to improve health and advance health care. We will do this through our teaching, learning, research, clinical care and advocacy.

The MMS is composed of nine clinical departments (Clinical Pathology, General Practice, Medical Education, Medicine and Radiology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Paediatrics, Psychiatry, Rural Health and Surgery) which are embedded within clinical health services throughout metropolitan Melbourne and rural Victoria.

The MMS delivers a suite of health related graduate programs including the Doctor of Medicine (MD), the first professional entry Masters level medical program in Australia. The Melbourne MD delivers a fresh approach to medical training and creates a new benchmark in 21st century medical education.

The MMS is committed to improving the wellbeing of the community through the discovery and application of new knowledge.  The research effort of the school is highly collaborative and spans basic to translational research and involves over 800 graduate researchers and 1000 academic staff.

The MMS also actively participates in the public debate and advocacy around key health issues and policy based on our values of commitment, integrity, compassion, respect and service.

## 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.

## 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>.

## Growing Esteem, the Melbourne Curriculum and Research at melbourne: Ensuring excellence and impact to 2025

Growing Esteem describes Melbourne's strategy to achieve its aspiration to be a public-spirited and internationally-engaged institution, highly regarded for making distinctive contributions to society in research and research training, learning and teaching, and engagement. <http://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy-and-leadership>

The University is at the forefront of Australia's changing higher education system and offers a distinctive model of education known collectively as the Melbourne Curriculum. The new educational model, designed for an outstanding experience for all students, is based on six broad undergraduate programs followed by a graduate professional degree, research higher degree or entry directly into employment. The emphasis on academic breadth as well as disciplinary depth in the new degrees ensures that graduates will have the capacity to succeed in a world where knowledge boundaries are shifting and reforming to create new frontiers and challenges. In moving to the new model, the University is also aligning itself with the best of emerging European and Asian practice and well-established North American traditions.

The University’s global aspirations seek to make significant contributions to major social, economic and environmental challenges. Accordingly, the University’s research strategy *Research at Melbourne: Ensuring Excellence and Impact to 2025* aspires to a significant advancement in the excellence and impact of its research outputs. <http://research.unimelb.edu.au/our-research/research-at-melbourne>

The strategy recognises that as a public-spirited, research-intensive institution of the future, the University must strive to make a tangible impact in Australia and the world, working across disciplinary and sectoral boundaries and building deeper and more substantive engagement with industry, collaborators and partners. While cultivating the fundamental enabling disciplines through investigator-driven research, the University has adopted three grand challenges aspiring to solve some of the most difficult problems facing our world in the next century. These Grand Challenges include:

Understanding our place and purpose – The place and purpose grand challenge centres on understanding all aspects of our national identity, with a focus on Australia’s ‘place’ in the Asia-Pacific region and the world, and on our ‘purpose’ or mission to improve all dimensions of the human condition through our research.

Fostering health and wellbeing – The health and wellbeing grand challenge focuses on building the scale and breadth of our capabilities in population and global health; on harnessing our contribution to the ‘convergence revolution’ of biomedical and health research, bringing together the life sciences, engineering and the physical sciences; and on addressing the physical, mental and social aspects of wellbeing by looking beyond the traditional boundaries of biomedicine.

Supporting sustainability and resilience – The sustainability and resilience grand challenge addresses the critical issues of climate change, water and food security, sustainable energy and designing resilient cities and regions. In addition to the technical aspects, this grand challenge considers the physical and social functioning of cities, connecting physical phenomena with lessons from our past, and the implications of the technical solutions for economies, living patterns and behaviours.

Essential to tackling these challenges, an outstanding faculty, high performing students, wide collaboration including internationally and deep partnerships with external parties form central components of Research at Melbourne: Ensuring Excellence and Impact to 2025.

## 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 <http://www.unimelb.edu.au/governance>