

Turning Data into Action:

Making Use of Mortality Audit Data to Improve Reflective Practice and Patient Care

The Queensland Audit of Surgical Mortality (QASM) in conjunction with the School of Public Health, The University of Queensland is seeking a highly motivated PhD or MPhil candidate to undertake research on surgeons' reflections on the care of patients who have died. The research focuses on a topic identified as a priority by the Royal Australian College of Surgeons: can the self-reflections of individual surgeons be used to build the collective knowledge of all surgeons and improve patient care?

A dataset comprising around 900 "stories" collected from surgeons throughout Queensland is available for analysis. Analysis of this dataset offers an ideal opportunity to investigate research questions relating to the above topic.

The successful candidate would work with an interdisciplinary team of researchers with relevant clinical and social sciences expertise and extensive experience in health services research.

The candidate:

We are seeking a candidate who has an excellent academic record and a particular interest in the topic. A strong medical/clinical background is essential as is a commitment to conduct high quality research and published outputs. Experience in qualitative or mixed methods research, including the analysis and interpretation of qualitative data (or the ability to gain necessary skills), is required.

The opportunity exists to enrol in either a PhD or MPhil (with the option of later transferring to PhD) on either a full-time or part-time basis. The position would suit a clinician.

For further information on the basis of admission to a UQ research higher degree, please visit <http://www.uq.edu.au/grad-school/our-research-degrees>.

Funding:

We will support high quality domestic applicants who wish to apply for a scholarship in their nomination to The University of Queensland's competitive scholarship rounds (three rounds per year). See <http://www.uq.edu.au/grad-school/scholarships-and-fees> for details of important dates and information.

Enquiries and applications:

For further information please contact Therese Rey-Conde at the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (Therese.Rey-Conde@surgeons.org) or Assoc Prof Fran Boyle at the School of Public Health (f.boyle@sph.uq.edu.au). Interested applicants will be required to provide a CV and academic record including GPA scores or equivalent grading scores.