

**Title:**

NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Mental Health Systems Improvement  
([CREMSI](#))

**Supervisor/s:**

To discuss potential research projects please contact Dr [Carla Meurk](#), Associate Professor [Jenny Whitty](#), or Professor [Harvey Whiteford](#). Please be prepared to provide your detailed academic resume and complete academic records (including GPA scores/grades and grading scale details).

**Funding:** We will support high quality domestic applicants 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. A top-up scholarship of \$5,000 per annum may also be awarded to successful candidates. Additional part-time employment opportunities may be available.

**Student Objectives:**

The student will conduct research aimed at facilitating the translation of mental health research into policy.

We seek to attract a high-quality PhD student to join The Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research (QCMHR) and work as part of the multi-sited Centre of Research Excellence in Mental Health Systems Improvement ([CREMSI](#)).

The candidate must hold a first class honours degree, or equivalent, in pharmacy, public health, political science, health economics or an allied health or social science field. A strong interest in mental health, and improving Australia's mental health system, is essential. Proficiency in both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies is highly desirable. Students will be encouraged to co-author high quality journal publications throughout their candidature. Strong candidates interested in carrying out a Master's thesis will also be considered.

**Project Outline:**

Those who suffer from common mental disorders, for example depression and anxiety, can be assisted by an array of evidence-based treatment possibilities. These include: taking prescribed medications, undergoing face-to-face therapy, or, increasingly, completing short courses of internet-assisted or internet-only psychological treatments. The existence of this range of qualitatively different treatment options

makes it important to understand treatment preferences of potential consumers when planning and allocating resources to mental health services. Yet, we know little about Australian's relative treatment preferences, and what factors influence such decisions.

**Specific Aims:**

We are interested in seeking a suitable applicant to investigate (1) factors influencing preferences for different treatments of common mental disorders and (2) the implications of these preferences for mental health policy and services planning.

**Achievable Outcomes:**

- A PhD in Population Health or Public Policy
- Multiple scientific papers in good research journals
- Experience with oral/written presentations at national/international conferences

Please look at the following websites for more information:

[www.gcmhr.uq.edu.au](http://www.gcmhr.uq.edu.au)

[www.mhsystems.org.au](http://www.mhsystems.org.au)