

What can allied health professionals do to decrease the length of stay in hospital settings?

Project Description

Project Title	What can allied health professionals do to decrease the length of stay in hospital settings?
Project Duration	3-6 months (negotiable, depending on hours/week).
Availability	Flexible starting date from 19 May 2025 (two students are required to start at a similar time).
Description	<p>A short-term research opportunity is available for two motivated students to conduct and publish a scoping review. The successful candidates will be enrolled in a health sciences university degree (e.g., allied health, medical, nursing degree).</p> <p>Reducing the length of hospital stay is important for the sustainability of acute hospitals and patient outcomes. Allied health professionals can contribute to safe and efficient hospital discharges. However, it is unclear which allied health interventions, discharge planning, services, or models of care can reduce the length of stay in different acute hospital wards.</p> <p>This project is the first step in a broader program of planned work. Depending on the scoping review outcomes, there could be opportunities for ongoing collaboration and participation in primary research on this topic.</p>
Expected outcomes and deliverables	<p>Students can expect to gain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills to devise and conduct a systematic literature search. • Skills to conduct a scoping review as part of a research team. • Software experience and skills in Covidence, EndNote, and Excel. • Experience in writing and publishing a research paper. • Mentorship and support. • Possible future research collaborations. <p>Expected deliverables (at a minimum):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed scoping review (including abstract/title screening, full-text screening, data extraction, and results write-up). • Published paper (note that after submission, this process will take more than 3 months and can be led by the Primary Supervisor).

Suitable For	<p>I am seeking a motivated health sciences student with an interest in health services research and/or working within hospital systems.</p> <p>Selection criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enrolled in a health sciences university degree (e.g., allied health, medical, nursing degree). A high GPA will be highly regarded.• Interest in learning about research and/or plans to pursue a career in research (e.g., enrol in a Master/Doctor of Philosophy, clinical researcher).• High degree of motivation and organisation.• Ability to work both independently and as part of a team.• Ability to consistently dedicate negotiated time to the project.• Excellent written and oral communication skills in English.
Primary Supervisor	Dr Aleysha Martin
Further Information	Please contact Dr Aleysha Martin: aleysha.martin@mater.org.au to ask for further information. To express your interest, attach your CV (please include your GPA) and details of at least one referee.