

UQ Summer or Winter Research Project Description

Project title:	How can pharmacists and dental practitioners collaborate to improve patient health care?
Project duration:	<i>6 weeks – 10 weeks</i>
Description:	<p>Community pharmacy staff are respected, trustworthy and knowledgeable healthcare professionals who provide numerous services to patients without charging any fees, do not require appointments for consultations and are usually in close proximity to people's homes. For many, pharmacists and pharmacy assistants are the first or only contact with a health professional about a health concern and are therefore ideally positioned to deliver preventive oral health messages/interventions. In addition, pharmacy staff are able to recognise and appropriately manage or refer a range of common oral health conditions for many groups in Australia, including disadvantaged groups who are most at risk of poor oral health.</p> <p>Little is known regarding how the two professions can better collaborate to achieve improved patient oral healthcare outcomes.</p> <p>The aim of this project is to prepare a review (approximately 3000 words) surrounding this topic. You should expect to review resources that would appropriately address this topic as this would form a valuable addition to the literature.</p>
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	<p>This research will assist in the development of a review which will serve as a call to enhance interprofessional collaboration between dental providers and pharmacists.</p> <p>This study will generate innovative ideas to guide future development of integrated collaborative oral health models of care between pharmacists and dental practitioners. Students will develop key communication, data collection and critical thinking skills important for those interested in social sciences research.</p>
Suitable for:	This project is open to applications from students with a background or interest in pharmacy social sciences research.
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