

SECTION 1: Department Contact Details	
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SECTION 2: Project Details	
Title of project:	Optimising care of Australians living with serious and continuing chronic illness: secondary analysis of qualitative interview data.
Project start date:	TBA
Number of academic sessions per week:	5
2.1 Brief description of research project & objectives.	
<p>The Serious and Continuing Illness Policy and Practice Study (SCIPPS) aims to find policy and health systems solutions to the problems experienced by people living with serious and continuing illness. The research seeks to start with the voices of patients and their carers, and to use their experiences to identify barriers to optimal care.</p> <p>In-depth qualitative interviews have to date been conducted with 52 patients and 14 carers living with a chronic illness in western Sydney and the ACT. The interviews covered a wide range of issues including participants': understanding of their illness; experiences of living with chronic illness; experiences of professional and health system care; and, experiences of informal care & support. All interviews have been transcribed and subject to an initial content analysis.</p>	

The SCIPPS investigators have granted permission for academic general practice registrars to conduct further analyses of this dataset under Professor Usherwood's supervision. The precise aim of such analyses would be negotiated with the registrars concerned, so as to reflect their professional interests.

The expected learning outcomes for registrars would include the development of skills and experience in: preparing a formal research proposal; database searching and literature review; qualitative data analysis; preparation of a research report; and, project management.

A successful registrar would be expected to allocate approximately 50% of their time to this research project. In addition, they would contribute under supervision to teaching and curriculum development, and to other activities within the academic Department of General Practice. In doing so they would develop skills and experience in face-to-face teaching & student assessment, curriculum development and curriculum evaluation and management.

2.2 Where can further information be obtained?

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