



PhD Scholarship in Sun and Health

Establishing the psychometric properties of questionnaires assessing skin cancer risk and sun protection attitudes, intentions and behaviours

Self-administered questionnaires are commonly used in skin cancer research to establish peoples' risk factors, and their cognitions and behaviours related to skin cancer.

However, many different questions are utilised around the world to assess these same concepts and many have not undergone proper psychometric testing. Some attempts have been made to propose common items to be used worldwide, but much work still needs to be done in this area.

Newer models of questionnaire development such as item response theory have not been applied at all to skin cancer-related questionnaires.

The successful candidate will conduct an environmental scan of existing questionnaires and their psychometric qualities. Based on this review and interviews with skin cancer experts a candidate set of questions will be developed. Cognitive interviews and focus groups will then be conducted (possibly in collaboration with international investigators) to assess how each item is perceived and understood by people and to determine the best item wording, response scale and time frame for response. Psychometric testing of the developed scales will then be conducted.

The Centre for Research Excellence in Sun and Health offers full-time PhD scholarships which are tenable at one of the following locations: Queensland University of Technology, Queensland Institute of Medical Research, Australian National University, University of Melbourne, and Griffith University.

Further details about this scholarship opportunity is available at the [CRESH website](#).

Interested applicants should in the first instance contact [David Whiteman](#), [Rachel Neale](#), or [Monika Janda](#). An up to date CV is required together with your professional research interests to allow initial consideration of your suitability for the scholarship.