

Template for SPCR internship projects 2025

Name & email supervisor(s): Dr Aseel Mahmoud a.mahmoud@exeter.ac.uk Dr Jane Smith jane.smith@exeter.ac.uk
Name & email of reviewer(s) for applicants applying to undertake this internship project: Dr Aseel Mahmoud a.mahmoud@exeter.ac.uk
Length and dates of internship: Flexible June-August on full or part-time basis
Host department: Exeter Collaboration for Academic Primary Care, University of Exeter
How will the internship be conducted: <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
Title internship project: Systematic Review Assessing the Role of Digital Health Technology in Optimising Medication Adherence in Older Patients with Asthma or COPD
Summary of the internship project: <i>(max 250 words, can include hyperlinks to further information)</i> This systematic review is examining studies that have evaluated digital health interventions for older people with asthma or COPD (see protocol for the review here: https://www.crd.york.ac.uk/prospero/display_record.php?RecordID=575924). Literature searches have been performed in six databases to identify relevant articles published since 2000 and up to Dec 2024, and screening of titles/abstracts and full texts is underway. The student will be involved in extracting data (e.g. study setting, study design, sample characteristics, type of intervention, findings) from included studies using a pre-developed data extraction table/tool and applying checklists to assess the quality of included studies. The student may also have the opportunity to contribute to synthesising quantitative and/or qualitative findings from across included studies and contributing to the write up of aspects of the review for journal publication. The findings from the review will inform the development of a proposal and funding application for future research to explore integration of digital technology into a pharmacist-led service to support medication adherence amongst older people with asthma and COPD in primary care.
Learning objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop knowledge and practical experience around the methods and conduct of systematic reviews, particularly steps related to data extraction, data synthesis and quality assessment.• Gain experience in using EndNote for reference management and Excel for data management.

- Develop academic writing skills and gain insight into expectations around publishing research findings and preparing research grant applications.
- Gain experience in working as part of a multi-disciplinary research team.
- Develop knowledge, contacts and networks to facilitate future involvement and engagement in research, for example related to primary care, digital health technologies, respiratory conditions, pharmacy etc.

Any further information:

The published protocol for this review was developed in summer 2024 as part of a previous SPCR internship project, with the intern named as an author.

Please submit project details to the Directorate (spcr@keele.ac.uk) no later than Friday 14th February 2025