Are you a clinician wanting to research cancer?

This booklet contains information that can help you on that pathway.
Cancer research at Flinders University

At Flinders, we’re looking to create more effective treatments, achieve earlier detection and intervention, and prevent cancer from developing in the first place. We also want to help people who have had cancer to get back on their feet physically, mentally and financially.

Flinders Health & Medical Research Institute (FHMRI) Cancer brings together research labs, clinical trials, and treatment in one flagship facility. We forge connections between more than 150 cancer-focused researchers and clinicians, as well as our patients. We have a shared focus on innovation—on finding new and creative solutions that can make an impact on people’s lives. We do it by working collaboratively, drawing on the diverse expertise and experiences of our people.

Are you thinking of undertaking a Masters or PhD in Cancer Research? This information booklet outlines how to navigate your entry into research training.

Your Masters or PhD at Flinders Research Health & Medical Research Institute

If you are looking to expand your knowledge, experience and career options with a Masters or PhD we can assist you in choosing a research area of interest. Research opportunities are available in the following areas or related disciplines:

**Surgery**
- Oesophageal and gastric surgery
- Hepatopancreaticobiliary surgery
- Colorectal surgery
- Urology
- ENT surgery
- Plastic surgery
- Neurosurgery

**Cancer**
- Oncology
- Haematology
- Bowel health
- Brain cancer
- Prostate cancer
- Cancer survivorship
- Cancer metabolism
- Precision medicine

Financial considerations:
You can afford to undertake a PhD!
- A range of scholarships* are available and successful candidates will be supported to apply for these. For example
  - University scholarships (FURS/AGPRTS): applications are usually due in October
  - If you are a Royal Australian College of Surgeons (RACS) SET Trainee, then you are eligible to apply for a RACS Research scholarship. These provide an annual award of approximately $60,000 (tax free) for three years (full time equivalent). One of the conditions of these RACS Research scholarships is cofunding by the approved research institute. This should not be seen as a barrier as there are avenues for this co-funding support. RACS Research scholarship applications are due 1 March – mid April.
  - RACP
  - RACGP
  - NHMRC PGRS
  - Philanthropic organisations such as the National Breast Cancer Foundation
- Note: There are options for scholarship top ups available from various sources. Discuss with your prospective supervisor or the College of Medicine and Public Health Higher Degree by Research Coordinator HDRSupport.CMPH@flinders.edu.au

Support for your Masters or PhD

Professional development opportunities:
- A vibrant clinical PhD community of practice provides peer support and professional development sessions.
- Access to small group or individual mentoring to help you achieve your goals.
- Grant writing and research output support
- * Check relevant websites for closing dates.
Interested and want to progress further?

1. There are over 40 research groups undertaking cancer research at FHMRI. Review areas of research & potential supervisors here.

2. If you are a RACS SET Trainee contact a RACS Fellow, listed on the following page, to discuss how a Masters or PhD at Flinders can be accommodated within your clinical career.
   - You will be co-supervised by a RACS Fellow along with an experienced investigator.
   - You can apply for intermission from SET training.

3. Contact potential research supervisors to find out more about their research programs, discuss your interests and possible research projects.
   - Unsure who to speak to? Below are listed researchers who can help discuss your options.

4. Supported by your research supervisors, develop a scholarship application. See options listed previously.

5. Embark upon your Masters or PhD and create new knowledge!

Experienced Researchers – some potential supervisors

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Things to discuss with your supervisor:
- Part time options
- Working during a PhD
- Some scholarships are better suited to part time study and working during a PhD.
Flinders University is investing in a world-class Health and Medical Research Building for Southern Adelaide. It will enable collaboration between researchers, healthcare and industry partners, translating world-class research into improved community health outcomes.

The new facility will provide a focus for education and life-long learning, leveraging academic and research opportunities, and providing platforms for collaboration, innovation and the exchange of knowledge.

Seamlessly connected to Flinders University at Tonsley and Flinders in the CBD by the new Flinders train station, the Health & Medical Research Building is the first stage and centrepiece of Flinders Village development – Adelaide’s largest fully integrated education, research and health care precinct.

Flinders Health and Medical Research Institute (FHMRI) brings together world-leading, innovative and inspiring research experts to improve health, prevent disease and combat health inequities. We work with health practitioners and patients to better understand and seek solutions to the most pressing health and medical needs of Australians, inclusive of those in rural and remote communities. The Institute works across the three board themes of Molecular Biosciences, Clinical Translation & Healthy Communities and a PhD can be undertaken in any of these thematic areas.

RACS Fellows at Flinders

RACS SET Trainees: discuss with a RACS Fellow how a Masters or PhD at Flinders can be accommodated within your clinical career

Flinders Health and Medical Research Institute


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Flinders Health and Medical Research Institute

Flinders.edu.au/health-medical-research-institute/research-education-development-hub/study
fhmri@flinders.edu.au

Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this brochure is accurate at the time of publication: January 2023.
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