

Research Officer

College/Division College of Health and Medicine

School/Section Menzies Institute for Medical Research

Location Medical Science Precinct, Hobart

Classification HEO5

Reporting line Reports to Professorial Research Fellow

Position Summary

The University of Tasmania is building a vision of a place-based University with a mission to enhance the intellectual, economic, social and culture future of Tasmania, and from Tasmania, contribute to the world in areas of distinctive advantage. The University recognises that achieving this vision is dependent on the people we employ as well as creating a people-centred University that is values-based, relational, diverse, and development-focused.

We are seeking to appoint a Research Officer at the <u>Menzies Institute for Medical Research</u> (Menzies), part of the College of Health and Medicine.

Menzies is one of Australia's leading health and medical research institutes and is recognised worldwide for its research excellence. Menzies' mission is to perform internationally significant medical research leading to healthier, longer and better lives for all Tasmanians. Research takes a bench-to-bedside and disease prevention approach that is aimed at improving patient care and clinical outcomes for the community by translating knowledge into clinical and policy actions and through the commercial application of discoveries. Tasmania, an island state with a population of over 500,000 people, has a discrete health system that enables close engagement with the University and with government agencies and health providers and offers a unique framework for translational health research.

The Research Officer assist with research to establish the evidence base for genetic risk profiling in Glaucoma, specifically how a novel glaucoma polygenic risk score (PRS) can enable specialist care to be prioritised for those patients at highest risk of vision loss, reducing the health economic impact of blindness and increasing efficiency in our health system with a protocolised model of care. This research will provide a framework by which a NATA accredited PRS for glaucoma can be ordered by clinicians and the results seamlessly incorporated into a collaborative-care pathway, improving access to care for all patients enabling early treatment for high-risk patients. The incumbent will directly coordinate the recruitment and clinical profiling of people with or suspected of having glaucoma and will be integral for patient recruitment, enrolment, and monitoring of research participants.

We are an inclusive workplace committed to 'working from the strength that diversity brings' reflected in our Statement of Values. We are dedicated to attracting, retaining and developing our people and are committed to inclusive principles. We celebrate the range of diverse assets that gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, age and life course bring. Applications are encouraged from all sectors of the community. Tell us how we can make this job work for you.

What You'll Do

- Identify and recruit eligible participants by collaborating with ophthalmology and local optometry clinics.
- Provide informed consent to potential participants to ensure understanding of the research aims, procedures, risks, and benefits.
- Coordinate ophthalmic clinical activities including appointment scheduling, follow-up visits, and communication with research patients.



- Collect and manage accurate clinical data from patient interactions, and follow-up assessments, ensuring data integrity and confidentiality.
- Perform basic ophthalmic screening, such as automated visual field testing, OCT imaging and retinal photography.
- Be familiar with and comply with relevant legislation, policies and procedures including workplace health and safety requirements.
- Participate and support Institute Advancement activities, including community engagement and donor relations, as relevant.
- Undertake other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

What We're Looking For (success criteria)

- A degree level qualification in a relevant area or an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training.
- Experience in Ophthalmic Clinical assessment is desirable but not essential.
- Excellent organisational skills, with the ability to be self-directed and use initiative.
- Record-keeping skills appropriate to carrying out a scientific investigation.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to interact effectively with a range of people and organisations.
- Demonstrated ability to perform tasks with a high degree of attention to detail.
- Demonstrated ability to use computerised systems.

Other position requirements

- Current Working with Vulnerable People registration (or to be obtained)
- Current 'C' class driver's licence
- Regular interstate travel may be required to deliver research outcomes

University of Tasmania

The University of Tasmania is an institution with an enduring commitment to our state and community, and a strong global outlook. We are committed to enhancing the intellectual, economic, social and cultural future of Tasmania. Our Strategic Direction strongly reflects the University community's voice that our University must be place based but globally connected as well as regionally networked and designed to deliver quality access to higher education for the whole State.

We believe that from our unique position here in Tasmania we can impact the world through the contributions of our staff, students and graduates. We recognise that achieving this vision is dependent on the people we employ, as well as creating a university that is values-based, relational, diverse, and development-focused.

Check out more here:

https://www.utas.edu.au/jobs

https://www.utas.edu.au/careers/our-people-values-and-behaviours

The intention of this position description is to highlight the most important aspects, rather than to limit the scope or accountabilities of this role. Duties above may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the position.

