

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Identifying gaps in the integration of heart failure management across the healthcare ecosystem.</b>
<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Professor Walter Abhayaratna</b>
<b>Address</b>	<b>Level 2, Building 4, Canberra Hospital</b>
<b>Telephone</b>	<b>+ 61 2 5124 3442</b>
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:Walter.P.Abhayaratna@act.gov.au">Walter.P.Abhayaratna@act.gov.au</a>

**Lead discipline (please select one)**

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing and Midwifery | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Economics                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allied Health         | <input type="checkbox"/> Biostatistics                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medicine              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Value-based Healthcare |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-clinical          | <input type="checkbox"/> Epidemiology                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Policy         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                             |

**Outline of the project 250 words max**

Heart failure (HF) is a chronic disease estimated to affect 480,000 Australians, with more than 60,000 people diagnosed each year. It has a high burden of disease, not only due to acute management expenditure, but also due to the high readmission rates. It is estimated that HF management costs Australia up to \$1 billion. A reduction in readmission rates would decrease its financial costs, but more importantly improve patient care.

In order to reduce HF readmission rates, it is important to identify the gaps in HF care. To do so, two areas will be investigated in the context of HF: (1) chronic disease management at multiple levels of healthcare, including at the micro-system level (patient-care interaction), meso-system level (healthcare-community organisation) and macro-system level (healthcare policy and financing); and (2) integration within and alignment between these levels of care.

This project aims to review the current literature on HF management and integration of care. The review will allow us to determine what principles and tools can be employed to improve HF care and reduce readmission rates long term. The results of this project will aid in future studies that assess the current system through observing the micro-, meso- and macro-system level factors that predict HF readmission rates in Australia. Results from these observational studies may provide a foundation for further interventional studies.

**Proposed research methods**

Conduct a literature review on current HF management strategies:

- a. Perform a study search for journal articles relevant to the research question
- b. Study selection, compliant with PRISMA protocol and guidelines
- c. Present the findings from the literature review and identify gaps in the published literature in a report that will be compliant with the peer-reviewed journal requirements

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

Medicine

**Benefits to the student and to the department**

Benefits to the student:

1. Increase medical knowledge on topic of heart failure;
2. Increase skills in research methodology and critical appraisal of medical literature;
3. Increase knowledge on systematic review methodology and interpretation of results;
4. Increase skills in preparing a manuscript for publication;
5. Co-authorship on a peer-reviewed publication.

Benefits to the department:

1. Increasing research output in the hospital;
2. Building research capacity and competence in the hospital;
3. Attracting potential post-graduate clinical and research trainees to the hospital.

**Alignment with Government Research Priorities 100w max**

This project aligns most closely with the ACT Centre for Health and Medical Research priority, [accelerating translation of knowledge to practice and policy](#). The results of this project will aid in future studies that assess the current system in the Australian Capital Territory through observing the micro-, meso- and macro-system level factors that predict HF readmission rates in Australia.

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

Clinical Trials Unit

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