

## SPCR internship projects 2026

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<b>Name &amp; email of reviewer(s) for applicants applying to undertake this internship project:</b> Sarah Armstrong, <a href="mailto:sarah.armstrong.19@ucl.ac.uk">sarah.armstrong.19@ucl.ac.uk</a>
<b>Length and dates of internship:</b> 4 weeks – ideally June
<b>Host department:</b> Research Department of Primary Care and Population Health, University College London
<b>How will the internship be conducted:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> In person at the university <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual/ from home <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both are possible, depending on preference of student
<b>Title internship project:</b> <b>How to support students to navigate moral injury in medical education: a scoping review.</b>
<b>Summary of the internship project:</b> <i>(max 250 words, can include hyperlinks to further information)</i> <p>Moral injury is a well-documented phenomenon amongst healthcare professionals, referring to the psychological distress encountered when there is an inability to do the right thing.</p> <p>In 2022, a scoping review by Ong et al explored moral injury amongst medical students. The focus of this work was to look at whether, and why, this occurs within medical students, through the lens of Ring Theory of Personhood. They concluded that medical students were at risk, often due to their place in the medical hierarchy. Suggestions were made about how to support students suffering from moral injury, using debriefs, psychological support and role-modelling.</p> <p>What is less clear is whether proactively educating students on how to navigate this gap between 'gold standard' and 'best practice for this context' can reduce their moral distress. We propose to conduct a scoping review to look at educational approaches or theories to address this issue. It is vital to ensure that moral injury is addressed in the formal, rather than the hidden, curriculum.</p>
<b>Learning objectives:</b> How to design a literature search How to devise a research question How to title and abstract screen How to extract information and data

**Any further information:**