# SPCR internship projects 2023 -UCL

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| **Name & email supervisor(s):**  Dr Emily Owen ([emily.owen@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:emily.owen@ucl.ac.uk)), Professor Sophie Park ([sophie.park@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:sophie.park@ucl.ac.uk)), and Dr Victoria Tzortziou-Brown OBE ([v.tzortzioubrown@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:v.tzortzioubrown@qmul.ac.uk)). |
| **Length of internship and when it could take place:**  Flexible depending on student preference. |
| **Host department:**  Research Department of Primary Care and Population Health, University College London |
| **How will the internship be conducted:**  In person at the university  Virtual/ from home  Both are possible, depending on preference of student. |
| **Title internship project:**  Understanding for whom, under which contexts, and how care and organisational models support continuity of care within primary care settings: a systematic review. |
| **Summary of the internship project:** *(max 250 words, can include hyperlinks to further information)*  Continuity of care is a hotly debated topic within the media and Westminster health forums. It is also a popular topic of discussion within the research literature (Gray et al., 2018). The pressures and demands created by the COVID-19 pandemic, policy and workforce changes resulting from the introduction of the NHS Long-Term Plan, the expansion of digital health technologies have all raised new questions and debates about the importance of continuity within primary care. A substantial body of literature has established the role continuity of care may play in improving patient outcomes and satisfaction (Medves et al., 2022). Continuity of care has been shown to enhance patient adherence and self-management of conditions (Parchman et al., 2002), reduce costly hospital admissions (WHO, 2007), and lower morality rates (Gray et al., 2018). Despite the demonstrated effectiveness of ensuring continuity of care, there remains limited understanding of the contexts and mechanisms through which new models of care and organisation may lead to continuity of care in primary care settings. This review aims to examine the factors which may constrain or facilitate continuity of care in primary care settings.  The project provides an excellent opportunity to work alongside internationally recognised experts in the field of evidence synthesis and to inform policy changes. Depending on when the student can start their internship, they will take part in a variety of stages of the review. For example, searches, double screening, data extraction, synthesis, and interpretation of policy documents and debate articles. |
| **Learning objectives:**   * To develop an understanding of the factors which may constrain or facilitate continuity of care within primary care settings. * To be able to describe certain stages of conducting a systematic review. * To support searches, double screening, and analysis. * To extract data from included literature, supporting synthesis and interpretation. * To help organise and deliver patient and public co-applicant and stakeholder meetings. |
| **Any further information:**  For further information, please contact Dr Emily Owen ([emily.owen@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:emily.owen@ucl.ac.uk)) |
| **How to apply:**  Please fill in the application form below and send it with your CV and covering letter [to bijal.parmar@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:to bijal.parmar@ucl.ac.uk)  If you have any queries, please contact Dr Cini Bhanu [c.bhanu@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:c.bhanu@ucl.ac.uk)    **Deadline for submissions:** 7 May 2023 at midday. Successful candidates will be notified by 19 May 2023. |

**Internship application form**

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| Please include information about what you would like to get out of the internship e.g. knowledge about a particular topic; experience of a particular sort of research method; particular experiences within an academic department of Primary Care etc. | |
| **Full name** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Email address** | Click here to enter text. |
| **1st choice project:**  **2nd choice project:** | |
| **Please answer the following questions (max 150 words for each section).** | |
| 1. **Why are you applying for this internship?**   Click here to enter text. | |
| 1. **How will this internship support your future career or professional development plans?**   Click here to enter text. | |
| 1. **What contribution do you think you can make during the internship?**   Click here to enter text. | |

Applications in previous years have been highly competitive. Previous UCL interns have been very productive and successful with paper and conference publications, as well as submission of further grant applications. Most are very happy to be informally contacted if you would like to discuss their experience.

**Selection is based on criteria including evidence of:**

* Commitment to the primary care scholarship
* Critical thinking and reflexivity about how this award will support future professional growth
* Creativity and commitment to making an active contribution during the internship to the primary care knowledge field.