

## UQ Winter Research Project Description

<b>Project title:</b>	Effectiveness of parental cocooning as a vaccination strategy to prevent pertussis infection in infants: a case-control study.
<b>Project duration:</b>	Four weeks
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Pertussis, or whooping cough, has re-emerged as a global threat to public health in recent years, with epidemics reported around Australia, including in Queensland. The greatest concern with the recent resurgence is an increase in cases among infants too young to be vaccinated who are vulnerable to severe disease and death. Cocooning is a strategy to indirectly protect infants who are too young to be vaccinated by vaccinating their parents and other close contacts. Queensland Health implemented a cocoon program offering parents of new babies a funded-dose of pertussis-containing vaccine. Data collection for a case-control study that aims to assess the effectiveness of the program has recently been completed.</p> <p>The task of the scholarship recipient will be to analyse data from this case-control study.</p>
<b>Expected outcomes and deliverables:</b>	The scholarship recipient will gain skills in study design and data analysis. By the completion of the scholarship the student will be expected to have completed tables of results suitable for publication.
<b>Suitable for:</b>	This project is open to students with a background in data analysis who have a working knowledge of regression methods and who can competently use statistical software.
<b>Primary Supervisor:</b>	Dr Robert Ware
<b>Further info:</b>	Contact Dr Ware - <a href="mailto:R.Ware@uq.edu.au">R.Ware@uq.edu.au</a>