

Implementation Science/ Health Services Research PhD Opportunity

We are seeking expressions of interest (EOI) from highly motivated candidates interested in pursuing a PhD program in implementation science within the cancer care context. This program of research will explore implementation of health service interventions addressing anxiety and depression in adults with cancer in terms of program engagement and sustainability. The successful candidate will be expected to apply for a PhD Scholarship through Australian Postgraduate Awards (APA) and/or University of Sydney Postgraduate Awards (UPA) University of Sydney simultaneous with their university enrolment and/or in the first year of their PhD.

*The **Psycho-Oncology Co-operative Research Group (PoCoG)** is funded by Cancer Australia and is a Centre of The University of Sydney. Part of the School of Psychology, PoCoG is a cross disciplinary research group which aims to improve outcomes for people affected by cancer by developing and facilitating high quality, collaborative and clinically relevant research that focuses on interventions and services to optimise psychosocial and supportive care.*

PoCoG has recently developed a Clinical Pathway for the management of anxiety and depression in adults with cancer - the first of its kind internationally. The Anxiety and Depression Pathway Program (ADAPT), a 5 year program of research funded through a Translation Program Grant awarded by the Cancer Institute NSW is focused on implementation of this clinical pathway into routine cancer care and offers the opportunity for public health, clinical and health service sectors to work together to produce evidence on the most effective ways to implement a clinical pathway in Australian cancer services. Within this, ADAPT offers opportunities to explore implementation from a health services research perspective. Possible areas of research include: undertaking qualitative analyses of participants attitudes to implementation strategies for a clinical pathway to address anxiety and depression in cancer patients and/or; investigating predictors and facilitators of implementation sustainability within cancer services.

Requirements:

- *Minimum qualifications:* Honours (1 or 2A) or Master's Degree in, health or social sciences, psychology public health, medicine, nursing or other related field.
- Applicants must be Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents or New Zealand citizens.

The successful candidate through the EOI stage will be expected to enrol at the University of Sydney and commence studies in 2019. They will be co-supervised by, Dr Heather Shepherd, Dr Joanne Shaw, Prof Phyllis Butow and/or academic staff at PoCoG and/or other members of the ADAPT team as appropriate for the candidate's background and experience.

Interested candidates should contact Dr Heather Shepherd heather.shepherd@sydney.edu.au +61 (0) 2 8627 0828) or Dr Joanne Shaw joanne.shaw@sydney.edu.au ; +61(0)2 9351 3761 for more information.

EOIs should be submitted to Dr Heather Shepherd by email.