



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Health**

# Department of Health Western Australia Human Research Ethics Committee

**Project Summaries for Approved Proposals**

April to June 2021 Quarter

## Project summaries for proposals approved by the Department of Health Human Research Ethics Committee – April to June 2021 quarter.

The material contained in this document is made available to assist researchers, institutions and the general public in searching for projects that have ethics approval from the Department of Health Human Research Ethics Committee (DOH HREC). It contains lay description/summaries of projects approved in the April to June 2021 quarter.

<b>Project Title</b>	RGS 4086: Western Australian Health Valve Study (WAVES)		
<b>Principal Investigator</b>	Dr Graham Hillis		
<b>Institution</b>	Royal Perth Hospital		
<b>Start Date</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> of May 2021	<b>Finish Date</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> of July 2030
<p>The West Australian Heart Valves Study aims to improve patient outcomes in valvular heart disease. This study aims to achieve this via two separate study components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A registry that includes follow-up of all patients who have had a heart valve replacement and/or repair in one of the three tertiary public hospitals in Western Australia since 2010; and</li> <li>2) An observational cohort study of all living patients in the registry.</li> </ol>			

<b>Project Title</b>	RGS 4150: Incidence and costs of injury in Western Australia: 2020		
<b>Principal Investigator</b>	Dr Delia Hendrie		
<b>Institution</b>	Curtin University		
<b>Start Date</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> of May 2021	<b>Finish Date</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> of May 2024
<p>The study examines the incidence and costs of injury in Western Australia. Data from multiple sources (the Hospital Morbidity Data Collection, Emergency Department Data Collection and the Mortality Register) will be used to construct a dataset recording the incidence, service utilisation and costs of injury. These injury costs will be analysed by injury type, cause of injury, injury severity, age group, sex, location of residence and socio-economic status. Risk factors associated with high cost injury cases will be examined, including identifying areas of high injury incidence.</p>			

<b>Project Title</b>	RGS 4564: Health utilisation and preventable mortality in justice-involved young people: A national retrospective data linkage study.		
<b>Principal Investigator</b>	Ms Lindsay Pearce		
<b>Institution</b>	University of Melbourne		
<b>Start Date</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> of June 2021	<b>Finish Date</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> of December 2023
<p>Young people exposed to the youth justice system in Australia shoulder a disproportionate burden of adolescent morbidity and mortality. They experience elevated rates of mental illness, cognitive disability, substance use, infectious disease, and non-communicable conditions, and die at a rate much higher than that of their age- and sex-matched peers, most often due to suicide, injury, drug overdose, or violence. These health problems frequently co-occur such that complex multi-morbidity is normative. Despite their extreme vulnerability, remarkably little is known about patterns of healthcare use in young people after release from detention or other forms of youth justice supervision. This missing knowledge is urgently needed to inform development of targeted, evidence-based interventions to reduce morbidity and mortality in our most vulnerable young people.</p> <p>This study will link the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's nationwide youth justice records from 2000 to 2019 with Emergency Department, hospital, Medicare, Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and National Death Index data. The study team will document patterns and predictors of health service utilisation, health outcomes and death in young people exposed to the youth justice system in Australia.</p>			

<b>Project Title</b>	RGS 4579: Evaluation of Four New Urgent Care Centres – A Federal Initiative to Expand Urgent Medical Care Options		
<b>Principal Investigator</b>	Professor Judith Finn		
<b>Institution</b>	Curtin University		
<b>Start Date</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> of June 2021	<b>Finish Date</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> of July 2025
<p>This project seeks to evaluate four new federally funded Urgent Care Centres in the Perth Metropolitan area, created to provide more options for urgent medical care for Perth residents. Specifically, the project team will aim to evaluate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the health outcomes of patients who attend the four new Urgent Care Centres;</li> <li>• the impact (if any) of opening these Urgent Care Centres on rates of Emergency Department attendances; and</li> <li>• the economic outcomes of this federal initiative.</li> </ul>			

<b>Project Title</b>	RGS 4770: Cancer risk after medically assisted reproduction (the CREATE project)		
<b>Principal Investigator</b>	Professor Claire Vajdic		
<b>Institution</b>	The University of Western Australia		
<b>Start Date</b>	22 June 2021	<b>Finish Date</b>	27 May 2023
<p>Medically assisted reproduction (MAR) has been linked with increased risk of cancer in women, particularly endometrial and ovarian cancer. Children born after MAR may also be at higher risk of some cancer types, including leukemia. Despite the strong biologic plausibility of carcinogenic risks from MAR, conclusive evidence is lacking due to methodological limitations and small sample sizes.</p> <p>The study team will address these questions via linkage of Australian Commonwealth and jurisdictional data (Phase 1; this application). Cancer incidence in women after MAR will be compared with women not exposed to MAR, while adjusting for major confounders. Cancer incidence will also be compared between children conceived after MAR and spontaneously from fertile women.</p>			

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