

Welcome to Bachelor of Health Sciences Honours for 2025.

How to use this Booklet

This booklet lists supervisors and projects available for 2025 Bachelor of Health Sciences Honours program in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

This booklet is in two parts:

Part 1 contains information about **staff available for Honours supervision**. This section is arranged by discipline area. There are details about supervisors' research areas, links to their staff profile pages, and their email addresses.

Part 2 contains details about **specific projects** available for Honours projects.

Please browse both the list of supervisors and the list of specific projects.

Please consider reading the staff details and specific projects across all areas, as you may find a supervisor with a similar interest to you who is listed in a discipline that you might not have thought of.

You may then contact any of the staff listed to discuss an Honours project in your area of interest or to enquire about one of the specific projects.

A supervisor and an agreed project outline need to be arranged before applying for the Honours program.

Further information about applying for Honours can be found [here](#).

It is recommended that you submit your application by **10th December 2024** if possible (even though applications are open until February 2025, it is best to start planning ahead of the new year).

Please contact the Bachelor of Health Sciences Honours Course Coordinator if you have any questions.

We look forward to working with you on your Honours journey 😊

Best Wishes,

[Dr Fiona Rillotta](#)

Bachelor of Health Sciences Honours Course Coordinator

Email: cnhs.honours@flinders.edu.au

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PART 1: Staff Available for Honours Supervision

This section contains **staff available for Honours supervision** within the College of Nursing and Health Sciences for the Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours) program.

This section is arranged by discipline/ research area. There are details about supervisors' research areas, links to their staff profile pages, and their email addresses.

Some supervisors are listed in more than one discipline/ research area because they have multiple area of interest and expertise.

Clicking on the hyperlink on the supervisor's name will take you to their staff profile page.

Further details about the College of Nursing and Health Sciences research institute, Caring Futures Institute can be found [here](#), with a list of research staff profiles [here](#).

Students should contact potential supervisors to discuss Honours projects with them in more detail before submitting an Honours application.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|---|--|--|---|
| Associate Professor Stuart Ekberg | stuart.ekberg@flinders.edu.au | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Cancer Survivorship, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Palliative Care, Psychosocial well-being | My research uses direct observation to develop insights about communication in healthcare that can be used to inform policy and practice. Using conversation analysis methods, recent projects have examined communication in (adult and paediatric) palliative care, advance care planning, cancer survivorship, and healthcare for First Nations peoples. I usually help students nest their studies in larger nationally-funded projects, to give real-world insights into what a research career is like. |
| Dr Jose Estevez | jose.estevez@flinders.edu.au | Optometry, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Health Sciences, Epidemiology, Risk profiling, Translational health research | The current research portfolio includes understanding the epidemiology, sociodemographic, biological, genetic and epigenetic aspects of blinding eye diseases relevant to priority populations and, ultimately, how to find better ways to screen for and prevent blindness. My areas of research expertise embrace vision-related functional outcomes and biological and socioeconomic markers of diabetic retinopathy through large-scale population-based eye studies, including longitudinal cohorts. |
| Dr Nina Sivertsen | nina.sivertsen@flinders.edu.au | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Midwifery, Nursing, Paramedicine | My work centres on the impacts of colonisation and assimilation on healthcare, with a particular focus on integrating culture into mainstream health care provision. My research primarily addresses women's and family health, health systems and services research, and contributes to shaping restorative policies and practices in mainstream health that benefit Sāmi, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. |

Aged Care and Ageing

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|--|--|---|--|
| Dr Nicky Baker | nicky.baker@ariia.org.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Physiotherapy | This project falls within an interdisciplinary research space, including gerontology (focusing on the psychological, social, and economic aspects of aging, addressing challenges for older populations), social work (focusing on individual and community wellbeing, social systems and services), and public health (improving the health of populations through collaboration, education, and policy). |
| Associate Professor Claire Baldwin | claire.baldwin@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Clinical Rehabilitation, Physiotherapy | Physical activity in older adults - helping the most at risk patients in hospital get moving. Acute care. Clinical education. |
| Kristy Burfield | kristy.burfield@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Clinical Rehabilitation, Nutrition | Hospitalized patients benefit from shared meals, which enhance protein intake and boost morale, leading to better rehabilitation outcomes. COVID-19 restrictions halted group dining, and many rehabilitation settings have yet to resume this practice. This study aims to identify barriers and enablers to re-establish communal meals in these environments. |
| Dr Anita De Bellis | anita.debellis@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Nursing, Palliative Care | My areas of interest include dementia care, aged care, end of life care, and any general nursing topic. |
| Dr Janine Margarita Dizon | janinemargarita.dizon@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Physiotherapy | My research focuses on evidence-based practice in medicine and allied health. My work emphasises improving healthcare through evidence synthesis with a goal to implement effective, research-based healthcare practices across various settings. |
| Dr Alinka Fisher | alinka.fisher@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Disability, Psychosocial well-being | Alinka's research focusses on examining and promoting evidence-based PBS education and practices for people living with disability, including brain injury and dementia, with a focus on practices that uphold and protect a person's human rights. Her research places emphasis on building community capacity, workforce development and systems change practices. |

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| Associate Professor Stephanie Harrison | stephanie.harrison@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing | The Registry of Senior Australians (ROSA) Research Centre aims to monitor and improve the quality of aged care services for older people in Australia. We use large routinely collected datasets to develop robust observational research to address many research questions about ageing and aged care. |
| Associate Professor Belinda Lange | belinda.lange@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Disability, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Physiotherapy, Psychosocial well-being, Health Economics, Digital health | My research involves working with clinicians and people with different conditions to understand how they currently use digital technologies and co-design and evaluate how technologies (e.g. apps, virtual reality, artificial intelligence) can improve care. I have experience working with people with neurological and mental health conditions, older adults, and veteran populations. |
| Dr Meg Polacsek | meg.polacsek@ariia.org.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Nursing, Psychosocial well-being | Aged Care Research and Industry Innovation Australia (ARIIA) is leading the positive transformation of aged care workforce capability and capacity across Australia. While focusing on the aged care workforce, the research area of this project extends to other caring professions and contexts. |
| Dr Alison Yaxley | alison.yaxley@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Nutrition | I am a dietitian researching mainly with older adults in healthy ageing and aged care, particularly home based aged care at the moment. I have track record in researching malnutrition, nutritional screening and assessment, food service and clinical nutrition. Please contact me to discuss any nutrition related areas of interest. |
| Dr Angela Rong Yang Zhang | angela.zhang@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Disability, Mental Health, Palliative Care, Psychosocial well-being | My research focuses on improving care in aged and long-term care settings through medical anthropology. I examine how lived experiences, care practices, and systems impact people's well-being, using ethnographic and multimodal qualitative methods to inform policy and enhance the quality of life for vulnerable populations. |

Audiology

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Dr Eloise Doherty | eloise.doherty@flinders.edu.au | Audiology, Psychology of Music | My research explores the links between music education and auditory processing in individuals with hearing loss, applying novel research methodologies to explore both outcomes and experience. My research expertise is in all aspects of audiology, music education/music psychology, qualitative research methods and post-qualitative research methods. |
| Dr Katie Ekberg | katie.ekberg@flinders.edu.au | Audiology, Behaviour, Clinical Rehabilitation, Health Sciences, Psychosocial well-being, Healthcare care communication, Patient-centred care, Family-centred care | Psychosocial aspects of health and healthcare, Healthcare care communication, patient-centred care, family-centred care |

Cancer Survivorship

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|---|--|--|---|
| Associate Professor Michelle Bellon | Michelle.Bellon@flinders.edu.au | Cancer Survivorship, Disability | Access to health care for people with intellectual disability |
| Associate Professor Carolyn Ee | carolyn.ee@flinders.edu.au | Cancer Survivorship | Qualitative research project involving interviews of GPs exploring their perspectives on providing cancer survivorship care |
| Associate Professor Stuart Ekberg | stuart.ekberg@flinders.edu.au | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Cancer Survivorship, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Palliative Care, Psychosocial well-being | My research uses direct observation to develop insights about communication in healthcare that can be used to inform policy and practice. Using conversation analysis methods, recent projects have examined communication in (adult and paediatric) palliative care, advance care planning, cancer survivorship, and healthcare for First Nations peoples. I usually help students nest their studies in larger nationally-funded projects, to give real-world insights into what a research career is like. |
| Professor Catherine Paterson | catherine.paterson@flinders.edu.au | Cancer Survivorship | The focus of my applied research is on improving and addressing the unmet supportive care needs of people affected by cancer across their lifespan. |
| Dr Matthew Wallen | matthew.wallen@flinders.edu.au | Exercise and cancer | |

Cardiovascular Health

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|---|--|---|--|
| Associate Professor Belinda Lange | belinda.lange@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Disability, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Physiotherapy, Psychosocial well-being, Health Economics, Digital health | My research involves working with clinicians and people with different conditions to understand how they currently use digital technologies and co-design and evaluate how technologies (e.g. apps, virtual reality, artificial intelligence) can improve care. I have experience working with people with neurological and mental health conditions, older adults, and veteran populations. |
| Associate Professor Elizabeth Lynch | elizabeth.lynch@flinders.edu.au | Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Health Sciences, Physiotherapy, Life after stroke | I conduct research to improve the way stroke rehabilitation is delivered, and research to improve quality of life and wellbeing after stroke. I routinely partner with people with lived experience of stroke when doing research |
| Dr Katie Nesbitt | katie.nesbitt@flinders.edu.au | Cardiovascular Health, Psychosocial well-being, Co-design, Remote access to health, Cardiovascular disease primary and secondary prevention | Person centred, collaborative, inclusive researcher. Focused on inspiring behaviour change through empowerment, from clinical through to psychosocial, specifically in the area of cardiovascular disease, including stroke. |

Clinical Rehabilitation

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|--|--|---|---|
| Associate Professor Claire Baldwin | claire.baldwin@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Clinical Rehabilitation, Physiotherapy | Physical activity in older adults - helping the most at risk patients in hospital get moving. Acute care. Clinical education |
| Kristy Burfield | kristy.burfield@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Clinical Rehabilitation, Nutrition | Hospitalized patients benefit from shared meals, which enhance protein intake and boost morale, leading to better rehabilitation outcomes. COVID-19 restrictions halted group dining, and many rehabilitation settings have yet to resume this practice. This study aims to identify barriers and enablers to re-establish communal meals in these environments. |
| Dr Katie Ekberg | katie.ekberg@flinders.edu.au | Audiology, Behaviour, Clinical Rehabilitation, Health Sciences, Psychosocial well-being, Healthcare care communication, Patient-centred care, Family-centred care | Psychosocial aspects of health and healthcare, Healthcare care communication, patient-centred care, family-centred care |
| Associate Professor Maarten Immink | maarten.immink@flinders.edu.au | Behaviour, Clinical Rehabilitation, Exercise Science, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Psychosocial well-being | My research is at the forefront of mind, brain, and cognitive interactions that contribute to human health and performance. Evidence gained from my research supports development of technologies, training programs and interventions aimed at optimising neurocognitive function and enhanced outcomes in mental health, exercise and sport, work, and rehabilitation settings. |

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|--|---|---|--|
| <u>Associate Professor Belinda Lange</u> | <u>belinda.lange@flinders.edu.au</u> | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Disability, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Physiotherapy, Psychosocial well-being, Health Economics, Digital health | My research involves working with clinicians and people with different conditions to understand how they currently use digital technologies and co-design and evaluate how technologies (e.g. apps, virtual reality, artificial intelligence) can improve care. I have experience working with people with neurological and mental health conditions, older adults, and veteran populations. |
| <u>Dr Cody Lindsay</u> | <u>Cody.Lindsay@flinders.edu.au</u> | Clinical Rehabilitation, Exercise Science | Sport & exercise science, biomechanics, sport performance, injury prevention, rehabilitation |
| <u>Associate Professor Elizabeth Lynch</u> | <u>elizabeth.lynch@flinders.edu.au</u> | Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Health Sciences, Physiotherapy, Life after stroke | I conduct research to improve the way stroke rehabilitation is delivered, and research to improve quality of life and wellbeing after stroke. I routinely partner with people with lived experience of stroke when doing research |

Disability

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|---|--|---|--|
| Associate Professor Michelle Bellon | Michelle.Bellon@flinders.edu.au | Cancer Survivorship, Disability | Access to health care for people with intellectual disability |
| Dr Alinka Fisher | alinka.fisher@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Disability, Psychosocial well-being | Alinka's research focusses on examining and promoting evidence-based PBS education and practices for people living with disability, including brain injury and dementia, with a focus on practices that uphold and protect a person's human rights. Her research places emphasis on building community capacity, workforce development and systems change practices. |
| Dr Cassandra Gibson-Pope | cassandra.gibsonpope@flinders.edu.au | Disability | Disability and Community Inclusion. My passion is to support community inclusion initiatives and increase accessibility and a sense of belonging in community. Post secondary education for people with disability as well as the impact of community capacity initiatives for new and emerging communities, new arrivals and refugees. |
| Associate Professor Belinda Lange | belinda.lange@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Disability, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Physiotherapy, Psychosocial well-being, Health Economics, Digital health | My research involves working with clinicians and people with different conditions to understand how they currently use digital technologies and co-design and evaluate how technologies (e.g. apps, virtual reality, artificial intelligence) can improve care. I have experience working with people with neurological and mental health conditions, older adults, and veteran populations. |

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| Associate Professor Amanda Muller | amanda.muller@flinders.edu.au | Mental Health, Nursing, Disability | I am the founder of a consumer-led team of assistance dog handlers. We ask about assistance dog refusals and other barriers of access when using an assistance animal. |
| Dr Fiona Rillotta | fiona.rillotta@flinders.edu.au | Disability | My inclusive research works with people with intellectual disability as co-researchers, in areas that are important to them, including: higher education, inclusion, and self advocacy. We use methods that are accessibility to people with intellectual disability. |
| Dr Angela Rong Yang Zhang | angela.zhang@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Disability, Mental Health, Palliative Care, Psychosocial well-being | My research focuses on improving care in aged and long-term care settings through medical anthropology. I examine how lived experiences, care practices, and systems impact people's well-being, using ethnographic and multimodal qualitative methods to inform policy and enhance the quality of life for vulnerable populations. |

Early Childhood and Childhood

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|---|--|--|---|
| Dr Matthew Ankers | matthew.ankers@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Nursing | I have a research focus on vulnerable/disadvantaged children and their families, both in Australia and internationally, on subjects including the impacts of poverty, homelessness, pandemics, and non-government organisations interventions aimed at addressing these issues. I have also investigated child development and health, and interventions that assist with the re-integrating of children back into main stream services. |
| Professor Nicola Anstice | nicola.anstice@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Optometry | My research investigates ways to improve vision and academic outcomes in children. This involves early interventions to provide appropriate vision aids and other supports necessary to ensure that children succeed at school. |
| Associate Professor Stuart Ekberg | stuart.ekberg@flinders.edu.au | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Cancer Survivorship, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Palliative Care, Psychosocial well-being | My research uses direct observation to develop insights about communication in healthcare that can be used to inform policy and practice. Using conversation analysis methods, recent projects have examined communication in (adult and paediatric) palliative care, advance care planning, cancer survivorship, and healthcare for First Nations peoples. I usually help students nest their studies in larger nationally-funded projects, to give real-world insights into what a research career is like. |

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|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Dr Lauren Lines | lauren.lines@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Nursing, Trauma-informed care, Preventing child abuse and neglect | My research focuses on the roles of nurses and health professionals in disrupting cycles of abuse as universal touch-points for all families. By partnering with professionals and families, I lead innovative projects that enable health practitioners to more effectively address families' needs to reduce the impacts of child abuse and neglect. I am able to supervise honours students with their own projects, or by joining one of my existing projects. |
| Dr Louisa Matwiejczyk | louisa.matwiejczyk@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Nutrition | My research focuses on translating knowledge into practice, with a particular emphasis on early childhood nutrition. I apply evidence-based programs and policies in childcare and related settings. I specialise in qualitative research, exploring barriers and enablers, while also engaging in mixed-methods approaches. More recently I lead health profession research exploring the students experience of interprofessional practice or being an International student. |
| Dr Georgia Middleton | georgia.middleton@flinders.edu.au | Behaviour, Early Childhood and Childhood, Nutrition | My research focuses on community nutrition, food insecurity, and social and cultural aspects of food, with a special interest in shared eating occasions, such as family meals and school meal programs. I have a particular interest in fostering children's health through supporting the mental, physical and social health of parents' and the family as a unit. |

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| <u>Associate Professor Yvonne Parry</u> | <u>yvonne.parry@flinders.edu.au</u> | Early Childhood and Childhood, Nursing, Psychosocial well-being, Interdisciplinary paediatric care, Acute care or community setting | Research evaluating acute care or community child focused models of care with extended health access, advanced referral processes and industry collaborations addressing the health and developmental needs of the children. Past students from SP, paramedics and nursing. More than one project is available on request. |
| <u>Dr Nina Sivertsen</u> | <u>nina.sivertsen@flinders.edu.au</u> | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Midwifery, Nursing, Paramedicine | My work centres on the impacts of colonisation and assimilation on healthcare, with a particular focus on integrating culture into mainstream health care provision. My research primarily addresses women's and family health, health systems and services research, and contributes to shaping restorative policies and practices in mainstream health that benefit SÅmi, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. |

Exercise Science

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|--|--|--|---|
| Associate Professor Maarten Immink | maarten.immink@flinders.edu.au | Behaviour, Clinical Rehabilitation, Exercise Science, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Psychosocial well-being | My research is at the forefront of mind, brain, and cognitive interactions that contribute to human health and performance. Evidence gained from my research supports development of technologies, training programs and interventions aimed at optimising neurocognitive function and enhanced outcomes in mental health, exercise and sport, work, and rehabilitation settings. |
| Dr Cody Lindsay | Cody.Lindsay@flinders.edu.au | Clinical Rehabilitation, Exercise Science | Sport & exercise science, biomechanics, sport performance, injury prevention, rehabilitation |
| Dr Matthew Wallen | matthew.wallen@flinders.edu.au | Exercise and cancer | |

Health Economics

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|---|--|---|--|
| Associate Professor Belinda Lange | belinda.lange@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Disability, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Physiotherapy, Psychosocial well-being, Health Economics, Digital health | My research involves working with clinicians and people with different conditions to understand how they currently use digital technologies and co-design and evaluate how technologies (e.g. apps, virtual reality, artificial intelligence) can improve care. I have experience working with people with neurological and mental health conditions, older adults, and veteran populations. |
| Associate Professor Rachel Milte | rachel.milte@flinders.edu.au | Health Economics | We evaluate the cost-effectiveness of new interventions across health, aged, and disability care sectors. We are also interested in measuring the quality of life of diverse people receiving health, aged, and disability care. |

Health Sciences

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Dr Matthew Ankers | matthew.ankers@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Nursing | I have a research focus on vulnerable/disadvantaged children and their families, both in Australia and internationally, on subjects including the impacts of poverty, homelessness, pandemics, and non-government organisations interventions aimed at addressing these issues. I have also investigated child development and health, and interventions that assist with the re-integrating of children back into main stream services. |
| Dr Nicky Baker | nicky.baker@ariia.org.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Physiotherapy | This project falls within an interdisciplinary research space, including gerontology (focusing on the psychological, social, and economic aspects of aging, addressing challenges for older populations), social work (focusing on individual and community wellbeing, social systems and services), and public health (improving the health of populations through collaboration, education, and policy). |
| Dr Hila Dafny | hila.dafny@flinders.edu.au | Behaviour, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Nursing, Workforce health and safety, Wellbeing, workplace violence, Sexual violence, Burnout. | Dr Hila Dafny is a senior researcher and lecturer with experience in Systematic Review, Umbrella Reviews, Co-design, Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Research Design, collaborating with national and international researchers, presenting at conferences and publishing in Q1 Journals. Dr Dafny's research focuses on the healthcare sector workforce and is specifically interested in workforce, workplace violence (including verbal, physical and sexual violence) towards healthcare providers. |
| Dr Anita De Bellis | anita.debellis@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Nursing, Palliative Care | My areas of interest include dementia care, aged care, end of life care, and any general nursing topic. |

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| Dr Janine Margarita Dizon | janinemargarita.dizon@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Physiotherapy | My research focuses on evidence-based practice in medicine and allied health. My work emphasises improving healthcare through evidence synthesis with a goal to implement effective, research-based healthcare practices across various settings. |
| Dr Katie Ekberg | katie.ekberg@flinders.edu.au | Audiology, Behaviour, Clinical Rehabilitation, Health Sciences, Psychosocial well-being, Healthcare care communication, Patient-centred care, Family-centred care | Psychosocial aspects of health and healthcare, Healthcare care communication, patient-centred care, family-centred care |
| Associate Professor Stuart Ekberg | stuart.ekberg@flinders.edu.au | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Cancer Survivorship, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Palliative Care, Psychosocial well-being | My research uses direct observation to develop insights about communication in healthcare that can be used to inform policy and practice. Using conversation analysis methods, recent projects have examined communication in (adult and paediatric) palliative care, advance care planning, cancer survivorship, and healthcare for First Nations peoples. I usually help students nest their studies in larger nationally-funded projects, to give real-world insights into what a research career is like. |
| Dr Jose Estevez | jose.estevez@flinders.edu.au | Optometry, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Health Sciences, Epidemiology, Risk profiling, Translational health research | The current research portfolio includes understanding the epidemiology, sociodemographic, biological, genetic and epigenetic aspects of blinding eye diseases relevant to priority populations and, ultimately, how to find better ways to screen for and prevent blindness. My areas of research expertise embrace vision-related functional outcomes and biological and socioeconomic markers of diabetic retinopathy through large-scale population-based eye studies, including longitudinal cohorts. |

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|---|--|---|---|
| Associate Professor Maarten Immink | maarten.immink@flinders.edu.au | Behaviour, Clinical Rehabilitation, Exercise Science, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Psychosocial well-being | My research is at the forefront of mind, brain, and cognitive interactions that contribute to human health and performance. Evidence gained from my research supports development of technologies, training programs and interventions aimed at optimising neurocognitive function and enhanced outcomes in mental health, exercise and sport, work, and rehabilitation settings. |
| Associate Professor Belinda Lange | belinda.lange@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Disability, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Physiotherapy, Psychosocial well-being, Health Economics, Digital health | My research involves working with clinicians and people with different conditions to understand how they currently use digital technologies and co-design and evaluate how technologies (e.g. apps, virtual reality, artificial intelligence) can improve care. I have experience working with people with neurological and mental health conditions, older adults, and veteran populations. |
| Associate Professor Elizabeth Lynch | elizabeth.lynch@flinders.edu.au | Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Health Sciences, Physiotherapy, Life after stroke | I conduct research to improve the way stroke rehabilitation is delivered, and research to improve quality of life and wellbeing after stroke. I routinely partner with people with lived experience of stroke when doing research |
| Dr Louisa Matwiejczyk | louisa.matwiejczyk@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Nutrition | My research focuses on translating knowledge into practice, with a particular emphasis on early childhood nutrition. I apply evidence-based programs and policies in childcare and related settings. I specialise in qualitative research, exploring barriers and enablers, while also engaging in mixed-methods approaches. More recently I lead health profession research exploring the students experience of interprofessional practice or being an International student. |

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| Dr Meg Polacsek | meg.polacsek@ariia.org.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Nursing, Psychosocial well-being | Aged Care Research and Industry Innovation Australia (ARIIA) is leading the positive transformation of aged care workforce capability and capacity across Australia. While focusing on the aged care workforce, the research area of this project extends to other caring professions and contexts. |
| A/Prof Ivanka Prichard | ivanka.prichard@flinders.edu.au | Health sciences; psychology | Health psychology; body image across the lifespan, physical activity, food consumption; social media |
| Dr Nina Sivertsen | nina.sivertsen@flinders.edu.au | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Midwifery, Nursing, Paramedicine | My work centres on the impacts of colonisation and assimilation on healthcare, with a particular focus on integrating culture into mainstream health care provision. My research primarily addresses women's and family health, health systems and services research, and contributes to shaping restorative policies and practices in mainstream health that benefit SÅmi, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. |
| Dr Alison Yaxley | alison.yaxley@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Nutrition | I am a dietitian researching mainly with older adults in healthy ageing and aged care, particularly home based aged care at the moment. I have track record in researching malnutrition, nutritional screening and assessment, food service and clinical nutrition. Please contact me to discuss any nutrition related areas of interest. |

Mental Health

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|---|--|--|---|
| Dr Matthew Ankers | matthew.ankers@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Nursing | I have a research focus on vulnerable/disadvantaged children and their families, both in Australia and internationally, on subjects including the impacts of poverty, homelessness, pandemics, and non-government organisations interventions aimed at addressing these issues. I have also investigated child development and health, and interventions that assist with the re-integrating of children back into main stream services. |
| Dr Hila Dafny | hila.dafny@flinders.edu.au | Behaviour, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Nursing, Workforce health and safety, Wellbeing, workplace violence, sexual violence, burnout. | Dr Hila Dafny is a senior researcher and lecturer with experience in Systematic Review, Umbrella Reviews, Co-design, Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Research Design, collaborating with national and international researchers, presenting at conferences and publishing in Q1 Journals. Dr Dafny's research focuses on the healthcare sector workforce and is specifically interested in workforce, workplace violence (including verbal, physical and sexual violence) towards healthcare providers. |
| Associate Professor Stuart Ekberg | stuart.ekberg@flinders.edu.au | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Cancer Survivorship, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Palliative Care, Psychosocial well-being | My research uses direct observation to develop insights about communication in healthcare that can be used to inform policy and practice. Using conversation analysis methods, recent projects have examined communication in (adult and paediatric) palliative care, advance care planning, cancer survivorship, and healthcare for First Nations peoples. I usually help students nest their studies in larger nationally-funded projects, to give real-world insights into what a research career is like. |

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| <u>Associate Professor Maarten Immink</u> | <u>maarten.immink@flinders.edu.au</u> | Behaviour, Clinical Rehabilitation, Exercise Science, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Psychosocial well-being | My research is at the forefront of mind, brain, and cognitive interactions that contribute to human health and performance. Evidence gained from my research supports development of technologies, training programs and interventions aimed at optimising neurocognitive function and enhanced outcomes in mental health, exercise and sport, work, and rehabilitation settings. |
| <u>Associate Professor Belinda Lange</u> | <u>belinda.lange@flinders.edu.au</u> | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Disability, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Physiotherapy, Psychosocial well-being, Health Economics, Digital health | My research involves working with clinicians and people with different conditions to understand how they currently use digital technologies and co-design and evaluate how technologies (e.g. apps, virtual reality, artificial intelligence) can improve care. I have experience working with people with neurological and mental health conditions, older adults, and veteran populations. |
| <u>Associate Professor Amanda Muller</u> | <u>amanda.muller@flinders.edu.au</u> | Mental Health, Nursing, Disability, | I am the founder of a consumer-led team of assistance dog handlers. We ask about assistance dog refusals and other barriers of access when using an assistance animal. |
| <u>Dr Angela Rong Yang Zhang</u> | <u>angela.zhang@flinders.edu.au</u> | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Disability, Mental Health, Palliative Care, Psychosocial well-being | My research focuses on improving care in aged and long-term care settings through medical anthropology. I examine how lived experiences, care practices, and systems impact people's well-being, using ethnographic and multimodal qualitative methods to inform policy and enhance the quality of life for vulnerable populations. |

Midwifery

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|---|--|--|---|
| Dr Megan Cooper | megan.cooper@flinders.edu.au | Midwifery | Water immersion/water birth; Women's experiences of maternity care; Induction of labour; Informed consent/choice; Respectful maternity care; Physiological labour/birth; Postnatal care; Midwifery models of care; Birth centres; Student competence in emergencies; Digital learning; Inquiry and scenario-based learning; Communication in midwifery; Shoulder dystocia |
| Liz McNeill | liz.mcneill@flinders.edu.au | Midwifery | Communications skills; Missed care; Simulation learning; Authentic and programmatic assessment; Military midwifery; Diverse gender midwifery experiences; Birth trauma & PTSD – veterans, women, midwives, students; Interprofessional learning; Digital learning. |
| Associate Professor Liz Newnham | liz.newnham@flinders.edu.au | Midwifery | My research area focuses on social justice solutions for humanising childbirth through four main streams: birth ethics, birth technology, birth environment and birth practice. I have expertise in medical sociology / anthropology and qualitative research methods. |
| Dr Nina Sivertsen | nina.sivertsen@flinders.edu.au | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Midwifery, Nursing, Paramedicine | My work centres on the impacts of colonisation and assimilation on healthcare, with a particular focus on integrating culture into mainstream health care provision. My research primarily addresses women's and family health, health systems and services research, and contributes to shaping restorative policies and practices in mainstream health that benefit Sāmi, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. |

Nursing

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Dr Anne Mette Adams | mette.adams@flinders.edu.au | Nursing | My research focuses on patient and family-centred care, ICU clinician wellbeing, and the development of evidence-based guidelines. I have a particular interest in knowledge translation and the nonpharmacological management of patient agitation. I use a variety of research methodologies, including Delphi, qualitative, and mixed-methods designs. |
| Jessie Anderson | Jessie.Anderson@flinders.edu.au | Nursing, Emergency Nursing, Primary Health Care, Remote and Indigenous Health, Health Workforce Development | Jessie Anderson is a Senior Lecturer in Nursing, Registered Nurse, researcher and educator with a background in Emergency Nursing. Currently based in Adelaide, Jessie previously worked with the Rural Inter-Professional Placement Learning team in Alice Springs and remains committed to identifying nursing workforce challenges including the transition from university to practice and specifically in regional and remote Australia. |
| Dr Matthew Ankers | matthew.ankers@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Nursing | I have a research focus on vulnerable/disadvantaged children and their families, both in Australia and internationally, on subjects including the impacts of poverty, homelessness, pandemics, and non-government organisations interventions aimed at addressing these issues. I have also investigated child development and health, and interventions that assist with the re-integrating of children back into mainstream services. |

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|---|--|---|---|
| Dr Hila Dafny | hila.dafny@flinders.edu.au | Behaviour, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Nursing, Workforce health and safety, Wellbeing, workplace violence, sexual violence, burnout. | Dr Hila Dafny is a senior researcher and lecturer with experience in Systematic Review, Umbrella Reviews, Co-design, Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Research Design, collaborating with national and international researchers, presenting at conferences and publishing in Q1 Journals. Dr Dafny's research focuses on the healthcare sector workforce and is specifically interested in workforce, workplace violence (including verbal, physical and sexual violence) towards healthcare providers. |
| Dr Anita De Bellis | anita.debellis@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Nursing, Palliative Care | My areas of interest include dementia care, aged care, end of life care, and any general nursing topic. |
| Bridget Henderson | bridget.henderson@flinders.edu.au | Nursing, Nurse education | My research area is nurse education. However, my nursing background is emergency nursing and the Nurse Practitioner role, I am happy to explore research projects in nurse education, emergency nursing and the nurse practitioner role. |
| Dr Lauren Lines | lauren.lines@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Nursing, trauma-informed care, preventing child abuse and neglect | My research focuses on the roles of nurses and health professionals in disrupting cycles of abuse as universal touch-points for all families. By partnering with professionals and families, I lead innovative projects that enable health practitioners to more effectively address families' needs to reduce the impacts of child abuse and neglect. I am able to supervise honours students with their own projects, or by joining one of my existing projects. |
| Associate Professor Amanda Muller | amanda.muller@flinders.edu.au | Mental Health, Nursing, Disability | I am the founder of a consumer-led team of assistance dog handlers. We ask about assistance dog refusals and other barriers of access when using an assistance animal. |

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|--|--|---|---|
| Associate Professor Yvonne Parry | yvonne.parry@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Nursing, Psychosocial well-being, Interdisciplinary paediatric care, acute care or community setting | Research evaluating acute care or community child focused models of care with extended health access, advanced referral processes and industry collaborations addressing the health and developmental needs of the children. Past students from SP, paramedics and nursing. More than one project is available on request. |
| Dr Meg Polacsek | meg.polacsek@ariia.org.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Nursing, Psychosocial well-being | Aged Care Research and Industry Innovation Australia (ARIIA) is leading the positive transformation of aged care workforce capability and capacity across Australia. While focusing on the aged care workforce, the research area of this project extends to other caring professions and contexts. |
| Dr Nina Sivertsen | nina.sivertsen@flinders.edu.au | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Midwifery, Nursing, Paramedicine | My work centres on the impacts of colonisation and assimilation on healthcare, with a particular focus on integrating culture into mainstream health care provision. My research primarily addresses women's and family health, health systems and services research, and contributes to shaping restorative policies and practices in mainstream health that benefit Sāmi, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. |

Nutrition

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Kristy Burfield | kristy.burfield@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Clinical Rehabilitation, Nutrition | Hospitalized patients benefit from shared meals, which enhance protein intake and boost morale, leading to better rehabilitation outcomes. COVID-19 restrictions halted group dining, and many rehabilitation settings have yet to resume this practice. This study aims to identify barriers and enablers to re-establish communal meals in these environments. |
| Dr Louisa Matwiejczyk | louisa.matwiejczyk@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Nutrition | My research focuses on translating knowledge into practice, with a particular emphasis on early childhood nutrition. I apply evidence-based programs and policies in childcare and related settings. I specialise in qualitative research, exploring barriers and enablers, while also engaging in mixed-methods approaches. More recently I lead health profession research exploring the students experience of interprofessional practice or being an International student. |
| Dr Georgia Middleton | georgia.middleton@flinders.edu.au | Behaviour, Early Childhood and Childhood, Nutrition | My research focuses on community nutrition, food insecurity, and social and cultural aspects of food, with a special interest in shared eating occasions, such as family meals and school meal programs. I have a particular interest in fostering children's health through supporting the mental, physical and social health of parents' and the family as a unit. |
| Dr Alison Yaxley | alison.yaxley@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Nutrition | I am a dietitian researching mainly with older adults in healthy ageing and aged care, particularly home based aged care at the moment. I have track record in researching malnutrition, nutritional screening and assessment, food service and clinical nutrition. Please contact me to discuss any nutrition related areas of interest. |

Optometry

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|--|--|---|---|
| Professor Nicola Anstice | nicola.anstice@flinders.edu.au | Early Childhood and Childhood, Optometry | My research investigates ways to improve vision and academic outcomes in children. This involves early interventions to provide appropriate vision aids and other supports necessary to ensure that children succeed at school. |
| Dr Jose Estevez | jose.estevez@flinders.edu.au | Optometry, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Health Sciences, epidemiology, risk profiling, translational health research | The current research portfolio includes understanding the epidemiology, sociodemographic, biological, genetic and epigenetic aspects of blinding eye diseases relevant to priority populations and, ultimately, how to find better ways to screen for and prevent blindness. My areas of research expertise embrace vision-related functional outcomes and biological and socioeconomic markers of diabetic retinopathy through large-scale population-based eye studies, including longitudinal cohorts. |
| Dr Mallika Prem Senthil | mallika.premsthil@flinders.edu.au | Optometry | I am an ophthalmologist, and my focus of research is investigating the utility of ocular imaging as a biomarker for systemic diseases such as peripheral arterial disease, carotid artery disease and idiopathic intracranial hypertension. My other areas of research are patient-reported outcome measures, quality of life and Rasch analysis. |

Palliative Care

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|---|--|--|---|
| Dr Anita De Bellis | anita.debellis@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Nursing, Palliative Care | My areas of interest include dementia care, aged care, end of life care, and any general nursing topic. |
| Associate Professor Stuart Ekberg | stuart.ekberg@flinders.edu.au | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Cancer Survivorship, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Palliative Care, Psychosocial well-being | My research uses direct observation to develop insights about communication in healthcare that can be used to inform policy and practice. Using conversation analysis methods, recent projects have examined communication in (adult and paediatric) palliative care, advance care planning, cancer survivorship, and healthcare for First Nations peoples. I usually help students nest their studies in larger nationally-funded projects, to give real-world insights into what a research career is like. |
| Dr Angela Rong Yang Zhang | angela.zhang@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Disability, Mental Health, Palliative Care, Psychosocial well-being | My research focuses on improving care in aged and long-term care settings through medical anthropology. I examine how lived experiences, care practices, and systems impact people's well-being, using ethnographic and multimodal qualitative methods to inform policy and enhance the quality of life for vulnerable populations. |

Paramedicine

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Dr Nina Sivertsen | nina.sivertsen@flinders.edu.au | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, Early Childhood and Childhood, Health Sciences, Midwifery, Nursing, Paramedicine | My work centres on the impacts of colonisation and assimilation on healthcare, with a particular focus on integrating culture into mainstream health care provision. My research primarily addresses women's and family health, health systems and services research, and contributes to shaping restorative policies and practices in mainstream health that benefit S mi, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. |
| James Pearce | james.pearce@flinders.edu.au | Paramedicine | Paramedicine, prehospital care, paramedic education, scoping reviews, systematic reviews, health research reporting guidelines. |

Physiotherapy

| Name & Link to Online Profile | Email Address | Area(s) of Research Focus | Brief Description of Research |
|---|--|---|--|
| Associate Professor Elizabeth Lynch | elizabeth.lynch@flinders.edu.au | Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Health Sciences, Physiotherapy, Life after stroke | I conduct research to improve the way stroke rehabilitation is delivered, and research to improve quality of life and wellbeing after stroke. I routinely partner with people with lived experience of stroke when doing research |
| Associate Professor Claire Baldwin | claire.baldwin@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Clinical Rehabilitation, Physiotherapy | Physical activity in older adults - helping the most at risk patients in hospital get moving. Acute care. Clinical education. |
| Dr Janine Margarita Dizon | janinemargarita.dizon@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Physiotherapy | My research focuses on evidence-based practice in medicine and allied health. My work emphasises improving healthcare through evidence synthesis with a goal to implement effective, research-based healthcare practices across various settings. |
| Dr Nicky Baker | nicky.baker@ariaa.org.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Health Sciences, Physiotherapy | This project falls within an interdisciplinary research space, including gerontology (focusing on the psychological, social, and economic aspects of aging, addressing challenges for older populations), social work (focusing on individual and community wellbeing, social systems and services), and public health (improving the health of populations through collaboration, education, and policy). |
| Associate Professor Belinda Lange | belinda.lange@flinders.edu.au | Aged Care and Ageing, Behaviour, Cardiovascular Health, Clinical Rehabilitation, Disability, Health Sciences, Mental Health, Physiotherapy, Psychosocial well-being, Health Economics, Digital health | My research involves working with clinicians and people with different conditions to understand how they currently use digital technologies and co-design and evaluate how technologies (e.g. apps, virtual reality, artificial intelligence) can improve care. I have experience working with people with neurological and mental health conditions, older adults, and veteran populations. |

PART 2: Specific Projects Available for Honours

This part contains specific projects that are currently available within the College of Nursing and Health Sciences for the Bachelor of Health Sciences (Honours) program.

Further details about the College of Nursing and Health Sciences research institute, Caring Futures Institute can be found [here](#), with a list of research staff profiles [here](#).

Students should contact potential supervisors to discuss Honours projects with them in more detail before submitting an Honours application.

1. Mapping paediatric standards of care in the Asia-Pacific region

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| Supervision Team |
| Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Yvonne Parry yvonne.parry@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: N/A |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| This project is negotiable: International organizations like the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Pediatric Association (IPA) offer guidelines that many countries in the region might follow or adapt to their own needs. Examples include: Standards for child health services Guidelines for immunization, nutrition, and disease prevention in children Emergency pediatric care protocols. Mapping the pediatric nursing standard of care in the Asia-Pacific region involves understanding the variations in healthcare systems, professional standards, and cultural contexts across diverse countries in this region. |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| https://www.accypn.org.au/knowledge-centre/standards-of-practice/ |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

2. Literature review: the impact of workplace bullying on nurses

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| Supervision Team |
| Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Yvonne Parry yvonne.parry@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: Dr Hila Dafny hila.dafny@flinders.edu.au |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| To systematically identify, appraise and synthesise qualitative studies investigating Registered Nurses' (RN) experiences of workplace violence (WPV) in the clinical setting. It is expected that the literature review findings will guide the development of targeted programs and policies to address WPV against RN. |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36440851/ |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

3. Experiences of co-design

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| Supervision Team |
| Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Elizabeth Lynch elizabeth.lynch@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: Dr Katie Nesbitt katie.nesbitt@flinders.edu.au |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| We are conducting a co-design project to design and evaluate a website. The Honours project will investigate what has worked well and what could be improved regarding how researchers from different professional disciplines and people with lived experience have worked together |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| N/A |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

4. How do professionals provide early support when parents are experiencing challenges that place children at risk?

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| Supervision Team |
| Primary Supervisor: Dr Lauren Lines lauren.lines@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: N/A |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| Child abuse and neglect are global challenges with serious, lifelong consequences for children's health, development and wellbeing. Parents are unfairly blamed for child abuse because contributing factors are often beyond parents' control such as past trauma, mental/physical illness, social inequalities and discrimination. Instead of blaming parents, evidence shows that supporting parents reduces impacts of abuse on children and helps disrupt inter-generational cycles of harm. Health professionals are well-placed to intervene early and mitigate the impacts of harm to children. However, health professionals roles and responsibilities in early support are not well-understood, meaning health professionals are rarely sufficiently equipped and resourced to enable children to thrive within their own families, communities and cultures. This scoping review will define prevention and early support activities undertaken by health professionals to increase their visibility and enable education, support and resources that can make a difference for vulnerable families. |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| Lines et al 2024, Research priorities co-designed with mothers and the professionals who support them: https://fac.flinders.edu.au/items/6c8cdae9-b28c-4bb9-a9bf-4d74b98a16f6 |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

5. What are the supportive care needs of people affected by cancer in prisons?

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| Supervision Team |
| Primary Supervisor: Professor Catherine Paterson catherine.paterson@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: N/A |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| Little is known about the unique supportive care needs of people affected by cancer in prison. This systematic review research project aims to critically synthesise existing evidence to inform future clinical pathways to better address the care needs of people diagnosed with cancer in prisons. |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| Paterson C, Toohey K, Bacon R, Kavanagh PS, Roberts C. What Are the Unmet Supportive Care Needs of People Affected by Cancer: An Umbrella Systematic Review. <i>Semin Oncol Nurs</i> . 2023 Jun;39(3):151353. doi: 10.1016/j.soncn.2022.151353. Epub 2022 Nov 23. PMID: 36435657. |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

6. Cancer survivorship for people with intellectual disability: a systematic review

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| Supervision Team |
| Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Michelle Bellon Michelle.Bellon@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: Dr Jennifer Baldock jbaldock@cancersa.org.au |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Despite advances in healthcare, people with intellectual disability face persistent disparities in accessing and receiving appropriate cancer care, leading to poorer cancer-related outcomes compared to the general population (Boonman et al 2022). Accessible information and effective communication and support in cancer care is required, with the recent Disability Royal Commission receiving evidence of ongoing barriers and systemic issues in healthcare provision for this population (Commonwealth, 2023). There is a notable gap in understanding of cancer survivorship for people with intellectual disability, and a lack of tailored, accessible, and appropriate supports.</p> <p>The aim of this project is to conduct a systematic literature review to identify and examine peer-reviewed research exploring cancer survivorship experiences and supports for people with intellectual disability. Findings will directly inform current collaborative research conducted by Flinders University and the Cancer Council SA.</p> <p>Research activities will be collaboratively determined by multidisciplinary team members including the student, Community Researchers, and the Advisory Group</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australian Government. (2023). https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/national-roadmap-for-improving-the-health-of-people-with-intellectual-disability#about-the-roadmap Boonman, Anne J et al. (2022). Cancer treatment and decision making in individuals with intellectual disabilities: a scoping literature review. <i>The Lancet Oncology</i>, Volume 23, Issue 4, e174 - e183 doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(21)00694-X Dunn, M., et al. (2024). Equitable and accessible informed healthcare consent process for people with intellectual disability: a systematic literature review. <i>BMJ Quality & Safety</i>. doi.org/10.1136/bmjqs-2023-016113 |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Full-time only |

7. Exploring the experiences, needs and preferences of cancer survivorship for people with intellectual disability

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Michelle Bellon Michelle.Bellon@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Dr Jennifer Baldock jbaldock@cancersa.org.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Despite advances in healthcare, people with intellectual disability face persistent disparities in accessing and receiving appropriate cancer care, leading to poorer cancer-related outcomes compared to the general population (Boonman et al 2022). Accessible information and effective communication and support in cancer care is required, with the recent Disability Royal Commission receiving evidence of ongoing barriers and systemic issues in healthcare provision for this population (Commonwealth, 2023). There is a notable gap in understanding of cancer survivorship for people with intellectual disability, and a lack of tailored, accessible, and appropriate supports.</p> <p>This project will conduct a qualitative exploration of the experiences, needs and preferences of cancer survivorship for people with intellectual disability. A mix of semi-structured interviews and/or focus groups (depending on participant preference) will be conducted with people with (1) intellectual disability, (2) caregivers, (3) service providers or (4) healthcare professionals to collect diverse perspectives on cancer survivorship and identify existing resources and gaps in support for people with intellectual disability after a cancer diagnosis. The honours student can select which of these groups they would like to focus their study on. Interviews and focus groups will be co-led by academic and Community Researchers, with interview domains developed through iterative feedback with multi-disciplinary team members and the Advisory Group.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Government. (2023). https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/national-roadmap-for-improving-the-health-of-people-with-intellectual-disability#about-the-roadmap • Boonman, Anne J et al. (2022). Cancer treatment and decision making in individuals with intellectual disabilities: a scoping literature review. The Lancet Oncology, Volume 23, Issue 4, e174 - e183 doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(21)00694-X • Dunn, M., et al. (2024). Equitable and accessible informed healthcare consent process for people with intellectual disability: a systematic literature review. BMJ Quality & Safety. doi.org/10.1136/bmjqs-2023-016113 |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Full-time only |

8. Evaluating the benefit of preventing deconditioning in cancer patients

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| Supervision Team |
| <p>Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Rachel Milte rachel.milte@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: N/A</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>This project will evaluate the effectiveness of a new program currently being implemented in CAHLN to prevent deconditioning and improve outcomes for cancer patients. The program is multidisciplinary, involving physiotherapists, nurses, allied health assistants, occupational therapists. The honours project will use data collected from current patients via hospital systems as well as via online surveys conducted with patients after their discharge. We will use this data to understand the impact of the program on patients, their quality of life and wellbeing, and their journey through the health system. We will look at the costs of running the program, as well as the potential savings to the health system through improving length of hospital stay, discharge destination, reducing community services etc. This project has the potential to influence policy and practice.</p> <p>No specific degree background required, but would suit students from Allied Health background or with an interest in multidisciplinary teams. The project will involve analysis of quantitative data.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Suggested reading: Drummond, M. F., Sculpher, M. J., Claxton, K., Stoddart, G. L., & Torrance, G. W. (2015). <i>Methods for the Economic Evaluation of Health Care Programmes</i> (4th ed.). Oxford University Press.</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

9. Cancer Survivorship and lymphoedema

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| Supervision Team |
| Primary Supervisor: Dr Matthew Wallen matthew.wall@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: TBC |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| Hayes-Dinnie Scholarship \$5000 – for a student interested in pursuing a PhD after Honours |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| Contact Supervisor for further details |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Full-time only |

10. Assistance dog handlers experience of working with assistance dogs

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| Supervision Team |
| Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Amanda Muller amanda.muller@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: N/A |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| We have a dataset of two years of Facebook comments in a group called the Dog Guide Handlers Australia. In this group, peer-to-peer support is provided. The aim of the study is to understand common questions and themes that handlers post about, such as refusals, equipment, access to shops, access to dogs, and so on. The experiences before and during covid may be different, and may form part of the analysis. |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| https://www.researchgate.net/publication/363878105_Moral_Panic_over_Fake_Service_Animals https://engage.dss.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Addendum-Draft-Solutions-Part-III.0420-1.pdf |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

11. Investigating the outcomes of Nurse referrals for children aged 0-5, following a Child Health and Development Check (CHDC) at their center daycare, as reported by parents and nurses involved with the Office of Early Childhood Development/Caring Futures Institute research pilot 2022-24.

| Supervision Team |
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| Primary Supervisor: Dr Matthew Ankers matthew.ankers@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: Associate Professor Yvonne Parry yvonne.parry@flinders.edu.au |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Aim: To examine referral uptakes and outcomes, including the barriers and facilitators identified by parents and nurses that impacted uptake and outcomes, for children engaged with the Nurse-led Child Development and Health Checks (aged 0 to 5) at centre daycares, to understand impact, and help improve processes.</p> <p>Suggested project objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate related literature on health referral uptake by parents in a community setting, including barriers and facilitators to understand research gaps, inform ethics application, and data collection. 2. Completion of ethics application, including gaining permission from relevant stakeholders to perform research (i.e. Office of Early Childhood Development and centre daycares), addressing ethical issues related to project, and production of participant information sheet and consent forms for proposed research. 3. Production of interview schedule for parents and nurses investigating referral type, uptake, barriers and facilitators to uptake, wait times associated with referral, and recommendations to improve referral processes. 4. Contact parents and nurses, conduct interviews, transcription, analysis of data to evaluate referrals and referral processes related to CHDC project and establish what is working well, and where changes might be needed. 5. Use elements of project to write honours thesis, and produce publications. |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Some suggested reading -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parry, YK., Sivertsen. N., Willis, E., Briley, A., Lines, L., Anstice, N., Bell, A., Ankers, M., Ahad, Md, A., and Yin H. (2024) Improving Health and Developmental Outcomes for Children Aged 0 to 5 Years: Child Development Check Pilot Phase 1, 2022 to 2023. Final Report, The Office for Early Childhood Development and Flinders University, Caring Futures Institute, https://researchnow-admin.flinders.edu.au/ws/portalfiles/portal/125647374/Parry_Improving_P2024.pdf 2. AEDC. (2022). About the AEDC. https://www.aedc.gov.au/about-the-aedc 3. Child Development Council (CDC). (2020). Policy brief 1: South Australiaâ€™s surprising downward trend in AECD results. https://www.childrensa.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Policy-Brief-1-AEDC-FINAL-2020-08-25-1.pdf 4. CDC. (2021). Annual report 2020-21. Government of South Australia, https://childrensa.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/CDC-AR-2021-22-Web.pdf 5. Sheeran, L., Zhao, L., Buchanan, K. & Xenos, S. (2021). Enablers and Barriers to Identifying Children at Risk of Developmental Delay: A Pilot Study of Australian Maternal and Child Health Services. Maternal and Child Health Journal, 25, 967â€“979, https://doi.org/10.1007/s10995-020-03077-0 |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

12. Exploring the utility of optical coherence tomography angiography as an ocular biomarker for idiopathic intracranial hypertension.

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Dr Mallika Prem Senthil mallika.premsenthil@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Ranjay Chakraborty ranjay.chakraborty@flinders.edu.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Background Idiopathic intracranial hypertension (IIH) is a disorder of unknown cause characterised by elevated intracranial pressure (ICP) that usually occurs in obese women of childbearing years. The precise measurement and continuous monitoring of ICP are crucial in caring for patients with IIH. ICP can be accurately assessed using lumbar and transcranial methods which are invasive and carry increased risk of bleeding and infection. Several non-invasive methods such as MRI and CT have also been used to monitor the ICP changes in patients with raised IIH. However, these methods have limitations such as low sensitivity and specificity. Therefore, more accurate and reliable biomarkers are needed to evaluate the disease state. Studies have shown that increase CSF pressure is associated with a reduction in blood flow to the eye. Therefore, retinal imaging could be used for early detecting and monitoring of disease progress in IIH.</p> <p>Aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To compare the retinal structural and vascular changes between patients with IIH and healthy controls. 2. To correlate the microvascular changes in the retina with the disease severity. <p>Study design: Setting: Flinders Health2GO Clinic, Bedford Park, Flinders University and Department of Ophthalmology, Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Study type: Pilot, non-randomised, case-control study. iii. Subjects: Twenty participants with IIH (10 with early disease and 10 with late disease) will be recruited from the Department of Ophthalmology, Royal Adelaide Hospital. Twenty age and gender matched healthy participants will be recruited from Flinders Health2GO Clinic as controls. iv. Sample size: This is a proof-of-concept study to investigate the role of OCTA in patients with IIH. |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Markey KA, Mollan SP, Jensen RH, et al. Understanding idiopathic intracranial hypertension: mechanisms, management, and future directions. <i>Lancet Neurol</i> 2016; 15: 78-91. 2. Kesler A and Gadoth N. Epidemiology of idiopathic intracranial hypertension in Israel. <i>J Neuroophthalmol</i> 2001; 21: 12-14. 3. Raoof N, Sharrack B, Pepper IM, et al. The incidence and prevalence of idiopathic intracranial hypertension in Sheffield, UK. <i>Eur J Neurol</i> 2011; 18: 1266-1268. 4. Durcan FJ, Corbett JJ and Wall M. The incidence of pseudotumor cerebri. Population studies in Iowa and Louisiana. <i>Arch Neurol</i> 1988; 45: 875-877. 5. Craig JJ, Mulholland DA and Gibson JM. Idiopathic intracranial hypertension; incidence, presenting features and outcome in Northern Ireland (1991-1995). <i>Ulster Med J</i> 2001; 70: 31-35. |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Full-time only |

13. How do people with disability feel about their involvement in behaviour support planning?

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Dr Alinka Fisher alinka.fisher@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: N/A</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Positive behaviour support (PBS) is funded under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) for people with disability who are subjected to regulated restrictive practices (e.g., physical and chemical restraint, seclusion) to manage behaviours of concern. PBS is described as a person-centred and value-driven practice, which seeks to address underlying reasons for behaviour of concern with a focus on promoting and protecting a person's rights. There are growing concerns, however, that human rights principles are not always reflected in practice. Core to person-centred and rights-based practices is the person's involvement in process - e.g., in identifying challenges and solutions, and developing PBS goals that achieve meaningful outcomes (i.e., reflect their values and preferences).</p> <p>This research will contribute to our understanding of current practice from the perspective of people with disability who receive PBS funding. Specifically, it will use qualitative study design (interviews) to examine whether the person has been involved in the manner and to the extent that they have wanted throughout the PBS process, and how satisfied they have been with the support they've received (e.g. to facilitate this involvement) and if the PBS process resulted in meaningful outcomes.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Fisher, A,... et al. (2024). A positive behaviour support practice framework for disability and community services in Australia that prioritises human rights and evidence-based practices. https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09638288.2024.2402079</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| <p>Either full-time or part-time</p> |

14. Does the way we talk about behaviour impact the way we approach behaviour support for people with dementia?

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| Supervision Team |
| Primary Supervisor: Dr Alinka Fisher alinka.fisher@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: N/A |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>In Australia, behaviour support for people with dementia is currently under the spotlight, with the Aged Care Royal Commission revealing abuse and neglect, and an over-reliance on chemical restraint (pharmacological intervention) to manage changed behaviours. This was followed by urgent recommendations for service reform and staff training in non-pharmacological approaches that prioritise quality of life outcomes.</p> <p>However, despite non-pharmacological interventions being recommended and behaviour support plans now required for people with dementia in residential aged care subjected to restrictive practices to manage behaviours, it is not clear who (i.e., what profession) should be conducting this work or what practice model is required.</p> <p>Within what appears to be a confused service model, a shared understanding of how we communicate and approach behaviour support is crucial. Core to this discussion, and the focus of this project, is the topic of language. Currently, there are number of different terms used to describe behavioural and psychological 'symptoms' of dementia, also including 'changed' and 'challenging' behaviours. Is it possible this confusion will lead to varied preconceptions and varied interpretations regarding process? For example, if we are discussing behavioural 'symptoms' is this prompting pharmacological intervention ('treatment') over non-pharmacological interventions that address causal factors in the environment?</p> <p>This research will contribute to our understanding of the relationship between language, attitudes and approaches to behaviour support. Specifically, it will use a survey design to examine family and staff perceptions regarding different terminology to describe BPSD and how this informs required supports/intervention planning.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| Fisher, A., Connolly, T., O'Connell, C. and Kelly, G. (2022), Positive behaviour support for people with dementia. Int J Geriatr Psychiatry, 37: https://doi.org/10.1002/gps.5844 |
| Dementia Australia Language Guidelines: https://www.dementia.org.au/sites/default/files/2023-10/Dementia-language-guidelines.pdf |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

15. GP comfort in providing survivorship care to adults with cancer: a qualitative study

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Carolyn Ee carolyn.ee@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Chad Han chad.han@flinders.edu.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>There were more than 54 million people living with cancer worldwide in 2022 including over 1 million in Australia. The number of cancer survivors in Australia is predicted to grow to 1.9 million in 2040.</p> <p>Approximately 50 % of GPs surveyed by our team express full comfort in providing comprehensive survivorship care to cancer survivors. This may be due to a variety of reasons including experience, exposure, plus communication barriers between tertiary and primary care. We aim to further elicit these reasons and the context given the potential increased and more defined role GPs could play in providing cancer survivorship care. Further understanding in this area can inform practice and policy, especially given that GPs themselves are specialist generalists within the community and thus are well placed to provide culturally appropriate, holistic and cost-effective long term surveillance and cancer survivorship care.</p> <p>Aims: understand the barriers and enablers of providing survivorship care to adults with cancer.</p> <p>Methods: Semi-structured in-depth interviews will be conducted with GPs, exploring experiences with and barriers and enablers of providing survivorship care. Interviews will be audio-recorded and transcribed verbatim, and then subjected to thematic analysis using the framework approach. Analysis will be informed by the Capability, Opportunity, Motivation and Behaviour (COM-B) model.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Vos et al 2023. Primary care physicians's knowledge and confidence in providing cancer survivorship care: a systematic review https://doi.org/10.1007/s11764-023-01397-y</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Full-time only |

16. Safety on Campus: Identity the required resources and services to create a safer environment on Sturt campus and positively affect CNHS students' learning experience and well-being.

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| Supervision Team |
| Primary Supervisor: Dr Hila Dafny hila.dafny@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: N/A |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>This project will aim to determine the needed services and resources to be implemented on Campus to create a safer environment for the CNHS students and improve safety on campus. The purpose of this research is to create a safer environment for the students that will improve their learning experience and well-being.</p> <p>According to the national student safety (Heywood et al., 2022), 16% of Australian University context students had been sexually harassed, and 4.5% were sexually assaulted. Nearly half (43.3%) of these incidents happened on campus areas. These results do not differ from the data collected at Flinders University. The National Student Safety Survey (Heywood et al., 2022) revealed that 17.3% of Flinders University students had experienced sexual harassment and 4.2% sexual harassment since starting university. The general campus areas were also reported by 40% of the surveyed students (1,030), followed by the University Library (21.7%0 and University lecture theatres, and computer labs (20.5%). Interestingly, nearly half of the surveyed participants (National and at Flinders) were unaware of the available support and reporting channels. Only a quarter who were sexually assaulted and 16.8% (14.% at Flinders University) who are sexually harassed sought support. The majority of these incidents happened with female university students.</p> <p>The outcomes of this project will be identifying the required resources and services that CNHS students need to feel safe on Campus, which could be applied across Flinders Campuses. Also, the outcomes will highlight the procedure that should be used to improve safety and ensure visibility of the services to raise sexual assault awareness.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Dworkin, E. R. (2020). Risk for Mental Disorders Associated With Sexual Assault: A Meta-Analysis. <i>Trauma Violence Abuse</i>, 21(5), 1011-1028. https://doi.org/10.1177/1524838018813198</p> <p>Fry, D., Fang, X., Elliott, S., Casey, T., Zheng, X., Li, J., Florian, L., & McCluskey, G. (2018). The relationships between violence in childhood and educational outcomes: A global systematic review and meta-analysis. <i>Child Abuse & Neglect</i>, 75, 6-28. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2017.06.021</p> <p>Heywood, W., Myers, P., Powell, A., Meikle, G., & Nguyen, D. (2022). National Student Safety Survey: Report on the prevalence of sexual harassment and sexual assault among university students in 2021. https://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2021-NSSS-National-Report.pdf</p> <p>Molstad, T. D., Weinhardt, J. M., & Jones, R. (2023). Sexual assault as a contributor to academic outcomes in university: A systematic review. <i>Trauma, Violence, & Abuse</i>, 24(1), 218-230. https://doi.org/10.1177/15248380211030247</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

17. Implementing effective interventions to reduce work-place violence towards healthcare providers.

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| Supervision Team |
| Primary Supervisor: Dr Hila Dafny hila.dafny@flinders.edu.au |
| Secondary Supervisors: N/A |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Workplace violence (WPV) is a significant global issue for the nursing profession¹. Nursing students are particularly vulnerable to WPV due to their sense of powerlessness, belief that it is part of the job and reluctance to address or report WPV^{2,3}. Workplace violence is known to adversely affect nursing students' physical and mental health, inhibit their learning experience which prevents them from developing appropriate caring behaviours with patients⁴ and is associated with poor retention^{1,5,6}. Therefore, implementing strategies to manage workplace violence toward nursing students during their clinical placement is essential to the future of the nursing profession. The translation of current recent evidence of effective strategies to reduce WPV in the clinical practice environment has been sadly lacking. This research project aims to bridge the research practice gap by implementing evidence based WPV reduction strategies for the purpose of increasing nurses' knowledge, skills, communication, and support in regard to WPV. This project will measure outcomes of reduced incidence of WPV, improved knowledge, skills and confidence of SRN capacity to successfully identify, manage and deescalate WPV events.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>1. Budden, L. M., Birks, M., Cant, R., Bagley, T. & Park, T. Australian nursing students' experience of bullying and/or harassment during clinical placement. <i>Collegian</i> (Royal College of Nursing, Australia) 24, 125-133, doi:10.1016/j.colegn.2015.11.004 (2017).</p> <p>2 Birks, M. et al. Uncovering degrees of workplace bullying: A comparison of baccalaureate nursing students' experiences during clinical placement in Australia and the UK. <i>Nurse Education in Practice</i> 25, 14-21, doi:https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.nepr.2017.04.011 (2017).</p> <p>3 Kim, S. A., Hong, E., Kang, G. Y., Brandt, C. & Kim, Y. Effect of Korean nursing students' experience of incivility in clinical settings on critical thinking. <i>Heliyon</i> 6, e04367, doi:https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2020.e04367 (2020).</p> <p>4 Birks, M., Budden, L. M., Biedermann, N., Park, T. & Chapman, Y. A 'rite of passage?': Bullying experiences of nursing students in Australia. <i>Collegian</i> 25, 45-50, doi:10.1016/j.colegn.2017.03.005 (2018).</p> <p>5 Tee, S. & Valiee, S. Experience of Workplace Violence Toward Nursing Students in Iran: A Qualitative Study. <i>Journal of Forensic Nursing</i> 16, 83-89, doi:10.1097/JFN.0000000000000285 (2020).</p> <p>6 Tee, S., Uzar Ozcetin, Y. S. & Russell-Westhead, M. Workplace violence experienced by nursing students: A UK survey. <i>Nurse Education Today</i> 41, 30-35, doi:https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.nedt.2016.03.014 (2016).</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

18. A description of Allied Health roles and services: A scoping review

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| Supervision Team |
| <p>Primary Supervisor: Stacey George stacey.george@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Dr Janine Margarita Dizon janinemargarita.dizon@flinders.edu.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Many challenges are facing Allied Health services in Australia, such as an ageing population, increased prevalence of chronic disease, the NDIS and high service demand, high consumer expectations and rising costs. These challenges are occurring across a variety of practice settings and necessitate work force strategies to address these challenges (Primary Health Network Cooperative , 2022) such as consideration of how Allied Health Therapy Assistants are utilised by Allied Health services (Department of Health, 2012, NSW Health, 2020). Allied health assistants (AHA) are support providers used across the allied health professions to describe assistants “who work under the delegation and supervision of an allied health professional, taking on less-complex treatment or care tasks, and performing administrative or other tasks that would otherwise reduce the time available for more complex direct care by more highly trained practitioners. AHAs may work within occupational therapy, other allied health disciplines, or at a multidisciplinary level to support and assist the allied health practitioner (OTA, 2015, p.3). In order to support the Allied Health professions with evidence-informed decision-making regarding the implementation of Allied Health Assistant roles and services, a scoping review is needed.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary Health Network Cooperative , 2022 https://sarrah.org.au/images/The-National-PHN-Allied-Health-in-Primary-Care-Engagement-Framework.pdf 2. OTA (2015) Position Paper: The role of allied health assistants in supporting occupational therapy practice https://otaus.com.au/publicassets/b3ca7880-2703-e911-a2c2-b75c2fd918c5/The%20role%20of%20Allied%20Health%20Assistants%20in%20Supporting%20Occupational%20Therapy%20Practice.pdf |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Full-time only |

19. A Systematic Scoping Review of Active Allyship in Health

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Dr Nina Sivertsen nina.sivertsen@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Tahlia Johnson tahlia.johnson@flinders.edu.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Background and Aims: This project aims to systematically explore the concept of active allyship within health, focusing on its role in fostering culturally safe healthcare environments. Specifically, it will examine the literature to identify definitions, frameworks, and practices of allyship that support marginalised communities, particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and racial minorities. The ultimate goal is to provide recommendations for embedding active allyship into health and clinical practice to promote equity and inclusivity in healthcare settings.</p> <p>Methods: The project will employ a systematic scoping review methodology, following the framework outlined by Arksey and O'Malley (2005) and enhanced by Levac et al. (2010). This method is suitable for mapping key concepts and identifying gaps in the literature. The search will cover databases such as PubMed, CINAHL, Scopus, and Google Scholar using keywords like "allyship," "cultural safety," "nursing," and "health sciences." Inclusion criteria will focus on peer-reviewed studies, grey literature, and policy documents that discuss allyship practices in healthcare. Data extraction will categorise themes such as the role of allyship in patient care, healthcare education, and organisational policies.</p> <p>This review will suit students who wish to inform educational strategies for future healthcare professionals to become active allies in diverse clinical settings.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Arksey, H., & O'Malley, L. (2005). Scoping studies: towards a methodological framework. <i>International journal of social research methodology</i>, 8(1), 19-32.</p> <p>DiAngelo, R. (2016). White fragility. <i>Counterpoints</i>, 497, 245-253.</p> <p>DiAngelo, R. (2022). <i>White Fragility: Why Understanding Racism Can Be So Hard for White People</i> (Adapted for Young Adults). Beacon Press.</p> <p>Levac, D., Colquhoun, H., & O'Brien, K. K. (2010). Scoping studies: advancing the methodology. <i>Implementation science</i>, 5, 1-9.</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

20. Exploring ICU nurses' perceptions and experiences of their education and training to support patients' fundamental care needs

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Dr Anne Mette Adams mette.adams@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Professor Tiffany Conroy tiffany.conroy@flinders.edu.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>This honours project aims to investigate how intensive care unit (ICU) nurses perceive and experience their education and training in relation to providing fundamental care for critically ill patients. Fundamental care refers to the care needs required by everyone regardless of their clinical condition or the care setting. This includes activities relating to mobility, hydration, nutrition, respect, dignity, communication and privacy, to name a few. However, these fundamental needs are inconsistently provided in the ICU due to the complex and technological nature of the environment where medical interventions frequently take priority. Using a qualitative approach, this study will conduct in-depth interviews with ICU nurses to explore how their postgraduate training has prepared them to meet patients'™ fundamental care needs. By examining their experiences, the study seeks to identify potential gaps in education programs and uncover areas for improvement in preparing nurses to deliver comprehensive, patient-centred care in the ICU.</p> <p>This project offers prospective honours students the opportunity to network with the critical care community and develop skills in qualitative research, particularly in interviewing healthcare professionals and analysing data to derive meaningful insights. The findings from this study will contribute to improving postgraduate critical care courses, thereby promoting the quality of care provided in ICU settings. Students interested in critical care, the provision of fundamental care, nursing education, and qualitative research methods will find this project especially valuable.</p> <p>Additional information The student undertaking this study will need good time management skills and motivation. No additional resources are needed to complete the study.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Feo, R., Conroy, T., Jangland, E., Muntlin Athlin, Å...., Brovall, M., Parr, J., Blomberg, K., & Kitson, A. (2017). Towards a standardised definition for fundamental care: A modified Delphi study. <i>Journal of Clinical Nursing</i>, 27, 2285-2299. doi: 10.1111/jocn.14247</p> <p>Read more about the FoC framework on the ILC webpage: https://ilccare.org/what-is-fundamental-care/</p> <p>Kiwanuka, F., Shayan, S. J., & Tolulope, A. A. (2019). Barriers to patient and family-centred care in adult intensive care units: A systematic review. <i>Nursing open</i>, 6(3), 676-684.</p> <p>Minton, C., Batten, L., & Huntington, A. (2018). The impact of a prolonged stay in the ICU on patients'™ fundamental care needs. <i>Journal of Clinical Nursing</i>, 27(11-12), 2300-2310.</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

21. Exploring clinicians' experiences of the nonpharmacological management of patient agitation in the Australian ICUs

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Dr Anne Mette Adams mette.adams@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Professor Frances Lin frances.lin@flinders.edu.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>This honours project aims to explore clinicians' experiences of how patient agitation is currently managed using nonpharmacological interventions in Australian intensive care units (ICUs). Patient agitation is a common and challenging issue in ICUs, requiring prompt recognition and effective interventions to prevent complications. While effective nonpharmacological management is essential to avoid side effects of medications, it is unclear how patient agitation is currently managed in Australian ICUs and how this aligns with novel guidelines developed by Dr Adams and colleagues.</p> <p>Through in-depth interviews, this project will investigate ICU clinicians' experiences with existing management strategies. Although guidelines on nonpharmacological interventions have been established, there is limited understanding of how current practices in Australian ICUs align with these guideline recommendations. This study seeks to uncover potential gaps between existing guidelines and actual clinical practice, shedding light on areas for improvement.</p> <p>Prospective Honours students will gain valuable experience in qualitative research, particularly in interviewing clinicians and analysing data to generate meaningful insights. The findings from this project will contribute to the ongoing improvement of agitation management in the ICU, helping to ensure that patients receive timely, evidence-based care. Students interested in critical care, challenging patient behaviours and qualitative research methods will find this project highly relevant.</p> <p>Additional information The student undertaking this study will need good time management skills and motivation. No additional resources are needed to complete the study.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Adams, A. M. N., Chamberlain, D., GrÃ¼nkjÃ¼r, M., Thorup, C. B., & Conroy, T. (2021). Caring for patients displaying agitated behaviours in the intensive care unitâ€A mixed-methods systematic review. <i>Australian Critical Care</i>. Retrieved from https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1036731421000898</p> <p>Adams, A. M. N., Chamberlain, D., GrÃ¼nkjÃ¼r, M., Brun Thorup, C., & Conroy, T. (2022). Nonpharmacological interventions for agitation in the adult intensive care unit: A systematic review. <i>Australian Critical Care</i>. Retrieved from https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1036731422000315</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| <p>Either full-time or part-time</p> |

22. How can we better recruit (and retain) volunteers in aged care settings?

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| Supervision Team |
| <p>Primary Supervisor: Dr Nicky Baker nicky.baker@ariia.org.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Dr Stephanie Champion stephanie.champion@flinders.edu.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>In Australia, post COVID19, the number of volunteers is steadily declining. This poses a significant concern to the aged care sector where organisations rely on dedicated volunteers to provide essential support to older people. Volunteers in aged care provide essential social support to older people, building meaningful connections and fostering a sense of community that is vital for well-being.</p> <p>Recent investigations have suggested strategies for volunteer recruitment and retention, including creating flexible volunteering opportunities, tailoring marketing strategies to the appropriate audience, and matching prospective volunteers with available opportunities that align with their skills, knowledge and expertise. However, there is little practical advice on how this could be achieved at an organisational level.</p> <p>The aim of this research project is to develop a resource of low-cost approaches that could be used in an aged care setting to the recruitment support organisations in their recruitment and retention of volunteers.</p> <p>The project will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -A rapid review of the literature to identify recommended/evaluated strategies for recruiting and retaining volunteers in aged care settings; -Obtaining approval from a human research ethics committee to conduct qualitative interviews; -Recruiting a selection of volunteer managers from aged care services and current and past volunteers to participate in a series of co-design focus groups, to gain different perspectives on the experience of volunteers and what approaches have supported them to become/remain volunteers; and -Development of resources to inform aged care service providers on strategies to recruit and retain volunteers. |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Baker, N. (2023). Achieving things. Doing stuff. Making things happen. People aged 75 years and over reflect on volunteering. Reimagining Volunteering Part 2 Project Report prepared for Office for Ageing Well, SA Health, https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/bc7f5984-fe55-4abd-9eac-52b7bdcba18e/Reimagining+Volunteering+Part+2+Project+Report.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE-bc7f5984-fe55-4abd-9eac-52b7bdcba18e-oJ1nE0s</p> <p>Windsor, T., Mahlo, L., Gordon, S., Champion, S., & Rosso, E. (2023). Factors influencing older adults' decisions to volunteer. Volunteering Australia, https://volunteeringstrategy.org.au/VRP_Factors-influencing-older-adults-decisions-to-volunteer</p> <p>Woolford, M., Joyce, C. & Polacsek, M. (2022). Strategies to optimize aged care volunteer recruitment and retention: A systematic review, Journal of Gerontological Social Work, 65:1, 45-62, DOI: 10.1080/01634372.2021.1923605</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Full-time only |

23. Better support for menopause in the caring professions

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Dr Meg Polacsek meg.polacsek@ariia.org.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Dr Nicky Baker nicky.baker@ariia.org.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>The quality of aged care depends on a workforce that is well trained and supported, a positive workforce culture and an environment where staff feel valued and respected.</p> <p>In a predominantly female workforce, menopause can negatively affect productivity and efficiency, and lead to early retirement. We need menopause workplace policies and interventions to support women working in caring professions.</p> <p>The aim of this research project is to develop workplace policies, interventions and/or practical resources to support female aged care staff at this time of life.</p> <p>The project will involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -A rapid review of the literature to identify best practice approaches to supporting female staff to navigate this normal and natural stage of life; -Obtaining approval from a human research ethics committee to conduct qualitative interviews; -Recruiting and interviewing a selection of aged care employers and employees, to gain different perspectives on the experience of menopause in the workplace and the policies and interventions that might support women at this time of life; and -Development of resources to inform workplace policies and interventions. |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Banks, S. (2019). Menopause and the NHS: caring for and retaining the older workforce. <i>British Journal of Nursing</i>, 28(16), 1086-1090.</p> <p>Cronin, C., Abbott, J., Asiamah, N., & Smyth, S. (2024). Menopause at work – An organisation – based case study. <i>Nursing Open</i>, 11(1), e2058.</p> <p>Safwan, N., Saadedine, M., Shufelt, C. L., Kapoor, E., Kling, J. M., Chaudhry, R., & Faubion, S. S. (2024). Menopause in the workplace: Challenges, impact, and next steps. <i>Maturitas</i>, 107983.</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Full-time only |

24. Digital health competencies of healthcare professionals

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| Supervision Team |
| <p>Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Belinda Lange belinda.lange@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: N/A</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Digital Health is an umbrella term encompassing a variety of technologies used to treat patients and collect and share their health information. This can include mobile apps, electronic health records, e-prescribing, telehealth / telerehabilitation, robotics and interactive technologies, and wearable devices. Digitalization has transformed various aspects of healthcare, but its full implementation in clinical practice remains incomplete (see recent review https://www.jmir.org/2022/8/e36414). One critical factor affecting successful digital adoption is the competency of health care professionals.</p> <p>Aim: to gain an understanding of the current use of the digital health competencies of health professionals and identify needs and barriers to support the development of tools and/or processes to support health professionals to develop confidence and competence in digital health.</p> <p>Research questions:</p> <p>What is the current level of digital health knowledge and confidence of health professionals in the clinical setting?</p> <p>What are the barriers and facilitators experienced by medical professionals understanding, accessing and using digital health tools in the clinical setting?</p> <p>Method: This project will involve the development and distribution of a survey to a range of health professionals.</p> <p>Anticipated outcomes: This project aims to describe the knowledge and confidence of health professionals and gain an understanding of the needs and barriers associated with the use of digital health tools in the clinical setting. The knowledge gained from this project will provide the basis for the future projects contributing to the development of tools and/or training to support health professionals to be confident using digital health tools.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| see recent review https://www.jmir.org/2022/8/e36414 |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

25. Virtual reality as a training tool for students and health professionals

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Belinda Lange belinda.lange@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: N/A</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Overview: In recent years, virtual reality (VR) has emerged as a transformative technology in healthcare training, offering innovative solutions to traditional educational methods. The importance of VR in healthcare training is underscored by its ability to create safe, controlled environments for skill acquisition. Trainees can perform procedures, make decisions, and experience patient scenarios in a virtual space that mimics real-life situations. This immersive experience not only encourages deeper learning but also helps to build confidence and competence among practitioners.</p> <p>Aims: The aim of this study is to understand the range (type, target learning objectives, learning approach, implementation) of virtual reality training programs used in training healthcare professionals and students.</p> <p>Methods: A scoping review of the literature will be undertaken.</p> <p>NOTE: The Honours project can be tailored to target a specific area or health profession or may be targeted at the use of VR for training in the community or other workplaces depending on student area of interest.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Examples: https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/virtual-reality/articles/10.3389/frvir.2024.1402093/full https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/virtual-reality/articles/10.3389/frvir.2021.645153/</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| <p>Either full-time or part-time</p> |

26. Mind in Motion: Exploring the Role of Executive Function and Physical Fitness in Exercise Decision-Making

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Maarten Immink maarten.immink@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: N/A</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Overview Humans make faster and more accurate decisions when exercising at moderate intensities as compared to light or vigorous exercise, or rest (Tomprowski, 2003). However, these effects do vary across individuals suggesting that individual executive function capacity (Sibley & Beilock, 2007) and physical fitness (Liu et al., 2023) might influence exercise decision-making.</p> <p>Aims This project aims to determine if individual attention and working memory function, and physical fitness profiles influence the effects of exercise intensity of decision-making in young, healthy and active adults.</p> <p>Methods Following written consent, adult participants will be invited to attend two testing sessions at Flinders University laboratory. In the first session, participants will complete computerised tests for attention and working memory function as well as a graded exercise test to determine their physical fitness level and exercise workloads for light, moderate and vigorous exercise. In the second session, participants will exercise at light, moderate and vigorous exercise levels while simultaneously performing a decision-making task.</p> <p>Support is provided to prepare the student's skill set in conducting objective assessment of executive function and exercise performance as well as data analysis and visualisation. The project is suitable for graduates from a range of degree areas including health sciences, allied health, psychology and exercise and sport science.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Liu, B., Yu, J. ... & Ren, Z. (2023). Runners with better cardiorespiratory fitness had higher prefrontal cortex activity during both single and exercise-executive function dual tasks: an fNIRS study. <i>Frontiers in Physiology</i>, 14, 1246741. https://doi.org/10.3389/fphys.2023.1246741</p> <p>Sibley, B. A., & Beilock, S. L. (2007). Exercise and working memory: an individual differences investigation. <i>Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology</i>, 29(6), 783-791. https://doi.org/10.1123/jsep.29.6.783</p> <p>Sghirripa, S., dâ€™Unienville, N. ... & Immink, M.A. (2023). EEG alpha and theta oscillatory responses to a Go/NoGo task performed during submaximal exercise at light, moderate and hard intensities. <i>SportRxiv</i>. https://doi.org/10.51224/SRXIV.331</p> <p>Tomprowski, P. D. (2003). Effects of acute bouts of exercise on cognition. <i>Acta Psychologica</i>, 112(3), 297â€“324. https://doi.org/10.1016/s0001-6918(02)00134-8</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| <p>Either full-time or part-time</p> |

27. Focus and Flow: Exploring the Link Between Mindfulness, Attention, and Injury-Free Athletic Performance

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Maarten Immink maarten.immink@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Dr Cody Lindsay cody.lindsay@flinders.edu.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Overview Individual cognitive function and lower limb muscular control have been linked to poorer performance and increased injury risk during sport-specific movements (Fischer et al., 2021). However, the relationship between athlete-specific cognitive function and neuromuscular control remains poorly understood and research is needed to explore these cognitive-motor interactions.</p> <p>Aims The project investigates if individual mindfulness disposition (Anderson et al., 2021) or attention control capacity (Herman & Barth, 2016) influences performance on the drop jump landing test.</p> <p>Methods The project will recruit healthy and active young adult participants who do not have a history of lower limb injury or formal mindfulness training experience. Following written consent, participants will be invited to attend two test sessions at an athletic performance centre located in the Adelaide metro area. In the first session, participants will complete a survey of mindfulness disposition, complete a computerised attention test, and then complete familiarisation and baseline performance with the drop jump landing test. In the second session, participants will complete the drop jump landing test under dual-task (jump landing and cognitive challenge) and under anticipated and unanticipated conditions. The drop jump landing test is a common athletic performance test with kinetic and kinematic measures. Kinetic measures are taken from a force plate that measures left/right imbalances in landing forces. Kinematic measures (e.g., joint angles/movement) are taken from video recordings.</p> <p>Support is provided to prepare the student's skill set for all project-specific tests, measures, and data analysis and visualisation. The project is suitable for graduates from a range of degree areas including health sciences, allied health, psychology and exercise and sport science.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Anderson, S. A., Haraldsdottir, K., & Watson, D. (2021). Mindfulness in athletes. <i>Current Sports Medicine Reports</i>, 20(12), 655-660. https://doi.org/10.1249/JSR.0000000000000919</p> <p>Fischer, P. D., Hutchison, K. A., Becker, J. N., & Monfort, S. M. (2021). Evaluating the Spectrum of Cognitive-Motor Relationships During Dual-Task Jump Landing. <i>Journal of Applied Biomechanics</i>, 37(4), 388-395. https://doi.org/10.1123/jab.2020-0388</p> <p>Herman, D. C., & Barth, J. T. (2016). Drop-jump landing varies with baseline neurocognition: implications for anterior cruciate ligament injury risk and prevention. <i>The American Journal of Sports Medicine</i>, 44(9), 2347-2353. https://doi.org/10.1177/0363546516657338</p> <p>O'Connor, E. J., Crozier, A. J., Murphy, A., & Immink, M. A. (2022). Dispositional mindfulness may have protected athletes from psychological distress during COVID-19 in Australia. <i>Perceptual and Motor Skills</i>, 129(3), 670-695. https://doi.org/10.1177/0031512522108752</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| Either full-time or part-time |

28. A qualitative exploration of the barriers and enablers for re-establishing group dining in a long-stay rehabilitation ward after COVID-19

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Kristy Burfield kristy.burfield@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Dr Morgan Pankhurst morgan.pankhurst@flinders.edu.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>Research suggests that both sub-acute patients who share meals together are likely to have increased protein and energy intake which can support the physical demands of recovery and rehabilitation (1). Additionally, socialisation can lower depression, reduce the sense of isolation and improve patient morale all of which can contribute to patient recovery and improved rehabilitation outcomes (2, 3, 4). The COVID-19 pandemic meant the necessary introduction of restrictions and regulations to mitigate the spread of the infection, forcing patients to eat in isolation in their own rooms. An online survey of Canadian nursing homes conducted during lockdowns suggests stakeholders felt conflicted about group dining and felt the need to weigh the benefits against the safety risks (5). Although the world has returned to a “new-normal”™, little has been done to understand whether those fears and perceptions have persisted and whether this has impacted stakeholders’™ desires to resume group dining. Therefore, the aim of this research is to explore the barriers and enablers for both patient and staff for re-establishing group dining in a long-stay rehabilitation ward.</p> <p>Aims/objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To understand the beliefs and perspectives that clinical and support staff have towards the importance of group dining. 2. To understand the barriers and enablers that clinical and support staff identify regarding the re-implementation of group dining. 3. To understand the perspectives and preferences of patients regarding group dining. 4. To understand the barriers and enablers that patients identify regarding their willingness and engagement of group dining. <p>Methods:</p> <p>This is a qualitative study that will explore the attitudes and beliefs of stakeholders (staff and patients) regarding the re-implementation of group dining in the Kangkanthi Rehabilitation Unit at the QEH</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>(1) Taya, McLaren-Hedwards., Kelly, Dâ€™cunha., Elaina, Elderâ€™Robinson., Claire, Smith., Cindy, Jennings., Abigail, Marsh., Adrienne, Young., Adrienne, Young. (2021). 2. Effect of communal dining and dining room enhancement interventions on nutritional, clinical and functional outcomes of patients in acute and sub-acute hospital, rehabilitation and aged-care settings: A systematic review. <i>Nutrition & Dietetics</i>, doi: 10.1111/1747-0080.12650</p> <p>(2) Sarawut, Rimdusit. (2023). 1. Socialize, Eat More, and Feel Better. <i>American Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation</i>, doi: 10.1097/phm.0000000000002123</p> <p>(3) Jessica, Jong., Judi, Porter., Judi, Porter., Claire, Palermo., Ella, Ottrey., Ella, Ottrey. (2021). 3. Meals beyond the bedside: An ethnographic exploration of staffs' perspectives and experiences of communal dining in subacute care. <i>Nursing & Health Sciences</i>, doi: 10.1111/NHS.12812</p> <p>(4) L., Wright., Mary, Hickson., Gary, Frost. (2006). 6. Eating together is important: using a dining room in an acute elderly medical ward increases energy intake.. <i>Journal of Human Nutrition and Dietetics</i>, doi: 10.1111/J.1365-277X.2006.00658.X</p> <p>(5) Heather, H., Keller., Vanessa, Trinca., Hana, Dakkak., Sarah, Wu., Sabrina, Bovee., Natalie, Carrier., Allison, Cammer., Christina, Lengyel., Hannah, M., Oâ€™Rourke., Natalie, Rowe., Susan, E., Slaughter., Suzanne, Quiring. (2021). Impact of COVID-19 on Relationship-Centred Residential Dining Practices. <i>Canadian Journal on Aging-revue Canadienne Du Vieillessement</i>, 1-15. doi: 10.1017/S0714980821000568</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| <p>Student location: Kangkanthi Rehabilitation Unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Flinders University Either full-time or part-time</p> |

29. Parents' perceptions and experiences with food provision and nutrition practices in South Australian centre-based childcare: An exploratory qualitative study

| Supervision Team |
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| <p>Primary Supervisor: Dr Louisa Matwiejczyk louisa.matwiejczyk@flinders.edu.au</p> <p>Secondary Supervisors: Dr Matthew Ankers (to be confirmed) matthew.ankers@flinders.edu.au</p> |
| Proposed Honours Project Details |
| <p>As childcare settings become increasingly influential in shaping young children's food preferences and lifelong eating habits, they now complement and sometimes surpass the role of the family table. In Australia, over 1.2 million preschool-aged children attend formal childcare, spending an average of 30 hours per week in these environments and receiving up to two-thirds of their daily nutrition there. National and international research highlights the importance of interventions supporting childcare services in this role, emphasising that parental engagement is key to their success. However, few studies have focused on parents' experiences and perceptions in this context.</p> <p>This qualitative study aims to explore parents' perspectives on nutrition-related practices and food provision in centre-based childcare, identifying barriers and facilitators to effective nutrition services and the impact on parents. This study builds on previous research conducted with parents in 2020 and 2024, which yielded interesting insights into their experiences. We now aim to repeat this study, focusing on parents from lower-income areas, to deepen our understanding and inform practices and engagement between the home and child care which can support positive outcomes in children and families.</p> <p>This project aligns with the Better Lives, Healthy Start to Life themes of the Caring Futures Institute.</p> |
| Suggested Readings/ Key References/ Resources |
| <p>Matwiejczyk, L., Mehta, K., Scott, J., Tonkin, E., & Coveney, J. (2018). Characteristics of Effective Interventions Promoting Healthy Eating for Pre-Schoolers in Childcare Settings: An Umbrella Review. <i>Nutrients</i>, 10(3), 293.</p> <p>Can provide more key readings if requested</p> |
| Full-time or Part-time Honours Candidature |
| <p>Either full-time or part-time</p> |