**UQ Winter Research Project Description**

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| **Project title:** | **Experiences of concussion/mild Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI)** |
| **Project duration, hours of engagement & delivery mode** | Duration of the project, 4 weeks during Summer Vacation.  30 hours per week  COVID-19 considerations: This project can be completed remotely. Some face-to-face meetings and training sessions are involved in this project, however remote options can also be offered. |
| **Description:** | Concussion/mild Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI) is a traumatically induced physiological disruption of brain function that manifests any period of loss of consciousness, any loss of memory for events immediately before or after the accident, any alteration in mental state at the time of the accident, or focal neurological deficits that may or may not be transient but where the severity of the injury does not exceed a loss of consciousness of approximately 30 minutes or less, after 30 minutes, an initial Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) of 13-15, and post traumatic amnesia (PTA) is not great than 24 hours. Symptoms of concussion may be physical, cognitive and/or behavioural. While most people recover from a concussion after a short period of rest and gradual return to everyday activities, some people continue to experience symptoms of which the extent may not become apparent until they attempt to return to their usual activities.    Prolonged and continued symptoms, known as Persisting Post-Concussion Symptoms (PPCS) may last for months or years and can have a significant impact on a person’s everyday life, including their ability to perform activities of daily living and work, and their relationships with others. Understanding the experience of people who have had a concussion is therefore important to best inform healthcare services and interventions to address prolonged symptoms.  Specifically, this research aims to understand the experience of adults who have had a concussion. This includes contributing within a team to a review of the literature and qualitative research that aims to understand the experiences of returning to usual activities and healthcare received.  The student will be involved in article screening processes, qualitative data collection/management, contributing to data analysis, and some writing tasks (e.g. writing a literature review/introduction for a paper, writing a methods section, writing a draft discussion for a paper). |
| **Expected outcomes and deliverables:** | You will gain skills in data collection and management, reviewing the literature, qualitative analysis, academic writing skills and the potential to be involved in a publication from the research project. |
| **Suitable for:** | We are seeking a highly motivated applicant with excellent organisational skills, a proactive approach, an interest in brain injury and excellent written communication. Students who have completed two (2) or more years of study including one (1) or more research focused courses (e.g. research methodology). |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Caitlin Hamilton |
| **Further info:** | Email: [Caitlin.hamilton@uq.edu.au](mailto:Caitlin.hamilton@uq.edu.au)  Students may apply for this project without prior contact.  Please email if you have any questions. |