The AmbiGeM Research project

(Ambient Intelligent Geriatric Management system in preventing falls in older people in hospitals)

Funded by the NHMRC in 2015, this project aims to investigate the effectiveness of an electronic sensor system to prevent falls in older people in hospitals. The study incorporates a stepped wedge randomized trial with qualitative sub-studies. The study provides aspiring students with excellent opportunities to connect with a recognized research team which can assist them build their career.

Concise description of research group
This academic geriatrics and gerontology research group is especially interested in translational research that contributes to the improved health and well-being of older people. The investigator team includes researchers from Flinders University, University of Adelaide and Curtin University, Perth. We are running a Uni Adelaide led NHMRC trial across 2 hospitals in 2 states.

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A number of research opportunities via sub-studies exist for postgraduate students:
- The acceptability of the intervention to patients, carers and clinicians.
- The usefulness and feasibility of the method based on analyzing the improvements realized by its use.
- The experiences of the users of the technology system.
- Conducting systematic and integrative literature reviews.

Potential research methods to be used include Delphi Technique, Focus groups, interviews, surveys.

Patients and carers across study sites will be asked to express their perspectives, likes and dislikes, their willingness to see the intervention implemented in clinical practice and the effects on their privacy. Additionally, participants will be asked to make suggestion for improvement. Nursing staff will also be asked to log problems that arise directly from the use of the intervention.

Candidates will preferably have strong motivation to pursue research study and publication. Basic knowledge in research methodology is highly desirable.