Honours Project Booklet
2016
School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine
The School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine (SPHPM) is the second biggest School within the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences at Monash University. The School provides a strong research environment with millions of dollars in research funding. The SPHPM is well known nationally and internationally for providing leadership in understanding, advancement, education and practical application of the discipline of public health issues and practices thereby improving health outcomes for the Australian community.

The SPHPM principal expertise lies in epidemiology (including clinical epidemiology), biostatistics, health economics, large scale clinical data-management and health services research.

Our Honours program offers a career path into many areas of public health and clinical research. The School runs the Honours program for the Bachelor of Health Science and Honours Streams for the Bachelor of Medical Science and the Bachelor of Biomedical Science.

For enquires regarding the SPHPM Honours Programs:

**Bachelor of Medical Science (BMedSc) & Bachelor of Biomedical Science (BBiomedSc):**

Associate Professor Allen Cheng  
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**Bachelor of Health Science (BHSc):**

Dr Charles Livingstone  
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How to use this index booklet

This index booklet lists the Honours Projects available for 2016. For further information about a particular research project, see the project description in the online database: studentresearchprojects.med.monash.edu.au/

A full listing of projects is also available on the SPHPM Honours webpage: www.med.monash.edu/sphpm/honours/

For further information regarding individual projects students should contact the nominated researcher associated with that project.

Making your application

Information regarding the individual programs, entry requirements and application process can be found at: www.med.monash.edu/sphpm/honours/

Information regarding available scholarships can also be found at this website.
Clinical Epidemiology Division

Quantifying the risk of infection in high risk organ donors
Supervisors: Professor Allen Cheng and Dr Joe Sasadeucsz
Email: allen.cheng@monash.edu

Mechanisms underlying the contribution of uremic toxins to cardiorenal syndrome
Supervisor: Dr Andrew Kompa
Email: Andrew.kompa@monash.edu

Structural changes in the hip joint – a pathway toward better understanding osteoarthritis
Supervisors: Professor Flavia Cicuttini and Dr Andrew Teichtahl
Email: flavia.cicuttini@monash.edu

The effect of body composition and physical activity on hip structure in a community-based population without clinical hip osteoarthritis
Supervisors: Dr Yuanyuan Wang and Professor Flavia Cicuttini
Email: yuanyuan.wang@monash.edu

The role of lifestyle factors on knee structure in a community-based population: a longitudinal study
Supervisors: Dr Yuanyuan Wang and Professor Flavia Cicuttini
Email: yuanyuan.wang@monash.edu

Obesity and knee joint health
Supervisors: A/Professor Anit Wluka and Professor Flavia Cicuttini
Email: anita.wluka@monash.edu

What is the role of body composition (obesity) in the development of musculoskeletal pain in disability?
Supervisors: Dr Donna Urquhart, Professor Flavia Cicuttini and A/Professor Anita Wluka
Email: donna.urquhart@monash.edu

Does the structure of the spine matter in low back pain?
Supervisors: Dr Donna Urquhart and Professor Flavia Cicuttini
Email: donna.urquhart@monash.edu

MRI investigation of spinal and abdominal muscles in low back pain
Supervisors: Dr Donna Urquhart and Professor Flavia Cicuttini
Email: donna.urquhart@monash.edu

Muscle size and strength and the early structural changes of knee Osteoarthritis
Supervisors: A/Professor Anit Wluka, Professor Flavia Cicuttini and Dr Yuanyuan Wang
Email: anita.wluka@monash.edu

Change in knee structure in healthy women and the relationship to bone health
Supervisors: A/Professor Anit Wluka, Dr Yuanyuan Wang and Professor Flavia Cicuttini
Email: anita.wluka@monash.edu

Bone health and back pain
Supervisors: A/Professor Anit Wluka, Dr Donna Urquhart and Professor Flavia Cicuttini
Email: anita.wluka@monash.edu

Circulating microRNAs as biomarkers for cardiovascular diseases
Supervisor: A/Professor Bing Wang
Email: bing.wang@monash.edu

Novel anti-fibrotic therapy for cardiovascular diseases
Supervisor: A/Professor Bing Wang
Email: bing.wang@monash.edu

The real cost of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
Supervisors: Professor Ajay Mahal and Professor Michael Abramson
Email: ajay.mahal@monash.edu

Critical Care Research

Does cooling in severe Traumatic Brain Injury cause expansion of brain bleeding?
Supervisors: Professor Jamie Cooper
Email: Jamie.cooper@monash.edu

Trauma Quality Improvement in India
Supervisor: Dr Gerard O’Reilly
Email: teresa.howard@monash.edu
Health Services

Patient knowledge of their discharge diagnosis
Supervisors: Associate Professor Biswadev Mitra and Dr Alexander Olausen
Email: biswadev.mitra@monash.edu

Pregnancy outcomes reported by Australian men
Supervisors: Dr Sara Holton and Dr Karin Hammarberg
Email: sara.holton@monash.edu

The fertility management experiences of Australian women and men reporting a mental health condition
Supervisors: Dr Sara Holton and Dr Heather Rowe
Email: sara.holton@monash.edu

The impact of polycystic ovary syndrome on the fertility management experiences of Australian women
Supervisors: Dr Sara Holton and Dr Heather Rowe
Email: sara.holton@monash.edu

Fertility and childbearing among people who stored reproductive material before being treated for cancer
Supervisor: Dr Karin Hammarberg
Email: karin.hammarberg@monash.edu

The care experiences of people with dementia in the acute hospital setting
Supervisors: Dr Darshini Ayton and Associate Professor Anna Barker
Email: Darshini.Ayton@monash.edu

The impact of implementation strategies on safety climate
Supervisors: Dr Sze-Ee Soh and A/Professor Anna Barker
Email: Sze-Ee.Soh@monash.edu

Sodium and water balance in patients admitted to the ICU following aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage (aSAH): A prospective observational study
Supervisor: Dr Andrew Udy
Email: andrew@udy.com

The role of TrueNth Central Care Coordinator in men experiencing poor quality of life outcome
Supervisor: Dr Rasa Ruseckaite
Email: rasa.ruseckaite@monash.edu

Prostate cancer in regional and metropolitan Victoria and South Australia: exploring the perspectives of patients, their carers, men with no prostate cancer and General Practitioners
Supervisor: Dr Rasa Ruseckaite
Email: rasa.ruseckaite@monash.edu

Discrimination, aging and health: exploratory pilot study to improve implicit and explicit measures of exposure
Supervisor: Dr Rosalie Aroni
Email: rosalie.aroni@monash.edu

Prevention Science Division

Sleep quality, insomnia and hypnotic use in the Healthy Elderly
Supervisors: Dr Stephanie Ward, Dr Robyn Woods and Dr Carlene Britt
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Pain in healthy older adults
Supervisors: Dr Stephanie Ward, Dr Robyn Woods and Dr Carlene Britt
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Department of Forensic Medicine

THC kinetics in the first day of cannabis abstinence in heavy users
Supervisors: A/Professor Morris Odell, Dr Dimitri Gerostamoulos and Dr Matthew Frei
Email: morris.odell@vifm.org
Determinants of cigarette smoking among adolescents in Indonesia

**Supervisors:** Dr Kathryn Backholer and Winda Ng

**Email:** Kathryn.backholer@bakeridi.edu.au

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Sexting, porn, and Tinder. An investigation of education and health promotion needs and evidence

**Supervisor:** Dr Megan Lim

**Email:** lim@burnet.edu.au

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Trends in STI testing and positivity in priority populations in Australia

**Supervisors:** Ms Caroline van Gemert and Ms Carol El Hayek

**Email:** carolinevg@burnet.edu.au

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Sex, drugs and rock’n’roll: Young people and risk behaviours

**Supervisors:** Dr Megan Lim and Professor Margaret Hellard

**Email:** lim@burnet.edu.au

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Investigating the acquisition and maintenance of immunity to malaria in infants and pregnant women

**Supervisors:** Dr Freya Fowkes and Dr James Beeson

**Email:** fowkes@burnet.edu.au

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Low income as a barrier to opioid substitution therapy

**Supervisors:** Dr Peter Higgs and Professor Paul Dietze

**Email:** peterh@burnet.edu.au

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Mapping public injecting drug use in urban Melbourne

**Supervisors:** Professor Paul Dietze, Dr Peter Higgs & Ms Rebecca Winter

**Email:** pauld@burnet.edu.au

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The persistence of risk among people who inject drugs

**Supervisors:** Professor Paul Dietze and Dr Peter Higgs

**Email:** pauld@burnet.edu.au

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Why do some people with hepatitis C continue to drink?

**Supervisors:** Professor Margaret Hellard and Dr Peter Higgs

**Email:** peterh@burnet.edu.au

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Agents of YEAH Needs Assessment

**Supervisor:** Dr Megan Lim

**Email:** lim@burnet.edu.au

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Understanding and reducing the barriers to community based point of care hepatitis C testing in people who inject drugs

**Supervisor:** Professor Margaret Hellard

**Email:** hellard@burnet.edu.au

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Understanding risky single occasion drinking and links to harm in a cohort of young Melbournians

**Supervisor:** Paul Dietze

**Email:** pauld@burnet.edu.au

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Investigating blood/blood product donation practices among Australian people who inject drugs (PWID)

**Supervisors:** Professor Margaret Hellard and Dr Brendan Quinn

**Email:** brendanq@burnet.edu.au
Further Information

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