**2021 NMSW Summer Project Description**

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| **Project title:** | **Knowledge of translation of evidence based vascular access and infection prevention** |
| **Project duration:** | 10 weeks |
| **Description:** | Background: the majority of hospitalised patients have some form of vascular access device such as a peripheral or central venous catheter. These are important to deliver therapy and there are many nursing interventions surrounding these devices. However device associated harm can occur in the form of infections, dislodgement, thrombosis, phlebitis or occlusion. A large body of research exists to guide nursing decision-making about device care, but one barrier to implementation is the lack of research dissemination in a format that is easily accessible and understandable by clinical nurses. Aim: to test the effectiveness of research blogs to engage with clinical nurses and disseminate research findings. Methods: the student will research and write research summaries based on UQ and other research, which will be distributed on social media platforms and professional newsletters. We will measure effectiveness by engagement such as shares, likes and comments. There may also be the opportunity to publish one of these in a professional journal. Examples can be seen here: <https://www.avatargroup.org.au/blog/improving-practices-to-prevent-and-manage-cvad-occlusion->  <https://www.avatargroup.org.au/blog/needleless-connector-with-continuous-infusion-> <https://assets.cdn.thewebconsole.com/S3WEB4798/images/Larsen-Qld-Nurse-2016.pdf> |
| **Expected outcomes and deliverables:** | The scholar will gain skills in writing, develop an understanding of research translation to practice, and further their knowledge in the area of vascular access on infection prevention. Scholars will be asked to provide a brief oral presentation to the broader research group at the end of their placement. This can go on their resume. Scholars will be able to list the developed blog posts and other materials on their resume and will be a named author on these materials. |
| **Suitable for:** | Students must:  - be enrolled in the Nursing program  - have high level writing skills (punctuation, grammar, spelling)  - be considering an honours, research masters or PhD degree  - available to attend the Herston UQCCR campus for <20 hours/week |
| **Primary Supervisor:** | Dr Jessica Schults |
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