

Primary Health Care Research, Evaluation & Development (PHC RED) Strategy

***Department of
General Practice
University of Adelaide***

RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE – 2006 BUSINESS PLAN

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INTRODUCTION

The Department of General Practice, University of Adelaide, receives funding under the Research Capacity Building Initiative of the 2006-2009 Primary Health Care Research, Evaluation & Development Strategy (PHC RED) in order to build research capacity in primary health care.

The 2006 PHC RED Business Plan reflects the achievements of the previous 5 years. The Researcher Development Program will continue to be a major focus of PHCRED activities at the University of Adelaide as will the educational and research activities of the expanded State Collaboration. In addition we will be focusing on encourage research in Primary Health Care by sponsoring students to undertake vacation scholarships, Honours and PhDs. We will also offer an innovative research award to encourage research active groups within the Department to collaborate with external organisations and individuals and enhance their research capability.

For each objective, there are several strategies for focusing activity during 2006, many of which began from 2001-2005 under Phase One. Detailed performance indicators and budget requirements are described.

The following table illustrates:

- a) objectives and strategies against each of the PHC RED Strategy goals
- b) activities planned for 2006
- c) associated performance indicators
- d) linkages with PHC RED Strategic Plan objectives.

OBJECTIVE 1: TO INCREASE THE POOL OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCHERS BY UP-SKILLING EARLY-MID CAREER RESEARCHERS, AND SUPPORTING THE SUSTAINABLE ADVANCEMENT OF RESEARCH CAREERS IN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE (NOTE: THIS IS THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE FOR RCBI)

This objective meets the first Goal of the PHC RED Strategy - an expanded pool of primary health care researchers

STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS
Support postgraduate research	<p>Co-fund two PhD scholarships in the Department of General Practice.</p> <p>Support three Honours in Primary Care students in the Department of General Practice.</p> <p>Support 4 student vacation scholarships in the Department of General Practice.</p> <p>Support 1-2 early career researchers in the Department of General Practice under the Researcher Development Program.</p>	<p>Appointment of two PhD candidates in the Department of General Practice and successful completion of their first year of studies.</p> <p>Successful completion of Honours by three postgraduate students.</p> <p>Successful completion of four vacation scholarships by four undergraduate students.</p> <p>Successful completion of a research activity (see RDP objectives).</p>
Support postgraduate training in research methods.	Run research methods and EBM courses.	Number of GPs and Health Care practitioners completing the courses.

<p>Further develop and support the Australian Sentinel Research Practices Network (ASPREN).</p>	<p>Provide logistical, management and statistical support to the Network to enhance its role for research for Australian GP and PHC researchers.</p>	<p>Number of organisations, researchers and GPs involved in and using ASPREN data.</p> <p>Other activities of ASPREN in 2006.</p>
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MEASURES

Table 1: Number and range of early-mid career researchers supported under RCBI eg RDP placements, bursary- and award-holders

Name	Qualifications (existing)	Research level (1-5 see below)	INPUT from RCBI: funding 1=all (100%); 2=most (≥50%) 3= some (<50%)	Other funding	INPUT from RCBI: supervision (formal, informal, ad-hoc) ¹	FTE	Explanatory text (aim of support) eg grant writing, applying for higher degree, etc

1= pre Masters 2=Masters 3=PhD 4=post doctoral 5=other (including research project meetings, tutorials and seminars where researchers learn by watching and contributing to research in action)

Table 2: Provision of appropriate research training and support* for early-mid career researchers (RCBI activities)

Type of activity eg workshop, writing group, mentoring, on-line training, network management	# and type of participants (GPs, Allied Health, Divisions staff etc)	Total # participant hours	Contribution from RCBI (financial or in-kind): 1=all (100%); 2=most (≥50%) 3= some (<50%) List other contributions where appropriate (organisation, amount/type)	Explanatory text (aim of support) eg grant writing, applying for higher degree, etc

Include case studies (1/2 page) and any relevant contextual information eg workforce issues, access to people and resources, suitable skill mix etc.

* **Support** means that substantial formal support is provided to the student/researcher by the RCBI-funded University Department, such as formal supervision by an academic, use of facilities for three or more months or participation in a research project or an RCBI-supported development activity.

¹ Formal includes formal mentoring, student supervision and line management

Informal includes informal mentoring on career and study options

Ad hoc includes assistance addressing a particular and immediate research problem

OBJECTIVE 2: TO SUPPORT EARLY-MID CAREER RESEARCHERS TO UNDERTAKE MORE HIGH QUALITY PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH AND ENSURE ITS RELEVANCE TO POLICY AND PRACTICE BY ALIGNING IT WITH IDENTIFIED NEEDS AND PRIORITIES.

This objective meets the second Goal of the PHC RED Strategy - More research relevant to primary health care policy and practice.

STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS
<p>Foster new research in areas relevant to PHC (aligned with identified needs and priorities).</p> <p>Research Bursaries.</p> <p>Encourage the PHCRED coordinator and Director to undertake collaborative research with early-mid career researchers and established researchers.</p>	<p>Award three seeding research grants, of up to \$15,000, to research groups within the Department of General Practice. Each project must involve external organisations or individuals, with the aim of developing their research capacity and experience.</p> <p>Award of three research bursaries worth \$5,000 each.</p> <p>Develop grants applications in collaboration with internal and external partners.</p> <p>Foster early and mid-career researcher participation in established research and current NHMRC grants.</p>	<p>Completion of pilot research projects. Engagement with external organisations and individuals. Conference presentations and peer reviewed research papers. Applications for grant funding by research groups.</p> <p>Reports on activities. Conference presentations and peer reviewed research papers.</p> <p>Number of research grants submitted and success rate.</p> <p>Number of conference presentations and peer reviewed papers submitted and /or accepted.</p> <p>Number of participants and range of activities.</p>

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Table 3: Number and range of grant applications for research[#] projects undertaken by early-mid career researchers supported under RCBI eg RDP placements, bursary and award-holders

Full Project Title	RCBI activity level*	Funding body	Funding Amount	Project length in months	RCBI-supported researcher	Collaborators (RCBI staff and associates)	Collaborators (non-RCBI, include professions and/or organisations)	In kind support from health provider/service	Status(completed, successful, in process, short listed but failed, failed)

Only successful grants awarded and unsuccessful applications during the reporting period are to be listed here. Funds received, or activity undertaken against projects previously undertaken, are not to be listed here.

Include details of projects led by RCBI-supported early-mid career researchers (eg RDP placements, local bursaries and awards) and projects in which these researchers participate as junior researchers (eg participation of 100 hours or more on the research projects of senior researchers).

[#] research includes both research and evaluation

*A=RCBI lead applicant; B= RCBI co-applicant; C= RCBI key worker or advisory group member D= RCBI key worker time costed in proposal

Table 4: Number and type of research collaborations[#] involving early-mid level career researchers supported under RCBI

Collaborators	Description of joint projects/activities/publications

Could also include case studies (1/2 page) and any relevant contextual information eg workforce issues, access to people and resources, skill mix etc

[#]Collaborations include only organisations with whom the RCBI-supported early career researcher have formally agreed to work on a defined project/activity, and where collaborative activities were undertaken during the reporting period.

University-based collaborators includes both other Departments, Schools and Faculties within the partner (auspicing) University/ies, as well as collaborations with non-partner Universities.

Description of projects are to be brief, consisting of a simple title which conveys the nature of the project to a lay reader.

OBJECTIVE 3: TO DISSEMINATE AND FACILITATE THE UPTAKE OF EVIDENCE IN POLICY AND PRACTICE.

This objective meets the third Goal of the PHC RED Strategy - In consultation with other relevant organisations, contribute to well informed primary health care practice and policy (focus is dissemination and use).

STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS
<p>Develop linkages and collaborative research with external organisations.</p> <p>Support dissemination.</p>	<p>Foster collaborative research through PHCRED support and activities with external organisations and individuals.</p> <p>Attend four tri-state PHCRED collaborative meetings and participate in collaborative activities.</p> <p>Support for a Departmental writing group (that will include external members).</p> <p>Financial and other assistance for conference presentations.</p> <p>PHCRED coordinator and Director initiate and support activities aimed at getting research findings into policy or practice.</p>	<p>Number of collaborative research activities: training, grant applications, paper submissions, conference presentations and research.</p> <p>Minutes of meetings and reports of collaborative activities.</p> <p>Number of meetings, number of attendees and number of papers produced by a Dept. writing group. Number of conference presentations made.</p> <p>Identification of research that has not been adopted in policy or practice and a description of activities undertaken (including meetings, presentations, papers and networking used to achieve uptake).</p>

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Table 5: Publications by RCBI-supported early-mid career researchers

Authors' names (and organisation)	Title	Publication	Year	Issue/number	Article page numbers	Status (published, in press, submitted) Indicate with * if not peer-reviewed.	Role of RCBI (eg link between authors and RCBI: funding, supervision, mentoring, product of RCBI writing group).	Indicate if first paper for any of the authors

Table 6: Conference & other presentations by RCBI-supported early-mid career researchers

Names	Presentation type (oral, poster, keynote, workshop, symposium, CDP, panel)	Presentation title	Event/venue	Date of conference	Role of RCBI (eg link between authors and RCBI: funding, supervision, mentoring, product of RCBI writing group). Indicate if first presentation.

Table 7: Case studies demonstrating effectiveness in influencing practice and policy

Project (should already be listed above, with details of time frame)	Research team	Impact: <i>Brief examples (1/2 page) of raised awareness and/or changes in practice or policy that resulted from research project, and how these came about as far as researcher is aware.</i> <i>Aim of project</i> <i>Results</i> <i>Changes observed</i>