



Ōtākou
Whakaihu Waka
UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

Pōneke
Wellington
Campus

Summer Studentships 2026/2027

PROJECT TITLE:
Does continuity of lead maternity carer in labour affect outcomes?

AIM:
Determine whether 'handing over' care in labour affects outcomes for
whānau

METHODS:
Data Analysis.

RESEARCH SIGNIFICANCE:
No evidence currently published on this topic. NZ has a
unique model of obstetric care.

STUDENT'S ROLE AND EXPOSURE TO SCIENTIFIC METHOD:
Data collection

RELEVANT PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS (Education or Research):
Nil.

Main supervisor:	Pelle Kempe.
Email address:	Per.Kempe@midcentraldhb.govt.nz.
Other Supervisor/s:	Kate Saunders - O&G reg Emma Le Lievre - Midwife.
Host Department:	Obstetrics & Gynaecology
Location:	Palmerston North.
	Can students work remotely? ☒ Yes / No

-----For Admin Use Only -----

STUDENT:

Do you currently have a student for this project? *NB: if you do not, your project will be advertised to students on our website from the beginning of August and they will be instructed to contact you directly in they are interested in a project. Once your project place is filled, please email uow.summerstudentship@otago.ac.nz with the name of the student for this project and your project description will be marked as filled on the website.*

☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, name and email address of student:

Funding

A) Philanthropic Funding

To be considered for funding from one of our philanthropic providers below, please return this form by **Wednesday 13th May** (DARO requirement).

- ☐ Cancer Society Central Districts Division
- ☐ Surgical Research Trust
- ☐ Mid-Central DHB Undergraduate Medical Education Fund
- ☐ J. Campbell Barrett Wellington Anaesthesia Trust
- ☐ Graduate Women Wellington Women's Health Research
- ☐ Fertility Associates Wellington
- ☐ Cure Kids
- ☐ Lifeblood Trust & The Carter Family
- ☐ UOW Biostatistics
- ☐ World of Difference

C) Funding through Department or Grant Funds

Please list account code here:

B) Contestable Funding

To apply for funding from contestable rounds, please go through your Research Advisor (Beck or Nina) in the Research Office using RAS and the usual processes. You will need to check due dates on funders websites. You will still need to submit this form to the summer studentships inbox. Some examples of funders with contestable summer studentship rounds are:

- Cancer Society Wellington
- Blood Cancer NZ
- Arthritis NZ
- Health Research Council
- MedTech – CMDT
- Te Niwha
- The Neurological Foundation

D) Divisional funding

- ☐ Māori (for Māori students and/or supervisor)
- ☐ Pacific (for Pacific students and/or supervisor)
- ☐ Heart Foundation (for cardiovascular research)
- ☐ Maurice and Phyllis Paykel Trust (for research by a medical student)

DUE DATES:

Wednesday 13th May: To be considered for category A philanthropic funding

Check funder's websites: For contestable funding rounds

Monday 27th July: For advertising projects to students, and for category D divisional funding

Monday 19th October: To add a project/student to the summer studentship programme, or to confirm student selections.

CONFIRMATIONS:

- ☒ I understand that Supervisors are responsible for arranging the appropriate/required ethical approvals, localities, and community consultation (including Māori consultation) for projects.
- ☒ I have informed my HoD that I am intending to supervise a summer student, and the department is able to host them.
- ☒ I understand the funding process and will submit paperwork to uow.summerstudentship@otago.ac.nz at the necessary time.

I am applying for funding from (can choose more than one):

- ☐ A) Philanthropic funding
- ☐ B) Contestable funding
- ☐ C) Department or grant funding
- ☒ D) Divisional funding

Supervisor Signature:



Date:

12/6/26

Descriptions for Philanthropic Funders

Cancer Society Central Districts Division Summer Studentship Funding for x4 cancer research projects per annum, specially focused on the challenges faced by communities in CSCD region – to generate both invaluable community-specific health insights, as well as create learning opportunities for undergraduate health students. Under the supervision of local, experienced clinical supervisors in the lower-mid North Island, research projects must be focused on these locations; Tairāwhiti, Hawkes Bay, Palmerston, North and Wanganui.
Surgical Research Trust Summer Studentship The aim of the Surgical Research Trust is to give the talented researchers in New Zealand the opportunity to further medical and surgical knowledge. The Trust has funded more than 90 research projects since it was established, including research into areas such as paediatrics, orthopaedics, heart disease, cancer, renal disease, diabetes, brain conditions and obesity. Summer Students are required to present their research at the SRT's Anniversary Function (held in Sept)
MCDHB Undergraduate Medical Education Fund Summer Studentship Funding for students based at, or undertaking research focused on, the MCDHB region. Supervisors are usually located at P. North Hospital.
J. Campbell Barrett Wellington Anaesthesia Trust Summer Studentship Supports research activities related to anaesthesia and associated disciplines, such as intensive care and pain management and the development of medical, nursing and allied health professionals who work in these fields.
Graduate Women Wellington Women's Health Research Summer Studentship Support of a woman undergraduate undertaking research into specific women's health issues as part of the University's Summer Studentship programme. The University will for the purpose, each year, submit anonymous details of eligible research projects to the GWWCT Awards Convenor to select a preferred project. Then, the CV's of the women students interested in engaging in research on those projects (along with the Supervisor's preferred candidate), for selection.
Fertility Associates Wellington Summer Studentship Research focused on reproductive health, and co-supervised by Fertility Associates Lab Director.
Cure Kids Summer Studentship Cure Kids' supports research projects focused on childhood cancers, inherited heart conditions, epilepsy, infectious diseases, cystic fibrosis, sudden unexpected death in infants (SUDI), stillbirth, burns as well as child and adolescent mental health – and many, many other areas of research. Research must make a measurable difference to the health and well-being of children in New Zealand.
Lifeblood Trust & The Carter Family Summer Studentship Funded 50/50 by the above donors. Research must benefit or impact the Haematology Department at Wellington Hospital (or similar), or on the treatment or wellbeing of leukaemia patients in the Wellington region.
UOW Biostatistics Summer Studentship Funded by alumni & retired Biostatisticians, Len Cook & Clare Salmond. A Biostatistics Summer Student at the University of Otago, Wellington, will work on a multitude of wide-ranging projects, supporting fellow summer students, in conjunction with the university's small team of biostatisticians. Students will be supervised by Professor James Stanley, and at the conclusion of the Summer Studentship will be required to produce a written report.

World of Difference Summer Studentship

This fund was established by a donor who chose to support the **World of Difference** program, run through the Department of Psychological Medicine at the University of Otago, Wellington. This is an education and research programme, aimed at ending discrimination and promoting recovery, inclusion and respect for those who experience mental distress. It is fully led and delivered by those with lived experience. The funding is to be targeted to those Summer Students with 'lived experience' (Mental Health Service Users) and/or their whanau, so they can participate in research that brings together health professionals and service users.

