

UQ Winter Research Project Description

Project title:	Social, health and economic implications of obesity for people of Maori and Pasifika descent living in Australia, and government initiatives to address the issues.
Project duration:	6 weeks
Description:	<p>Background People of Māori and Pasifika descent living in Australia typically have poor access to health promoting services and experience worse health outcomes than their host counterparts. Little has been written, in the Australian context, on the health inequalities experienced by Maori and Pacific Islander migrants, or on the effectiveness or otherwise of government initiatives to reduce the health inequalities. This review will focus on implications of, and responses to addressing two health issues, and the adequacy of those responses.</p> <p>This literature review is proposed following recent preliminary unpublished reviews on these two health topics for the Maori and Pasifika migrant population.</p> <p>Aim This proposed study aims to increase the current knowledge base by reviewing the available literature for people of Māori and Pasifika descent living in Australia by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Reviewing how and in what ways they may experience disadvantage in accessing health promoting services b) Reviewing social, health and economic implications of obesity for this group c) Identifying government initiatives to address the issue of obesity in this group in both Australia and New Zealand d) Assessing how initiatives have, or are likely to, facilitate (or not) Māori and Pasifika access to health promoting services e) Identify the reported (favourable and unfavourable) outcomes of these actions f) To provide recommendations to inform policy makers and health professionals.
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	The scholar will gain skills in undertaking a systematic literature review, including data extraction and analysis with support from the supervisors and will, under guidance, have the opportunity to generate a manuscript ready to submit to a journal.
Suitable for:	<p>This project is open to applications from students with a background in public health and an interest in migrant health and/or health inequalities. Additional knowledge in nutrition &/or women's health would be advantageous.</p> <p>Applicant should have previously demonstrated ability to undertake a structured literature database search; work to timelines; produce high quality written work.</p>
Primary Supervisor:	Dr Lisa Schubert and Dr Jo Durham School of Public Health
Further info:	For further information please contact Dr Lisa Schubert L.Schubert@sph.uq.edu.au