NHMRC CRE
TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN MUSCULOSKELETAL PAIN
CLOSING THE EVIDENCE-PRACTICE GAP

PhD Scholarship
Improving outcomes for people with Osteoarthritis

Background - The PhD project will be part of a program of osteoarthritis research within the National Health and Medical Council Centre for Research Excellence (CRE) in Translational Research in Musculoskeletal Pain. The CRE conducts implementation research into innovative models of care for osteoarthritis and low back pain to address evidence-practice gaps. It also provides a variety of training and mentoring opportunities for students and early career researchers. This PhD project will investigate strategies to improve uptake and adherence to non-drug, non-surgical management (such as exercise) of osteoarthritis.

About the CRE – Our $2.5 million NHMRC CRE is focused on the translation of evidence into practice in order to improve outcomes for people with chronic musculoskeletal conditions including low back pain and osteoarthritis. The centre involves multidisciplinary investigators from both national and international institutes, including: University of Melbourne, University of Sydney, University of Queensland, Monash University, Keele University and University College London, UK, and covers physiotherapy, general practice, rheumatology, orthopaedics, health economics and biostatistics. Further information about the CRE can be found on our website: **http://www.cremusctranslation.com**

Supervisors - Professor Kim Bennell & Professor Rana Hinman (Centre for Health, Exercise and Sports Medicine)

Applications Open - Friday 8th July 2016

Area of study- Osteoarthritis

Funding type- Scholarship (Stipend)

Citizenship- Australian and International Citizens are eligible to apply

Prior qualifications-

- A four-year bachelor degree in a relevant discipline which includes a substantial research component equivalent to at least 25% of one year of full-time study and have achieved a minimum weighted average of 80% or (University of Melbourne) equivalent;

OR

- A masters degree in a relevant discipline which includes a substantial research component equivalent to at least 25% of one year of full-time study and achieved a minimum weighted average of 80% or (University of Melbourne) equivalent;

OR

- A qualification and professional experience considered to be equivalent

Eligibility – Applicants must meet the entry requirements for PhD in the Faculty of Medical, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne(https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/view/2016/dr-philmdh). Preference will be given to applicants with prior qualifications in the health sciences field (eg. medical, allied health, psychology, health promotion, public health or science/exercise science degree). The successful awardee must enrol and commence studies before 1st June 2017.

Benefits – The scholarship is valued at $26,288 per annum (tax exempt) for 3.5 years full time subject to satisfactory progress. This is the per annum value and is indexed at the APA rate for 2016. The amount available for this award is approximate. It will be confirmed at the time of awarding and determined by the committee according to the terms of the award

Selection Process – Interested applicants are invited to contact Kim Bennell with a CV and submit an expression of interest. Interviews with the supervisors will be held. The successful EOI applicant will be invited to complete a University of Melbourne online application for PhD course and scholarship.

Expressions of interest and enquiries should be made to **k.bennell@unimelb.edu.au** by **Friday 9th September 2016.**

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

www.chesm.unimelb.edu.au