

## UQ Summer or Winter Research Project Description

<b>Project title:</b>	<b>Assessing the quality, availability and cultural responsiveness of resources to support medication use in the Maori and Pacific Islander community with Type 2 diabetes.</b>
<b>Project duration:</b>	5 weeks
<b>Description:</b>	<p><b>Background:</b> The Maori and Pacific Islander community are at increased risk of Type 2 diabetes and its complications. Medications are an integral part of diabetes management, however migrant populations and those from culturally and linguistically diverse groups are likely to require additional support to understand and successfully use their knowledge to take action or make decisions about their medications. Medication nonadherence has been demonstrated in Maori and Pacific Islander patients with type 2 diabetes and it has been hypothesized that nonadherence may be related to the lack of culturally tailored medication-related support for the Maori and Pacific Islander community. Needs assessments in Australia and New Zealand have identified that the Maori and Pacific Islander population may require additional support and culturally tailored resources to improve access to healthcare and reduce healthcare disparities. More information is needed to assess the medication and diabetes-related resources currently available in Australia and New Zealand, in order to provide better support for patients from Maori and Pacific Islander communities.</p> <p><b>Aim:</b> To assess the quality, availability and cultural appropriateness of resources in Australia and New Zealand to support medication use in the Maori and Pacific Islander population with Type 2 diabetes.</p> <p><b>Hypothesis:</b> Additional resources are required to support medication use in the Maori and Pacific Islander population with Type 2 diabetes. There is a lack of culturally and linguistically tailored resources that healthcare professionals can use to support medication use and many of these are sparsely distributed and often difficult to access. Understanding the resources available, will provide insight into the resources need to be improved or developed.</p> <p><b>Method:</b> Review article on the resources available locally, nationally and abroad.</p>
<b>Expected outcomes and deliverables:</b>	The student will gain skills in review of the literature, community engagement, review of healthcare and medication related information and academic writing. Students will have the opportunity to generate publications from their research and may be asked to produce a report and an oral presentation at the end of their project.
<b>Suitable for:</b>	This project is suitable for pharmacy students, however other applicants interested in the topic will be considered. Prior experience in similar projects will be well regarded.
<b>Primary Supervisor:</b>	Natasha Taufatofua, Dr Adam La Caze
<b>Further info:</b>	Applicants may contact the supervisors for further information.

**Dr Adam La Caze**

School of Pharmacy | Pharmacy Australia Centre of Excellence | The University of Queensland

Telephone: 3346 1985

Email [a.lacaze@uq.edu.au](mailto:a.lacaze@uq.edu.au)

**Natasha Sue Taufatofua**

School of Pharmacy | Pharmacy Australia Centre of Excellence | The University of Queensland

Telephone: 0439 669 496

Email [n.sue@uq.edu.au](mailto:n.sue@uq.edu.au)