**UQ Summer or Winter Research Project Description**

Please use this template to create a description of each research project, eligibility requirements and expected deliverables. Project details can then be uploaded to each faculty, school, institute, and centre webpage prior to the launch of the program.

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| **Project title:** | The OT role in concussion/mild Traumatic Brain Injury |
| **Hours of engagement & delivery mode** | Duration of program, 6 weeks during Summer vacation.  30 hours per week  This project can be completed remotely. While some face-to-face meetings and training sessions are preferred for this project, 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 ability to perform their everyday activities, or occupations including household management, work, driving. Occupational therapists are well-suited to provide therapy to people following concussion as they enable people to perform and engage in their everyday activities. However, occupational therapist are not always core team members of concussion clinics.  The research project involves exploring the OT role in concussion management using qualitative and/or mixed methods research methods. The significance of this research is to inform healthcare services and ultimately ensure the provision of high-quality services to people with concussion. |
| **Expected outcomes and deliverables:** | You will gain skills in data collection and management, reviewing the literature (including article screening processes), qualitative research methods, academic writing skills (e.g. writing a literature review/introduction for a paper, writing a methods section) 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:** | Dr 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. |