

Are you a clinician wanting to research cancer?



**This booklet contains
information that can
help you on that pathway.**



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Cancer research at Flinders University

At Flinders, we're looking to create more effective treatments, achieve earlier detection and intervention, and prevent cancer from developing in the first place. We also want to help people who have had cancer to get back on their feet physically, mentally and financially.

Flinders Health & Medical Research Institute (FHMRI) Cancer brings together research labs, clinical trials, and treatment in one flagship facility. We forge connections between more than 150 cancer-focused researchers and clinicians, as well as our patients. We have a shared focus on innovation—on finding new and creative solutions that can make an impact on people's lives. We do it by working collaboratively, drawing on the diverse expertise and experiences of our people.

Are you thinking of undertaking a Masters or PhD in Cancer Research? This information booklet outlines how to navigate your entry into research training.



Your Masters or PhD at Flinders Research Health & Medical Research Institute

If you are looking to expand your knowledge, experience and career options with a Masters or PhD we can assist you in choosing a research area of interest. Research opportunities are available in the following areas or related disciplines:

Surgery

- Oesophageal and gastric surgery
- Hepatopancreaticobiliary surgery
- Colorectal surgery
- Urology
- ENT surgery
- Plastic surgery
- Neurosurgery

Cancer

- Oncology
- Haematology
- Bowel health
- Brain cancer
- Prostate cancer
- Cancer metabolism
- Precision medicine
- Cancer survivorship

Support for your Masters or PhD

Financial considerations:

You can afford to undertake a PhD!

- A range of scholarships* are available and successful candidates will be supported to apply for these. For example
 - University scholarships (FURS/AGPRTS): applications are usually due in October
 - If you are a Royal Australian College of Surgeons (RACS) SET Trainee, then you are eligible to apply for a [RACS Research scholarship](#). These provide an annual award of approximately \$60,000 (tax free) for three years (full time equivalent). One of the conditions of these RACS Research scholarships is cofunding by the approved research institute. This should not be seen as a barrier as there are avenues for this co-funding support. RACS Research scholarship applications are due 1 March – mid April.
 - [RACP](#)
 - [RACGP](#)
 - [NHMRC PGRS](#)
 - Philanthropic organisations such as the [National Breast Cancer Foundation](#)

Note: There are options for scholarship top ups available from various sources. Discuss with your prospective supervisor or the College of Medicine and Public Health Higher Degree by Research Coordinator HDRsupport.CMPH@flinders.edu.au



- In general surgical disciplines, a fractional SALHN clinical appointment provides additional income to scholarship holders and the ability to undertake and maintain some clinical work during the candidature. For example, fractional appointments in General Surgery provide some evening and weekend on call shifts at Flinders Medical Centre.
- Additional opportunities to undertake some paid surgical assisting work in private hospitals can also be facilitated across all surgical specialities.

Professional development opportunities:

- A vibrant clinical PhD [community of practice](#) provides peer support and professional development sessions.
- Access to small group or individual [mentoring](#) to help you achieve your goals.
- Grant writing and research output [support](#).

* Check relevant websites for closing dates.

Interested and want to progress further?

1. There are over 40 research groups undertaking cancer research at FHMRI. Review areas of research & potential supervisors [here](#).

2. If you are a RACS SET Trainee contact a RACS Fellow, listed on the following page, to discuss how a Masters or PhD at Flinders can be accommodated within your clinical career.

- You will be co-supervised by a RACS Fellow along with an experienced investigator.
- You can apply for intermission from SET training.

3. Contact potential research supervisors to find out more about their research programs, discuss your interests and possible research projects.

- Unsure who to speak to? Below are listed researchers who can help discuss your options.

4. Supported by your research supervisors, develop a scholarship application. See options listed previously.

Things to discuss with your supervisor:

- Part time options
 - Working during a PhD
- Some scholarships are better suited to part time study and working during a PhD.

5. Embark upon your Masters or PhD and create new knowledge!



Experienced Researchers – some potential supervisors

Surgery and Medicine

Oesophageal and gastric surgery



Professor David Watson

Colorectal surgery



Dr Tiong Cheng Sia

Urology



Dr Matthew Hong



Associate Professor Sarah Thompson

Plastic surgery



Dr Nicola Dean



Associate Professor Michael O'Callaghan



Dr Damian Hussey

Neurosurgery



Associate Professor Santosh Poonnoose

ENT surgery



Associate Professor Eng Ooi

Hepatopancreaticobiliary surgery



Associate Professor George Barreto

Nephrology



Professor Jonathan Gleadle



Dr Charmaine Woods

Cancer

Oncology



Professor Chris Karapetis

Brain cancer



Professor Simon Conn

Precision medicine



Professor Michael Sorich

Haematology



Associate Professor Craig Wallington-Gates

Prostate cancer



Associate Professor Luke Selth

Cancer survivorship



Professor Bogda Koczwara

Bowel health



Associate Professor Erin Symonds

Cancer metabolism



Associate Professor Michael Michael

Health Economics and Public Health



Professor Jonathan Karnon

RACS Fellows at Flinders

RACS SET Trainees: discuss with a RACS Fellow how a Masters or PhD at Flinders can be accommodated within your clinical career



Associate Professor Savio (George) Barreto
MBBS, MS (Gen. Surg - India), FAIS, PhD, FRACS



Dr Matthew Hong
MBBS (Hons), PhD, FRACS



Dr Tiong Cheng Sia
MBBS/BMedSci, PhD, M.CSSANZ, FRACS



Dr Nicola Dean
MBChB, FRCS(Eng), PhD, FRACS



Associate Professor Eng Ooi
MBBS, PhD, FRACS



Associate Professor Sarah Thompson
MD, PhD, FRCS, FRACS



Associate Professor Santosh Poonnoose
MBBS, MCh, FRACS



Professor David Watson
MBBS, MD, PhD, FRCSEd (Hons), FAHMS, FRACS

Flinders Health and Medical Research Institute

**Understanding life. Accelerating medical innovation.
Promoting healthy communities.**

Flinders Health and Medical Research Institute (FHMRI) brings together world-leading, innovative and inspiring research experts to improve health, prevent disease and combat health inequities. We work with health practitioners and patients to better understand and seek solutions to the most pressing health and medical needs of Australians, inclusive of those in rural and remote communities. The Institute works across the three board themes of Molecular Biosciences, Clinical Translation & Healthy Communities and a PhD can be undertaken in any of these thematic areas.



Flinders University is investing in a world-class Health and Medical Research Building for Southern Adelaide.

It will enable collaboration between researchers, healthcare and industry partners, translating world-class research into improved community health outcomes.

The new facility will provide a focus for education and life-long learning, leveraging academic and research opportunities, and providing platforms for collaboration, innovation and the exchange of knowledge.

Seamlessly connected to Flinders University at Tonsley and Flinders in the CBD by the new Flinders train station, the Health & Medical Research Building is the first stage and centrepiece of Flinders Village development – Adelaide's largest fully integrated education, research and health care precinct.

To learn more visit:



Contact us

Information is available online here:

**[Flinders.edu.au/health-medical-research-institute/
research-education-development-hub/study](https://flinders.edu.au/health-medical-research-institute/research-education-development-hub/study)**

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Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this brochure is accurate at the time of publication: January 2023. Flinders University reserves the right to alter any course or topic contained herein without prior notice. Alterations are reflected in the course information available on the University's website. CRICOS No. 00114A

Study with us

