**UQ Winter Research Project Description**

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| **Project title:** | The effectiveness of an Occupational therapy led outpatient circuit group training following upper limb trauma and reconstructive surgery at the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital: background preparations. |
| **Project duration:** | * 4 weeks * 30 hours per week |
| **Position/s available:** | Two positions available |
| **Description:** | Trauma involving the upper limb can have devastating consequences for individuals. Loss of flexibility, strength and co-ordination contribute towards impaired hand function and difficulties engaging in usual occupational roles such as work and self care. Restoring ROM and upper limb function for patients is central to the practice of occupational therapy. Functional based circuit training is an efficient way of delivering occupation based therapy to a group of patients in a single session. Additionally, by delivering treatment in a group session there are added benefits in terms of social interaction and peer support (Robinson et al., 2011).  **Aims**   1. To observe the group circuit training program that is offered as part of Occupational Therapy outpatient treatment, and to assemble an assessment battery with good psychometric properties that can be incorporated into the pre- and post- circuit training. 2. To assist in the preparation of an ethics application for a study to assess the outcomes of the functionally based circuit training. |
| **Expected outcomes and deliverables:** | Scholars will be asked to develop a battery of assessment tools to be utilised in the outpatient group circuit. The scholars will have an opportunity to participate in the preparation of an ethics application as part of the project, and will have the opportunity to contribute to publications that arise from this research. Students will be asked to produce a written report and deliver an oral presentation at the end of their project*.* |
| **Suitable for:** | This project is open to applications from occupational therapy students with an interest in clinical research and service evaluation. |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Emeritus Professor Jenny Strong as member of the RBWH project team which includes senior occupational therapists in the Hands, Stroke and Plastics caseloads, the Director of Occupational Therapy, and Dr Celeste Glasgow. |
| **Further info:** | All applicants to contact Emeritus Professor Jenny Strong prior to submitting an application [j.strong@uq.edu.au](mailto:j.strong@uq.edu.au)  Apply via [UQ Advantange](http://www.uq.edu.au/uqadvantage/wr-info-for-applicants). |