

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Safewards -Collection and Analysis of Baseline Data</b>
<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Louise Botha/Patrice Murray</b>
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<b>Lead discipline (please select one)</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Nursing</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Health Economics</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Allied Health</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Biostatistics</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Medicine</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Value-based Healthcare</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pre-clinical</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Epidemiology</b>

<b>Outline of the project</b>
<p>The Nurses and Midwives: Towards a Safer Culture Strategy outlines our vision of an ACT public health care system where staff, patients and visitors are protected from harm and feel safe at all times. The Strategy makes recommendations for creating a safer and healthier environment for all staff and persons who enter ACT public health workplaces.</p> <p>One priority action that will significantly impact and effective change in the ACT public health services is the implementation of the Safewards model and interventions. Safewards model and interventions is known to enhance the safety of healthcare staff and consumers and contribute to safer environments to better enable workplaces to employ strategies that use least restrictive practices and promote a safer, more respectful, recovery-orientated therapeutic environments and relationships.</p> <p>The objective of the Safewards model as an evidence based initiative is designed to reduce conflict and containment or restrictive practices within in-patient units by identifying and addressing the causes of behaviours in staff and patients that may result in harm (conflict) and reduce the likelihood of this occurring.</p> <p>There are six originating domains that are known to give rise to flashpoints defined as social and psychological situations arising out of features of the originating domains, signalling, and proceeding imminent conflict behaviours (National Institute for Health Research, 2013). Staff can make a difference in the way they manage flashpoints and even if there is conflict, they can manage the situation using interventions to reduce the requirement for restrictive practices.</p>

### **Proposed research methods**

A mixed methods approach for baseline data collection will be used to combine elements of qualitative and quantitative data.

The student will be required to:

- Collate and analyse champions training data collected
- Assist in the administration of Staff training survey
- Assist in the delivery of a focus group to assess staff understanding of benefits of Safewards
- Assist in the thematic analysis of data collected in focus groups

Prepare a report on findings and any potential recommendations that will be presented to local working groups and Steering Committee

No ethics application is required as this work falls into the service improvement/quality improvement domain

### **Preferred study discipline being undertaken by the student**

Nursing and Midwifery  
Medicine  
Medical Science  
Allied Health  
Health Admin

### **Potential benefits to the student and to the department**

Student:

- Develop research and analysis skills
- Gain an understanding of ACT Health data collection and sources
- Participate in audit tool analysis
- Develop understanding of the work health and safety issue in Health

ACT Health Directorate:

- Data collection and analysis of data on occupational violence
- Recommendations to inform the activities and next priorities for the NM TASC team

### **Department within ACT Health Directorate / Canberra Health Services where the student will be based**

ACT Health Directorate, Office of Professional Leadership and Education, Chief Nurse and Midwifery Office

Please submit form to [preclinical.research@act.gov.au](mailto:preclinical.research@act.gov.au)