



Primary Health Care Research, Evaluation & Development (PHCRED) Strategy

*Discipline of
General Practice
University of Adelaide*

**RESEARCH CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE (RCBI)
2007 BUSINESS PLAN**

INTRODUCTION

The Discipline 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 (PHCRED) in order to build research capacity in primary health care.

The 2007 PHCRED Business Plan reflects and builds on the achievements of the previous 5 years and 2006 in particular. 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. The introduction of innovative seeding grants for mid-level researchers within the Discipline, as well as the financial and mentoring support of PhD, Honours and vacation scholarship students have been very successful in 2006 and will therefore continue to form an integral part of the PHCRED program in 2007. In addition to providing financial support for the students, these awards have linked mid-level researchers and students to other PHCRED activities, such as the student writing group, educational workshops and seminars, and information on researchers and projects is disseminated on the PHCRED website and newsletter. The 2006 awards have attracted and encouraged primary health care research, peer support and dissemination, meeting all three objectives of the PHCRED Strategy. Established research units within the Discipline include cardiovascular, respiratory and mental health with senior research staff providing expertise in clinical, quantitative and qualitative research.

The PHCRED Director (N Stocks) and Program Manager (K Ried) will continue to be actively involved in collaborative and high-quality primary health care research. In addition, the PHCRED Program Manager will continue to contribute to research capacity building of general practitioners, registrars and primary health care professionals and students through workshops including the RACGP Fellowship preparation program, the annual GPET Registrar Research Workshop and other relevant organisations. Furthermore, the PHCRED Director and PHCRED Program Manager will contribute to supervision of PhD and Honours students, and RDP Fellows in 2007.

For each objective, there are several strategies for focusing activity during 2007, 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 PHCRED Strategy goals
- b) activities planned for 2007
- c) associated performance indicators
- d) linkages with PHCRED 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 PHCRED Strategy - an expanded pool of primary health care researchers

STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS
Support postgraduate research	<p>Continue to co-fund two full-time PhD scholarships in the Discipline of General Practice (\$10,000 each) providing student's income support. The 2nd half of the PhD scholarships (\$10,000) is provided by the Discipline to both students. Karina Bria will conduct qualitative research into depression of new fathers. Marijeta Kurtin's project investigates the mental health needs of young people living in rural and remote areas of South Australia. Projects are aligned with RCBI objectives.</p> <p>Support two Honours in Primary Care students in the Discipline of General Practice (\$1,500 each).</p> <p>Support two student vacation scholarships in the Discipline of General Practice (\$1,500 each). If vacation scholarships are not taken up, two PHCRED bursaries will be offered to primary health care professionals or students.</p> <p>Support two early career researchers in the Discipline of General Practice under the Researcher Development Program.</p>	<p>Continuation of appointment of two PhD candidates in the Discipline of General Practice and satisfactory progress reports and research plans by supervisors.</p> <p>Project reports by two postgraduate students.</p> <p>Project reports by two vacation scholarship or bursary holders.</p> <p>Successful completion of research activities. Reports on activities, conference presentations and manuscripts in</p>

<p>Provision of training and support in research methods for primary health care professionals and students.</p>	<p>Run workshops in research methods (e.g. survey design, systematic review & meta-analysis, critical appraisal). This includes workshop presentation with PHCRED Collaboration partners.</p> <p>Continue to provide expert advice through workshops and small group facilitation at the RACGP Fellowship preparation program and/or the annual 3-day Registrar Research Workshop.</p>	<p>preparation for peer reviewed publication.</p> <p>Number and type of workshops given, Number of participants, evaluation summaries.</p> <p>Workshop program, number of participants, presentation details, evaluation summaries (if provided).</p>
<p>Supervision & mentoring of HDR students and early to mid career researchers.</p>	<p>Supervision of PhD students, RDP fellows, Honours students etc.</p>	<p>Number and type of supervised students and research fellows.</p>
<p>Support University teaching</p>	<p>The Program Manager (KR) will continue to contribute to assessment of 4th year medical students' and honours students' research proposals.</p> <p>The Director (NS) will continue to be involved in various local, state and national research committees, e.g. RACGP National Standing Research Committee, NHMRC PHC Grant Review Panel, local Health Sciences Faculty Board.</p>	<p>Summary of outcomes</p>
<p>Further develop and support the Australian Sentinel Research Practices Network (ASPREN).</p>	<p>The Director (NS) will continue to provide logistical, management and statistical non-financial support to the Network to enhance its role for research for Australian GP and PHC researchers. This includes the collection of data for research purposes, e.g. prevalence of acute bronchitis in general practice (AFP 2004; 33:91-93). There is potential for development of a national network on morbidity data.</p>	<p>Number of organisations, researchers and GPs involved in and using ASPREN data. Details of activities of ASPREN in 2007.</p>

<p>Provide advice on research methods to primary health care professionals and students in the Discipline and external organisations.</p> <p>Encourage the PHCRED Program Manager and Director to undertake collaborative research with early-mid career researchers and established researchers.</p>	<p>Provide expertise in relevant areas when and where needed and approached.</p> <p>Develop grants applications in collaboration with internal and external partners in areas of research interest, e.g. cardiovascular, respiratory and mental health, preventative and integrative health care.</p> <p>Foster early and mid-career researcher participation in established research and current NHMRC grants. This may include preparation of ethics application, questionnaire development, data collection, data analysis, presentation and publication.</p>	<p>Minutes of advice provided.</p> <p>Details of projects, number of research grants submitted and success rate. 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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OBJECTIVE 3: TO DISSEMINATE AND FACILITATE THE UPTAKE OF EVIDENCE IN POLICY AND PRACTICE.

This objective meets the third Goal of the PHCRED 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 aligned to national priorities.</p> <p><i>Support dissemination:</i></p> <p>Writing Grants</p> <p>Student writing group</p> <p>Publications</p>	<p>Foster collaborative research in cardiovascular, respiratory, preventative and mental health with external organisations and individuals, including the Div of GP, Dept Health, GPs and allied health professionals. PHCRED will foster and provide advice and expertise in these areas and research methodologies as appropriate.</p> <p>Continue to support activities of the PHCRED Tri-State Collaboration, e.g. attendance of at least 3 advisory meetings, contribution to working group meetings, provision of training, annual conference.</p> <p>Award two writing grants worth \$500 each.</p> <p>The Program Manager will continue to facilitate the student writing group set up in 2006. Support all types of research dissemination incl. presentations, ethics applications, thesis chapters, abstracts, articles etc.</p> <p>Publish research findings undertaken by PHCRED associated/ supported researchers.</p>	<p>Details and number of collaborative research activities: training, grant applications, paper submissions, conference presentations and research.</p> <p>Number of meetings attended. Meeting minutes. Number and details of presentations made at the PHCRED conference.</p> <p>Manuscripts written and submitted for peer-review publication.</p> <p>Number of meetings held, agendas, number and type of activities, evaluation summary.</p> <p>Number and details of publications.</p>

Conference presentations	<p>Financial and other assistance for conference presentations.</p> <p>PHCRED Director initiate and support activities aimed at getting research findings into policy or practice.</p>	<p>Details and 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>
PHCRED website	<p>Continue to update the PHCRED website providing information about PHCRED activities.</p> <p>http://www.adelaide.edu.au/health/gp/units/phcred/</p>	<p>Excerpts of up-to-date website</p>
PHCRED newsletter	<p>Continue to produce newsletter (2 times a year) for distribution to external organisations</p>	<p>Copies of newsletter</p>