

UQ NMSW Summer or Winter Research Project

Project title:	Nurse Initiated Analgesia
Project duration:	6 Weeks
Description:	Nurse initiated analgesia (NIA) is a process where qualified emergency nurses can deliver analgesic medications to patients presenting in pain without an order of a medical officer. NIA has specific benefits to the patients, reducing the time taken to deliver analgesic medication and empowering the person assessing pain to also treat pain. The PAH ED has a robust NIA procedure that over 80% of all nursing staff are qualified to deliver. Despite the benefits to the patients and the availability of the practice, previous work has shown that not all opportunities to nurse initiate analgesic medication is taken. The aims of this work are to investigate who gets NIA and why and what are the outcomes for the patient when NIA is delivered.
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	The student will be exposed to all aspects of the research process and be expected to undertake a literature review, project proposal and ethics application before accessing and analysing the data. A report and an internal oral presentation will be the immediate outcomes, however it should be noted that our summer scholars in previous years have also presented at conferences and several have authored publications.
Suitable for:	No preferences are required however as this is an ambitious amount of work to do in a relatively short period of time the successful applicant will be extremely motivated to both undertake research and learn about the research process.
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