Section	Description
Project title	**Vaping in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities: An Evidence Gap Map**
Hours & delivery	36 hours per week In Person Herston Campus, Building 887 Public Health Building
About the project	Vaping and e-cigarette use are rising rapidly in Australia, and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities are no exception: national survey data show e-cigarette use among people born in non-English-speaking countries has more than tripled since 2019. Yet almost all existing research and health promotion work on tobacco in CALD communities has focused specifically on cigarette smoking, not vaping. Vaping raises distinct questions that smoking-focused research does not answer: different products and marketing channels, different perceptions of harm, different patterns of dual use alongside cigarettes, and different cultural and generational influences influenced by migration and acculturation. At present, it is unclear how much research actually exists on vaping within CALD populations, and where the most significant gaps lie. This project will address that uncertainty by building an evidence gap map, a systematic, visual synthesis method that shows where research is concentrated and where it is sparse or absent. The map will be structured across two dimensions: CALD subgroup (by region of origin, language spoken at home, generation/migration status, and age) and vaping-related topic (prevalence, motivations and determinants, marketing exposure, dual use with smoking, and cessation-related use).
What you'll do	Given how limited the existing literature appears to be, this will likely take the form of a primary-study scoping review rather than a review-of-reviews. The resulting map will directly inform future research priorities and the design of culturally responsive vaping and smoking cessation support, including work relevant to Queensland Quitline and multicultural health services.
What you'll learn	Over the six-week project, students will gain hands-on training in systematic search strategy design, title/abstract and full-text screening using Covidence, and structured data extraction. Students will learn how to build and interpret an evidence gap map, a visual synthesis method increasingly used to identify priority areas for future research and funding. They will also gain exposure to acculturation and health equity frameworks as applied to substance use, and practical experience working within a multidisciplinary research team spanning tobacco/vaping control, implementation science, and multicultural health. Because this project sits at the intersection of two under-studied areas: vaping and CALD populations specifically, students will develop an appreciation for how research gaps are identified and argued for, rather than simply summarising what is already known. This is a valuable and transferable skill for students considering postgraduate research or a career in health policy, health promotion, or public health.
Project outcomes	The expected deliverable is a completed matrix and draft manuscript section, with the student named as a contributing co-author on the resulting publication once it is finalised by the supervisory team. Students will also deliver a short oral presentation summarising their key findings and identified gaps to the research team, and will leave with a concrete, referenceable piece of work suitable for future job or postgraduate applications.

Who should apply?	This project is ideal for postgraduate students from public health or epidemiology-related disciplines with an interest in migrant health, tobacco/vaping control, or evidence synthesis methods. Undergraduate students in biomedical sciences and public health can apply after discussing this with their primary supervisor. No prior scoping review experience is required, though familiarity with health literature databases (e.g., PubMed) is an advantage. Multilingual skills or lived experience within a CALD community are valued but not required.
Team & supervision	The student will be supervised by Dr Victor Gallegos Rejas. Supervision will combine structured guidance with opportunities for independent work. Support will be provided throughout the process.
Contact	Students **must** contact the supervisor before applying Direct enquiries to: Dr Victor Gallegos Rejas, v.gallegosrejas@uq.edu.au Ph: 3443 3530