

**PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESEARCH EVALUATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
ACTIVITIES, HIGHLIGHTS DIFFICULTIES & OPPORTUNITIES, 2002
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY**

BUILD RESEARCH CAPACITY IN GENERAL PRACTICE AND PHC	
Highlights	Difficulties / Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with key stakeholders and prioritisation of needs eg. research capacity building in Indigenous Medical Services, research support needs of GP Registrars, training needs for allied health providers, evaluation training for Divisions • Identification of range of collaborative program delivery already undertaken by Divisions • Delivery of Divisional training workshops in research and evaluation in line with existing collaborative programs before next triennium • Guidance from Research Advisory Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous evaluation activities often no longer appropriate to broader collaborative program delivery now undertaken by Divisions • Lack of timely access to, poor collection and use of data by Divisions • History of research experience in Indigenous communities • Process must provide community, Board and PHC providers within the service to collaborate on the development and implementation of research ideas and 'quarantined' time in Indigenous Medical Services to allow PHC providers to perform research • <i>Commencement of collaborative project to investigate the capacity and felt need for further research training in other Indigenous Medical Services across NQ.</i> • <i>Delivery of 'first line' education in RED to Divisions before next funding triennium at state-level</i> • <i>Review of Education SERU information to develop broader evaluation-based skills modules in conjunction with State Based Organisation Seeking to combine this with 'development' training, change management skills.</i> • <i>Statewide Forum to address some generic issues in evaluation Divisional staff and broader PHC sector</i>

ESTABLISH RESEARCH SUPPORT STRUCTURES	
Highlights	Difficulties / Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linkages across PHC sector through broad-based Research Advisory Committee eg QDGP involvement in development of evaluation module • Use of existing support structures eg. Qld Health Research Meeting, multidisciplinary divisional programs, existing GP/PHC Research Interest Groups • Commencement of consultation with ACTM into their existing research network structures • Appointment of 2 GP Research Fellowships, advertising beginning to broader PHC sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding issues for Networks - needs to ensure time to develop QUALITY proposals and consult • Slow uptake of advertised GP Research Fellowships and intensive support these require • <i>Research Advisory Group invaluable source of implementation and dissemination ideas. Provide guidance to ensures appropriate and integrated activities</i> • <i>Academic GPs providing guidance to GP Research Fellows</i>

ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT DISSEMINATION OF FINDINGS	
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Highlights	Difficulties / Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UQ EBP, train-the trainer workshops in critical analysis skills • Development of skills workshops: 'Presenting Research to Policy/Decision makers' • Identification of 'best practice' dissemination strategies at regional level including resource packages, use of existing GP/PHC networks • Development of GP research networks as a key to dissemination and appraisal of findings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide coordinator only just appointed to assist in co-ordinating dissemination strategies at state-level • Perceived difficulties in timely access to many databases such as Cochrane put off GPs and other PHC providers • <i>Facilitation of more streamlined access to databases where required (Divisions, GPs and broader PHC sector)</i> • <i>Further promotion of existing database sites and clinical reference manuals</i> • <i>Opportunities for Divisions to develop 'research and evaluation networks' of multidisciplinary teams at state and national levels</i> • <i>GP Research Networks providing support in line with retention needs of rural GPs</i>

DEVELOP ORGANISATION CAPACITY AND CULTURE TO SUPPORT PHC RESEARCH	
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Highlights	Difficulties / Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities - Internal eg. Academic GP Journal Club • Activities – External eg. capacity building in Indigenous Medical Services, allied health services • Multidisciplinary Research Groups • Members of staff considering research degrees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of a Statewide Coordinator • Difficult to engage busy GP teaching staff who also have clinical commitments • Lack of academic GPs with research track records to apply independently for funding • <i>GP Journal Club to incorporate sessions on submission writing, qualitative and quantitative research skills, data analysis and publication writing</i>

LINK RESEARCH CAPACITY TO BROADER PHC RESEARCH AGENDA	
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Highlights	Difficulties / Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GP Research Fellowships: focus on health priority ideas • Consultation with key stakeholders/ Research Advisory Group regarding ongoing prioritisation implementation of PHCRED program activities • Development of collaborative research activities within the School of Medicine in line with health priority areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor quality Fellowship proposals • Lack Of academic GP staff with track record in research, experience in writing submissions • <i>Further research ideas now being generated from collaborative work within PHCRED program</i>

EXPLORE AND DEVELOP OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR RESEARCH IN PHC	
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Highlights	Difficulties / Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing database funding opportunities – internal and external • Collaborative submissions underway • Exploration of opportunities for co-funding PHC researchers with divisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of Academic GPs with research track record • Further promotion of the worth of research and evaluation needed to encourage Divisions participation in discussions re: co-funding potentials