

Preventing stillbirth and other adverse pregnancy outcomes

Project Overview

Project title:	Preventing stillbirth and other adverse pregnancy outcomes
Project duration:	Approximately 4-6 weeks – negotiable and flexible
Location	NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Stillbirth, Mater Research Institute-The University of Queensland (MRI-UQ), Aubigny Place, Mater Health Services, Raymond Terrace, South Brisbane
Description:	<p>Stillbirth (defined as the death of a baby of 20 weeks' gestation or more) occurs in 1 in every 130 pregnancies. Stillbirth is a devastating outcome of pregnancy and has long-term social and psychological consequences for families. The Centre of Research Excellence in Stillbirth (Stillbirth CRE) is carrying out a range of research projects and initiatives to generate evidence and implement evidence into practice to improve the health of pregnant women and their babies, with a focus on preventing later-pregnancy stillbirth. These projects and initiatives include but are not limited to.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The Safe Baby Bundle</i>: Developing a bundle of care to address the priority evidence practice gaps in stillbirth prevention (including smoking cessation in pregnancy, detecting poor growth of baby in utero, encouraging women to avoid sleeping on their backs during pregnancy, and others); - <i>The My Baby's Movements Trial</i>: A trial of a mobile phone app and SMS program to increase pregnant women's awareness of their babies' movements during pregnancy; - <i>Stillbirth risk prediction</i>: Developing a model to predict stillbirth; - <i>Fetal growth restriction workshops</i>: Educating clinicians about detecting and managing poor growth of babies in utero; - <i>Environmental risk factors for stillbirth</i>: Understanding how ambient temperature effects a woman's risk of stillbirth; - <i>Stillbirth causes</i>: Understanding the causes of stillbirth; - <i>Stillbirth investigations</i>: Understanding which diagnostic investigations have the highest yield and value for identifying the causes of stillbirth.
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	Scholars may gain skills in literature reviewing, data collection, analysis, and report writing, as well as experience working in a multidisciplinary team of obstetricians, neonatologists, midwives, epidemiologists, psychologists, researchers and others. Scholars will have the opportunity to generate publications from their research.

Suitable for:	Senior undergraduate students (years 3 or 4) or postgraduate students with a background in Medicine, Health Psychology, Public Health or Science and who wish to gain research experience to pursue work at least partially or fully in an academic setting. Proficiency in Word and Excel and experience with Endnote is required.
Primary Supervisor:	Dr Christine Andrews
Further info:	Please contact Dr Christine Andrews (christine.andrews@mater.uq.edu.au) if you would like more information before applying. We also encourage you to visit www.stillbirthcre.org.au for more details about the Stillbirth CRE.