

UQ Summer 2016 - 2017 Project Description

Due to rhadmin.shrs@uq.edu.au by Friday 17 June 2016 (if at all possible). The School needs to have this information returned to UQ Advancement by Thursday 23 June 2016.

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.

Project title:	Enhancing skills of allied health professionals in assisting patients to manage and recover from chronic musculoskeletal conditions
Project duration:	<i>8-10 weeks</i>
Description:	Musculoskeletal conditions are one of the highest causes of disability worldwide. In recent years an emphasis has been placed on effective non-surgical management interventions for these conditions with a particular emphasis on fostering self-management (ie. conditioning exercise programs, weight loss). Therefore the success or failure of these interventions hinges on patient engagement which may be strongly influenced by their relationship with the Allied Health professionals (AHP) they consult. The purpose of this project is to identify the attributes required by AHP to foster maximal engagement of patients and to establish the current levels of training that clinicians perceive they have in this area of clinical expertise. Furthermore the study will investigate potential barriers and facilitators that exist for development of this specific skill set within AHP.
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	Participation in a couple of consecutive studies that underpin this overall project. These duties will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data extraction from a survey that is currently being undertaken by clinicians• Formulation of recommendations to enhance clinician skill in this area• Further preparation of studies to identify facilitators and barriers to develop this specific clinical skill set• Development of appropriate metrics to measure change in these skills• Preparation of future studies to measure the effectiveness of clinician training in this area
Suitable for:	Year 3-4 allied health student interested in musculoskeletal rehabilitation
Primary Supervisor:	Dr Shaun O'Leary
Further info:	Please contact Dr Shaun O'Leary at s.oleary@uq.edu.au if further information is required.