

ACADEMIC STAFF – RESEARCH INTERESTS

The Discipline of Public Health is involved in individual and collaborative research in many areas, among them: health services and health systems research, health technology assessment, perinatal epidemiology, population health strategies in general practice settings, social epidemiology, occupational hygiene and workplace safety, bioethics and environmental health with a particular focus on communicable diseases.

These areas of interest link the Discipline with researcher in other University Departments, the South Australian Department of Health as well as other Australian and international research institutions. The strategic research of the Department is supported largely through successful competitive grant applications. Applied research is funded by invited tenders and contracts with government and other organisations.

Peng Bi, MBBS, MMedSci, PhD

Disciplinary Orientation: Epidemiology and Environmental Health

Areas of interest:

- Infectious Disease Epidemiology
- Environmental Epidemiology
- Migrant Health, International Health

Current projects:

- Bi P, Hiller JE, Ryan P, Roder D, Han G. *Change disease pattern amongst migrants: A focus on national health priority areas. ARC linkage project* 2008-11.
- Bi P; Pisaniello D; Parton K; Weinstein P; Han G; Nitschke M; Saniotis A: *Heatwaves, population health, and emergency management in Australia-a qualitative ARC linkage project* 2009-10.
- Bi P, Ryan P, Weinstein P, Pisaniello D, Parton K, Moss J, Braunack-Mayer A. *Heatwaves and Population health in Australia major cities: Risk assessment and strategy exploration. ARC Discovery project 2008-10*
- Bi P, Ryan, Pisaniello D, Natschke M, Curran B. *Air pollution, climatic variables and health outcomes (Hospital admission, emergency department attendance and usage of Ambulance services) in Adelaide. ARC Linkage project, 2006-09*
- Slaney D, Adlam B, Baker V, Hope V, Nokes C, Sheat A, Tompkins D, McBride G, Ye W, French N, Bi P, Gardner N, Salinger J, Cronin K, Weinstein P. *Health Analysis & Information For Action (HAIFA) – A Resource System For Reducing New Zealand's Vulnerability To Human Health Impacts Of Climate Variation And Change.* New Zealand Government, 2008-10
- McMichael A, Capon T, Bowers J, Gorman D, Spickett J, Newman P, Beggs P, Currie B, Nicholls N, Bi P, Blashki G, Kelly B, Beebes S, Williams C, Bambrick H. *Climate change and human health research network,* Commonwealth Department of Climate Change

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Annette Braunack-Mayer, BMedSci(Hons) PhD

Disciplinary Orientation: Ethics

Areas of interest:

- Bioethics theory, qualitative research methods, ethics of health technologies, public health policy, public health ethics.

Current projects:

- Ethical issues in data collection, management and linkage; community participation in pandemic influenza planning; ethics and health technology assessment; ethics and community views concerning vaccination

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Scott Cameron, MBBS, MD, MPH, FAFPHM

Disciplinary Orientation: Infectious disease epidemiology

Areas of interest:

- Foodborne disease
- Emerging infectious disease
- Environmental health
- Biological terrorism

Current projects:

- Systems for communicable disease surveillance;
- Incidence of foodborne disease

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Adam Elshaug, BA, BSc(Hons), MPH, PhD

Disciplinary Orientation: Health Services and Policy Research; Epidemiology (Clinical)

Areas of interest: Policy models to support the re-allocation of resources away from ineffective, less effective or inappropriately applied health care practices;

- Clinical and policy assessments in healthcare to advance the translation of evidence into practice
- Clinical and cost-effectiveness research and explorations of opportunity cost
- Multiple stakeholder participation and engagement in health care decision making
- Health Technology Assessment
- Direct-to-Consumer Advertising (DtCA) of health care products

Current projects: Dr Elshaug is building capacity in the burgeoning area known as disinvestment. This involves the development and application of epidemiological, economic, ethical and policy appraisals of existing health care interventions that are ineffective, less effective or inappropriately applied with a view to reallocating resources away from these and towards more (cost-) effective health care practices. He is project manager (and Chief Investigator) of a NHMRC grant (2009-2011) investigating two case studies in this area plus a number of smaller ongoing projects.

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Christian Gericke MBBS, MD, MPH, MSc, DTMH, FRCP *Edin*, FACP, FAFPHM

Disciplinary Orientation: Health Systems Research and Health Economics

Areas of interest:

- Health policy and health systems research in countries at all levels of development
- Health care management
- Economic evaluation of health interventions in developing countries
- Health technology assessment (HTA)
- Health services research using routine data and cluster-randomised trials

Current projects:

- Study of health reforms, health financing and access to care issues in Switzerland, New Zealand and China
- HIV/AIDS behaviour surveys in the Federated States of Micronesia
- Effectiveness and cost of atypical versus typical antipsychotic drugs for schizophrenia in routine care: retrospective cohort study
- Effect of regular exercise on blood pressure in pre-school children: a 2-year cluster-randomised controlled trial
- Cost-effectiveness of immediate vs. delayed antiretroviral therapy in HIV patients with tuberculous meningitis in Vietnam
- The economics of overweight and obesity prevention in South Australia
- Data linkage at the national level: vaccine safety surveillance in Australia
- A randomized placebo-controlled trial of a herbal preparation in functional dyspepsia: cost-effectiveness and mechanisms
- Developing methods for citizen engagement: Listening to citizens' views about health promotion and the Australian health system.

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Richie Gun, MB BS

Disciplinary Orientation: Occupational and Environmental Health

Areas of interest:

- Occupational Cancer
- Chemical exposures

Current projects:

- Mortality and cancer incidence of Australian participants in the British nuclear tests (Department of Veterans Affairs).
- Public health issues in East Timor

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Janet Hiller, Dip Soc Studies, BA, MPH, PhD

Disciplinary Orientation: Health Technology Assessment, Epidemiology, Health Services Research, Public Health

Areas of interest:

- Health Technology Assessment – evaluation of health care technologies and interventions for the development of informed policy and decision making.
- Health care evaluation
- Perinatal epidemiology,
- Tobacco control,
- Health surveillance
- Breast cancer

- **Current projects:**
- Disinvestment from existing health care interventions that are cost-ineffective or inappropriately applied (<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/ahta/whatwedo/disinvestment/>)
- Health technology assessment: (www.adelaide.edu.au/ahta)
 - Horizon scanning for new and emerging health care interventions
 - Evaluation of medical services (including screening programs) and pharmaceuticals
 - Development and evaluation of clinical practice guidelines
 - Application in developing countries (China, Indonesia, Pakistan)
- Direct marketing of health care interventions to consumers
- Migrant health
- Appropriate use of diagnostic imaging
- Integrating health technology assessment and service delivery and organisation
- Exercise and breast cancer survival

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Jonathan Karnon, BA (Hons), MSc, PhD

Disciplinary Orientation: Health economics

Areas of interest:

- Principle focus is around the use of decision modelling techniques as a framework for the economic evaluation of health care technologies and public health interventions. Also interested in the use of data linkage to inform local evaluations of costs and benefits.

Current projects:

- A capacity constrained cost-effectiveness analysis applied at the level of clinical specialties, with a pilot study currently ongoing in the area of ophthalmology at the Royal Adelaide Hospital (www.adelaide.edu.au/esip).
- Australian Research Council funded applied methodological study looking at developing a framework for the economic evaluation of community-based initiatives (www.adelaide.edu.au/pcsip)

- South Australian Department of Health funded project to identify equitable and efficient solutions to handling additional hospital demand. (www.adelaide.edu.au/hdm)

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Afzal Mahmood, MBBS, MPH, PhD

Disciplinary Orientation: Primary Health Care, Health Systems Development

Areas of interest:

- Reproductive health
- Integrated health care
- International health care
- International health
- Program evaluation and health management information system
- Coordinate international health initiatives at the Discipline of Public Health, and has worked with many international and local government and nongovernment institutions in developing countries including Pakistan, Indonesia, Kenya, China

Current projects:

- Rural Health Services Research & village clinic development project with the Health Department of Shandong Province, Peoples Republic of China; association between living arrangements and health services utilization: analysis of the National Health Survey data; evaluation of Children's & Families Integrated Services, Women's and Children's Hospital; reproductive Health-Safe Motherhood project, Bobonaro District, Timor-Leste; Rotary Australia World Community Services and the Ministry of Health Timor-Leste (2006-2010). Sustainability of reproductive health programs in many communities in Pakistan.

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Tracy Merlin BA(Hons), MPH

Disciplinary Orientation: Clinical epidemiology, Health technology assessment, Evidence-based medicine

Areas of interest:

- evidence-based health policy (primarily the safety
- effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of health interventions)
- evidence-based health care/clinical practice guidelines
- health technology assessment and systematic review methodology
- evaluation of diagnostic and screening tests; gaps in the Australian regulatory and reimbursement system for health technologies

Current projects:

- applied health technology assessment research – including the independent evaluation of the safety, effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of medical and pharmaceutical interventions for public funding under Medicare and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme; methods of horizon scanning for new and emerging health technologies, devices, diagnostic tests, systems and programs; evidence-based clinical practice guidelines for the management of acute/subacute injury to the low back; evidence-based clinical practice guidelines for the management of depression in young adults; methods of assessing triage diagnostic tests within a health technology assessment framework; developing methods for

disinvesting in health technologies; and assessing the social context when making policy choices concerning the funding of health interventions

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Adrianna Milazzo

Disciplinary Orientation:

Areas of interest:

- Influenza surveillance
- Infectious disease epidemiology
- Indigenous health
- Public health surveillance

Current projects:

- Public health workforce requirements in South Australia

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Vivienne Moore, BSc(Hons), MPH, PhD

Disciplinary Orientation: Social epidemiology and mixed methods research

Areas of interest:

- Life-course influences on health
- Intergenerational influences on health
- Women's health

Current projects:

- Life-course influences on health: behavioural problems in children; sub-optimal metabolic profiles in children; reproductive problems in women; healthy ageing;
- Intergenerational influences on health: social and biological pathways to metabolic and reproductive problems;
- Women's health: menstrual disorders, early and late childbearing, obesity, depression, recourse to assisted reproductive technology, gender issues.

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John Moss, MSocSci, BEc, MBBS, FCHSE, FPHAA

Disciplinary Orientation: Health economics and health services research

Areas of interest:

- Economic appraisal of public health services
- Pharmacoeconomics
- Health technology assessment
- Efficiency and equity in health services
- Public Health within the Australian health system
- Transition between hospital and community care

Current projects:

- Economic evaluation of submissions by pharmaceutical manufacturers for the listing of drugs on the Australian Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme with J. Hiller and T. Merlin.

- Effective strategies to reduce the costs of overweight and obesity to South Australia with C. Gericke.
- Refining the indications for the use of medical technologies with A. Elshaug, J. Hiller and T. Merlin.
- Discharge planning for elderly patients in acute hospitals. With K Grimmer and J Falco.
- Priority setting in the prevention and management of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease. With A Crockett.
- Economic evaluation of the Quality Use of Medicines for Australian veterans. With R Donato, A Gilbert, E Roughthead.

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Dino Pisaniello, BSc(Hons), MPH, PhD, FRACI, RAIOH, CChem, CIH, FSIA

Disciplinary Orientation: Occupational and environmental hygiene

Areas of interest:

- Occupational and environmental hygiene.

Current projects:

- Exposure assessment
- OHS Intervention research
- Hazard surveillance
- Asthma epidemiology
- Small business OHS
- Environmental air pollution and lung cancer
- Indoor air quality and modeling
- Visual ergonomics
- OHS education
- Hazardous materials incidents management
- Prevention of musculoskeletal disorders ultrafine and nanoparticle exposure.

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Paul Rothmore BAppSc (Hons) – Physiotherapy, MErg, FACP

Disciplinary Orientation: Occupational Health

Areas of interest:

- Work-related musculoskeletal injuries, healthcare ergonomics

Current projects:

- OHS intervention research, ageing workforce, intra-shift fatigue and manual handling.

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Philip Ryan, MBBS, BSc, FAFPHM

Disciplinary Orientation: Public health medicine, biostatistics

Areas of interest:

- Design, conduct and analysis of clinical trials
- Data management systems in public health and clinical medicine

- Biostatistics consulting and teaching

Current projects:

- The Second Australian National Blood Pressure Study (High Blood Pressure Research Council of Australia); the National Joint Replacement Registry (Australian Orthopaedic Association); Veterans MATES project (University of South Australian and Dept of Veterans Affairs); DINO, DOMInO and DHALLERGY Trials of DHA supplementation in preterm infants (Child Health Research Institute); Deployed Health Surveillance Program cohort studies (Centre for Military and Veterans Health).

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Amy Salter, B.Sc. (Ma.&Comp.Sc.) (Hons in Statistics) PhD

Disciplinary Orientation: Biostatistician

Areas of interest:

- Multivariate survival analysis
- Design and analysis of data from clinical trials
- Trials for the treatment of opiate-dependence
- Statistics in public health

Current projects:

- Statistical Researcher/Analyst for data from a randomized, double-blind clinical trial (Edinburgh, Scotland), to investigate the potential benefits of Dihydrocodeine versus Methadone in the treatment of opiate dependent individuals; investigation into factors associated with long-term eye health; investigation into predictive factors for the pain management of individuals; use of angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors in reducing cardiovascular co-morbidities; investigator on a randomized trial of DHA in pregnancy to prevent postnatal depressive symptoms and enhance neurodevelopment in children; the extension of statistical theory associated with recurrent or dependent multiple-event survival data.

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David Scrimgeour, BMedSc; MBBS; MPH; FAFPHM

Disciplinary Orientation: Indigenous health, health policy

Areas of interest:

- Health policy
- Indigenous health issues
- Refugee health issues
- International health
- The effects of globalization on health

Current projects:

- Working part-time in the Department of Public Health
- A senior medical practitioner at the Port Adelaide Community Health Service, as Medical Director for Tullawon Health Service at Yalata Aboriginal community, and as a sessional medical practitioner with the Migrant Health Service.

- Course coordinator of the "Aboriginal Health Policy" unit taught to undergraduate and graduate students.

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Jacqueline Street, B.Sc (Hons), PhD, Grad. Dip.PHC

Disciplinary Orientation: Public Health, Applied Ethics

Areas of interest:

- Deliberative methods in stakeholder participation in decision making for health policy and practice.
- Ethical practice in health research
- Communication in health

Current projects:

- Health Care in the Round: integrated decision-making for improving health services.
- Community participation in pandemic influenza planning (FluViews)

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Shuhong Wang B.Med, M Med. Sci., PhD

Disciplinary Orientation: Health Economics

Areas of interest:

- Economic evaluation of health care interventions, Health technology assessment and its role in decision making

Current projects:

- Evaluation of pharmaceutical industry submissions to Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC), and assessment of medical devices and services for the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC)

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