



Position Description

POSITION TITLE: Epidemiologist
LOCATION: SAHMRI North Terrace
REPORTS TO: Program Lead, Population Health Research
DEPARTMENT: Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity

WARDLIPARINGGA – ABORIGINAL HEALTH EQUITY THEME

At the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI), we are committed to achieving innovative, ground-breaking health and medical research that fundamentally improves the quality of life for all people.

SAHMRI is located on the lands of the Kaurna people who are the traditional custodians of Adelaide and the greater Adelaide region. SAHMRI works with traditional custodians across South Australia, Australia, and globally. The Wardliparingga Aboriginal Health Equity Theme (AHE) at SAHMRI is a leading national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led unit dedicated to wellbeing and achieving health equity among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia through quality and safe health and medical research.

This role is required to collaborate with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living on the lands of all traditional custodians across South Australia, Australia and potentially globally.

Wardliparingga's [research programs](#) respond to community identified priorities and are underpinned by [fundamental principles](#) of research conduct as prescribed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Over the last decade, we have established relationships and worked in partnership with Aboriginal communities, groups and organisations who we are ultimately accountable to. We have a strong program of applied research, we are a multidisciplinary team and we are committed to producing rigorous evidence and demonstrating improvements in health care access and delivery by using, adapting and developing appropriate research methods.

For more information about Wardliparingga Health Equity Theme, please visit [SAHMRI | Aboriginal Health Equity](#).

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE POSITION

This position's purpose is to conduct and lead high quality research in aged and health care services for older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that supports the aims of the research. Overall, the position will contribute to producing the evidence necessary for practice and policy recommendations related to access, variation, effectiveness, quality and safety, equity and costs associated with providing aged care services that improve the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander aged care recipients, living in aged care facilities or the community.

Specifically, this position will have strong analysis skills and experience or willing to gain experience in aged care. This will include reviewing and synthesising literature to inform the statistical analysis plans, drafting and writing the statistical analysis plans with the statistician and being mentored to undertake analysis. In addition, the position will be supported by the lead investigator and team regarding the interpretation, writing and communicating results and knowledge translation activities. This position will work closely with the [Registry of Senior Australians](#) and will work independently, with support from the Program Lead, Population Health Research, the Healthy Aging team and ROSAs analytical team and lead researchers. Supervisory delegation and reports to this position will be at the discretion of the Program Lead.



KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

The specific duties include:

- Conduct high quality research with a focus on health, health services, and aged care services for older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including planning, execution, statistical analyses and publication.
- Contribute to the activities of the collaborative research between AHE and ROSA, focusing on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals in aged care settings.
- Working independently as well as collaboratively with AHE, ROSA team, research partners, consumer representatives, staff and stakeholders of the research project.
- Support and embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander governance in the research, including by working closely with the ROSA Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee.
- Liaise, coordinate, and support the ROSA team on new and existing ethics amendments required for the research in a timely manner.
- Contribute to (including leading), the preparation of papers for publication in high impact peer-reviewed journals.
- Participate in the dissemination of research findings at appropriate conferences.
- Monitor and report on progress against key performance indicators.
- Contribute to the preparation of grants and applications for competitive funding in related areas.
- Any other responsibilities in line with the level of the position as assigned by the Supervisor and/or SAHMRI.
- Maintain high levels of confidentiality in accordance with the privacy act and government regulations.
- Contribute to and participate in Wardliparingga Theme initiatives, including special projects to continuously improve processes, tools, systems and organisation.
- Ensure research activities and other outputs are compliant and aligned with the [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#) and working to the principles of the [South Australian Aboriginal Health Research Accord](#).
- Support the mentorship, training, professional development and/or supervision of trainees, undergraduate, post graduate research students, peers and senior program leads as applicable.
- Take reasonable care to protect own health, safety and welfare at work and avoid affecting the health and safety of any other person at work.
- Participate in the implementation of Wardliparingga's work, the broader institutes Work, Health and Safety Management System and related laws, regulations and guidelines.
- Ensure that duties are performed in keeping with the principles outlined in SAHMRI's Vision, Mission and Values and the **Code of Conduct Policy**.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

- Some out of hours work may be required.
- DCSI Employment Screening and Police Checks may be required.
- Some travel interstate and intrastate, including to urban, regional, or remote parts of South Australia may be required.



Person Specification

QUALIFICATIONS

- PhD in Epidemiology, Statistics, Data Science or a related discipline as well as demonstrated experience contributing to research projects relating to the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Experience working with the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community or organisations is highly desirable.
- Excellent proficiency working with SAS, R, or Stata (at least in one statistical software package)
- Experience working with large population-based datasets independently (e.g. Medicare Benefits Schedule, Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, state health authority administrative datasets and/or aged care datasets).
- Willingness to develop skills working with observational data, multivariable modelling, confounding/interaction issues, and survival analysis.
- Understanding of the Australian and additional Indigenous specific ethical requirements and processes of human research.
- Knowledge of the aged care system or health care sector in Australia, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Organisations, Advocacy Community Groups and community groups (desirable).
- Meticulous attention to detail; methodical with excellent record keeping skills.
- Demonstrated experience in providing support to research projects.
- Highly motivated and can prioritise workload and to meet deadlines.
- Ability to work independently, seeking support when necessary to complete the task.
- Ability to work in a team, intelligently manage relationships and establish rapport effectively.
- Advanced proficiency in the use of Microsoft Office Suite of products.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Sound time management skills.
- Support SAHMRI's commitment to reconciliation and acknowledge the importance of working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People
- Able to demonstrate the following SAHMRI Values and Culture:
 - **Excellence** – Bold, Driven, Dynamic
 - **Innovation** – Persistent and Focused
 - **Courage** – Collaborative and Enabling
 - **Integrity** – Embrace Diversity, Demand Equity
 - **Teamwork** – Friendly, Fast, Flexible, Fun