

MRI-UQ Winter Research Project Description

Project title:	Preventing stillbirth and other adverse pregnancy outcomes
Project duration:	Approximately 4-6 weeks – negotiable and flexible
Location	NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Stillbirth, Mater Research Institute-The University of Queensland (MRI-UQ), Aubigny Place, Mater Health Services, Raymond Terrace, South Brisbane
Description:	<p>Stillbirth (>20 weeks’ gestation) occurs in 1 in every 130 pregnancies, and is a devastating event for families, with long-term social and psychological consequences. The Stillbirth Research Team at MRI-UQ conducts a suite of research projects and initiatives to generate evidence and to implement evidence into practice to improve the health of pregnant women and their babies. These projects include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The My Baby’s Movements Trial</i>: A trial of a mobile phone app and SMS program to increase pregnant women’s awareness of fetal movements; - <i>Stillbirth research priority setting in Australia</i>: Developing a consensus on what are the critical areas of focus to address stillbirth prevention and care in Australia. - <i>Synthesis of the evidence (including meta-analysis) to inform guideline development and future research</i>: Topics include stillbirth investigations; risk factors and timing of birth; methodologies for identifying substandard care in perinatal mortality; optimal care after stillbirth; and placental biomarkers. - <i>E-learning portal for obstetricians and midwives</i>: A suite of online education programs to improve care for women during pregnancy, labour and birth, as well as the management of perinatal deaths. - <i>Cochrane systematic reviews of perinatal health-related interventions</i>
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	Scholars may gain skills in data collection, analysis, and report writing, as well as experience working in a multidisciplinary team of obstetricians, neonatologists, midwives, epidemiologists, psychologists, researchers and others. Scholars will have the opportunity to generate publications from their research.
Suitable for:	Senior undergraduate students (years 3 or 4) or postgraduate students with a background in Medicine, Health Psychology, Public Health or Science and who wish to gain research experience to pursue work at least partially or fully in an academic setting. Proficiency in Word and Excel and experience with Endnote is required.
Primary Supervisor:	Professor Vicki Flenady

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Head office: Level 3 Aubigny Place, Raymond Terrace, South Brisbane, Qld, 4101

P +61 7 3163 2555

F +61 7 3163 2550

Further info:

Please contact Prof Vicki Flenady if you would like more information before applying.
Email: vicki.flenady@mater.uq.edu.au

