



PROJECT SUMMARY FORM

Project Title	Management of Neonatal Sepsis in Canberra Hospital ED
Supervisor name	Alison Lally
CHS/ACTHD position	Staff Specialist Emergency Medicine
Address	Emergency Department (paediatrics) Canberra Hospital
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Lead discipline (please select one)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing and Midwifery | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Economics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allied Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Biostatistics |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> Epidemiology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-clinical | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Policy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

Does this project involve research led by, or relating to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders?

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
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Outline of the project (250 words max)

Background: Patients with febrile illness in the neonatal period (<3 months old) are a relatively common presentation to Emergency Departments and include a small but significant number with bacterial sepsis. Early recognition and antibiotic treatment are vital to effective management. Canberra Hospital ED has recently made changes aiming to expedite the treatment of these patients.

Aim: To describe the presentation and treatment patterns, especially time to antibiotics over the last 5 years.

Methods: Retrospective chart review of the management of febrile illness in the first 3 months of life, and any changes associated with workload, the COVID-19 pandemic, and recent ED policies.

Results: The study is expected to identify alterations in practice and possibly to suggest further issues to be addressed in ensuring timely access to antibiotics in this group.

Proposed research methods

Retrospective chart review

Preferred study discipline being undertaken by the student

Medicine

Benefits to the student and to the department

Research Experience and gains of published abstracts for the student.
Better understanding of the management of neonatal sepsis and identification of barriers to rapid treatment for the Department.

How does this project align with any or all of the three strategic objectives of *Better Together: A strategic plan for research in the ACT health system* (100w max)**[Better together - A strategic plan for research in the ACT health system 2022–2030](#)**

1. The ACT health system becomes a learning health system – The aim is that the health system learns about barriers to best practice in management of this vulnerable group. It is intended that knowledge gained from this project will be incorporated into future policies and protocols around paediatric management.
2. ACT people have capacity to undertake high value research in the health system – By involving a medical student as a Vacation Scholar this project builds the capacity of researchers early in their career.
3. ACT research infrastructure supports high value research – this is high value research intended for publication.

ACTHD/CHS Department where the student will be based

Emergency department (Paediatrics)

Will the student be in a patient facing role at any time during the project?

No

Will the student require access to CHS and/or ACTHD network / DHR / applications / database? If yes, please identify

Yes, both DHR and CPF and network

Will the student require CHS / ACT Health building access? If yes, please identify

Recommended for meetings, not obligatory

Supervisor availability across key dates

Friday 10 Nov – Preplacement presentation session, Canberra Hospital Auditorium <i>Approximate duration 9am-12pm – supervisors are not required for full session. Possible Webex option.</i>	Yes
Placement period 10 Nov – 9 Feb Please indicate availability across this time. <i>E.g. leave over Christmas/New Year</i>	Available
At least two face-to-face sessions with the student each week during their 6-week placement.	Yes
Friday 9 Feb – Final presentation session, Canberra Hospital Auditorium <i>Approximate duration 9am-1pm – supervisors are not required for full session. Possible Webex option.</i>	Yes

X I have read and I agree to the [ACT Health privacy policy](#) which includes statements on how the ACT Health Directorate acts lawfully to collect and use data to report on activities and to plan for future events and initiatives; including that we may use your details to contact you if required for program delivery and/or evaluation and to inform you of future similar opportunities.

Please submit form to health.research@act.gov.au