

PhD Student Top-Up Stipend (\$9,000)

www.med.monash.edu.au/psych/students/scholarships.html

Project title: Characterising gait and upper limb disorder in Friedreich ataxia

We are searching for a PhD student to work in the Experimental Neuropsychology Research Unit under the supervision of Associate Professor Nellie Georgiou-Karistianis and with co-supervision from a unique world-class interdisciplinary team including Dr Louise Corben (Occupational Therapist and Cognitive Neuroscientist), Professor Martin Delatycki (Geneticist), Dr Darren Hocking (Developmental and Cognitive Neuroscientist), and Professor Kim Cornish (Developmental and Cognitive Neuroscientist).

The project will involve examining gait function in adult onset Friedreich ataxia using a GAITRite system (electronic pressure sensitive walkway) to measure both spatial and temporal gait parameters, as well as an assessment of upper limb movement using touch screen tablet technology. This project will enable both clinical and quantified gait and upper limb kinematic assessment and may provide a sensitive measure of functional change in FRDA against which the efficacy of novel interventions can be tested down the track.

We propose to assess the degree of correlation between gait and upper limb kinematic parameters and important disease markers such as age of disease onset, disease duration, GAA repeat size, and clinical severity score.

A top-up stipend of \$9,000 (\$3,000 per year for three years) will be awarded to the successful candidate who must have an already successful APA or other such scholarship.

For more information please contact:

Associate Professor Nellie Georgiou-Karistianis

Telephone: 9905 1575

Email: nellie.georgiou-karistianis@monash.edu

Web: www.med.monash.edu.au/psych/students/scholarships.html

