ILLAWARRA AND SOUTHERN PRACTICE
RESEARCH NETWORK (ISPRN)

What is ISPRN?

- ISPRN is a practice-based research network that engages its members from the ground-up, meaning that research questions are developed by members and are relevant to primary care.

- ISPRN supports the development of high-quality research skills among primary care clinicians in order to extend their educational and professional development.

- ISPRN is driven by a practical understanding of what works and what will aid quality improvements. It achieves this by supporting projects, with a specific focus on regional and rural primary care, that translate research findings into everyday practice.

- ISPRN supports equal partnerships between clinicians, research academics, community members and local health providers in order to improve health care outcomes.

How will we support you?

ISPRN aims to support early to mid-career primary care researchers to undertake primary health care research by:

- linking early-mid career researchers to academic mentors and assisting them by providing high-quality research supervision and support.
- providing research training and support through workshops and online webinars.
- providing access to University of Wollongong (UOW) library resources, including online journals and support.

ISPRN blog

ISPRN’s newly established web page and discussion forum – ‘ISPRN Blog’: http://uowblogs.com/isprn/ give members a way to participate in the network in their own time. The site:

- is hosted by the UOW and provides a secure ‘members only’ forum for members to discuss ideas.
- enables multiple discussions to be carried simultaneously, can archive threads and act as a bulletin board.
- provides educational resources that offer guidance to ISPRN members in developing research ideas.

Accessing University of Wollongong library resources

- all ISPRN members are able to access the UOW library resources with their UOW user-name and password.
- clinical academics of the Graduate School of Medicine can use their current username and password to access the site.
- by becoming a member of the Healthcare Delivery theme of the Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute (IHMRI), new members can also access these resources http://ihmri.uow.edu.au/join/. Registration is free.

WANT TO KNOW MORE? VISIT: http://smah.uow.edu.au/medicine/research OR CONTACT THE ISPRN COORDINATOR: (02) 42215819 EMAIL: amunkman@uow.edu.au
Illawarra and Southern Practice Research Network (ISPRN)
Registration Form

ISPRN is dedicated to excellence in primary care research and to supporting early and mid-career primary care researchers to develop high quality research skills, with a specific focus on regional and rural primary healthcare.

If you would like to become a member of ISPRN, please fill in the details below and email or fax your registration form to Alyssa Munkman, who is the Practice Based Research Network Coordinator, amunkman@uow.edu.au or fax (02) 4221 4341.

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<th>Personal Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Title: □ Prof □ Assoc. Prof □ Dr □ Mr □ Mrs □ Ms □ Miss</td>
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<td>Name:</td>
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<td>Position (e.g. GP, nurse, practice manager):</td>
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Participation is free and entirely voluntary and membership does not impose any future obligation.
IHMR Research Programs, Themes and Interests

The Illawarra and Southern Practice Research Network (ISPRN) was formed under a partnership between the Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute (IHMRI) and the Graduate School of Medicine (GSM). ISPRN helps achieve the goals of both of these organisations. The GSM’s mission is to produce doctors capable and willing to work in regional and rural Australia practicing evidence based, cost efficient medicine. IHMRI’s mission is to undertake medical research which benefits the population as a whole with the health of the population of the Illawarra and surrounding areas as a focus. ISPRN forms an interface between community based clinicians, academics and basic and applied scientists. The close association of ISPRN with each of these organisations is a key strength and also adds rich value to the research development of ISPRN members.

I give permission for Alyssa Munkman to enrol me under the Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute, Primary Care and Rural Health Theme:

☐ Yes ☐ No

IHMRI takes a theme-based approach to communicating with and connecting to Research Network members. The information you provide in this section will enable IHMRI to send information on seminars, networking opportunities and announcements that will be of most interest and relevance to you.

Population Health:
IHMRI is seeking to build and develop a strong population health research program to deliver upon its commitment to applying research findings to improve the health status of Illawarra residents.

☐ Community Interventions
☐ Longitudinal Studies
☐ Epidemiology
☐ Clinical Research

Please indicate your interest in one or more of the following population health topics, if relevant. Otherwise leave blank

The following four themes represent IHMRI’s theme structure.

Ageing and Chronic Conditions - this theme covers a broad range of research activities including dietary and exercise interventions, health behaviour and health promotion, functional foods, rehabilitation, the causes of age-related diseases, the determination of healthy ageing bio-markers, the molecular and genetic processes of cancer and other diseases including neurodegenerative disorders.

Diagnostics and Therapeutics - research within this theme is aimed at developing new drugs, new delivery methods and improved detection and treatment of cancer and other diseases through core capabilities in medicinal chemistry, radiography and nanotechnology. Research activity may be focused on informatics, genetics, microbiology and the molecular mechanisms of disease processes, among other things.

Health Care Delivery - research activity and interests include primary and secondary care treatments and pathways in regional and rural contexts, improving health service delivery, acute and critical care, preventative health, aged care, medical education, allied health, chronic disease management and health informatics. This theme supports collaborations involving the Illawarra Shoalhaven Medicare Local, the Graduate School of Medicine, general practitioners (including those involved in the Illawarra and Southern Practice Research Network) and ISLHD clinicians.

Neuroscience and Mental Health - research in this theme may range from basic neuroscience to understanding the mechanistic nature of neurodegenerative disorders such as dementia, Alzheimer’s and Motor Neurone Disease. It includes health care and community interventions that seek to improve the lives of people living with a mental illness. It may also include studies on the neuropahtology of schizophrenia, child and adolescent mental health, anti-psychotic medication, genetics, psychiatry and psychology.

Please advise the primary theme with which your interests align closest to from the themes above:

Primary theme_________________________ Secondary theme (if applicable) ______________________
Please indicate your main research interests (feel free to choose more than one)?

- Acute and Critical Care
- Aged Care
- Ageing, Dementia and Cognition
- Allied Health
- Cancer
- Chemotherapy
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health
- Chronic Disease Management
- Clinical Trials
- Diabetes
- Drugs/Drug Design/Drug Delivery
- Exercise/Physical Activity/Lifestyle
- Genetics
- Health Informatics/E Health
- Health Promotion
- Health Service Monitoring
- Healthcare Access and Equity
- Infectious Disease
- Medical Education
- Medicinal Chemistry
- Mental Health Service
- Microbiology
- Molecular Mechanisms of Disease
- Neurodegenerative Disorders
- Neurological Disorders
- Nutrition/Diet/Food
- Obesity
- Preventative Health
- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Radiation/Radiotherapy
- Rehabilitation
- Serious Mental Illness
- Workforce
- Other (please specify) ____________________

If other: ____________________
Research Experience

Q1. Name: ________________________________

Q2. Please indicate your prior level of involvement in general practice research (tick as many as apply)*:

| Attended a research methodologies course |
| Acted as an investigator on a research project |
| Recruited patients into research |
| Data Collection |
| Other (please specify): ________________________________ |

Q3. To ensure we are able to provide you with the correct amount of research support please look at each of the boxes in the diagram below and use the scale to record how much experience you already have in that area.

Circle the appropriate number according to the key.

Key
1 = no experience
2 = little experience
3 = some experience
4 = moderately experienced
5 = very experienced

- applying for research funding
- generating research ideas
- finding relevant literature
- critically reviewing the literature
- writing a research protocol
- using qualitative research methods
- publishing research
- writing & presenting a research report
- analysing and interpreting results