

Consortium practicums

Aims

The Consortium aims to build and strengthen research capacity between academic and health service organisations (NGOs and the government sector) in the area of HIV, hepatitis C and illicit drug use in New South Wales, and to encourage collaborative research and the formation of healthy public policy in these fields.

Objectives of the practicums

The objectives of the practicum are to:

- partner community health service staff with academic research staff
- provide community staff with some introductory research skills and an understanding of the research process
- provide research staff with an understanding of the issues, concerns and environment of community and government health services.

Scope of the practicum

The practicum is held over a limited time period (up to six weeks, part-time). The Consortium sets practical and useful, yet realistic, goals for practicum attendees, such as developing introductory-level research skills or exposing them to a number of research processes. We would not expect practicum attendees to develop skills sufficient for them to be independent researchers. We anticipate that the skill level achievable in this program will enhance practicum attendees' role as consumers of, and contributors to, research.

Participants' attendance at practicum programs may be the precursor to their deciding to take up more formal, tertiary-level studies in research (such as through the Master of Arts by Research program).

Application process

This practicum is aimed at practitioners in the sector who have limited previous experience in undertaking research. Each applicant will be selected on the following basis:

- the applicant's CV
- a list of achievable goals and outcomes that the applicant aims to have realised on completion of the internship. Goals should be categorised according to whether they will benefit the individual intern, the individual's employer or the host research centre. In addition, the applicant should address how the outcomes of the practicum will be applicable to or will benefit the health of people in New South Wales.
- a letter of support from the applicant's supervisor (including indication of salary level).

More information

If you have any questions regarding the practicum program or the application process, or if you need assistance writing your expression of interest, please contact the Consortium's Workshop Organiser Ann Whitelaw.

Phone: 02 9385 6404

Email: a.whitelaw@unsw.edu.au