# SPCR internship projects 2023 - UCL

|  |
| --- |
| **Name & email supervisor(s):**  Holly Christina Smith ([holly.dorning18@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:holly.dorning18@ucl.ac.uk))  Irene Petersen ([i.petersen@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:i.petersen@ucl.ac.uk)) |
| **Length of internship and when it could take place:**  8-12 weeks any time between July and October 2023. There is some flexibility 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:**  **Systematic review of the long-term maternal consequences of having postnatal depression** |
| **Summary of the internship project:** *(max 250 words, can include hyperlinks to further information)*  It is thought that postnatal depression affects up to 1 in 5 mothers in the year after childbirth and previous research has shown that of these women, the majority (over 80%) will receive some antidepressant treatment. A preliminary literature search identified a small number of systematic reviews which have investigated the long-term consequences of postnatal depression. Most however, are focused on the relationship between maternal depression and infant outcomes. The outcomes for a woman’s own long-term health and wellbeing are less well explored. One previous systematic review which focused on women with untreated postnatal depression only, found an association between postnatal depression and negative psychosocial health and a worse quality of life. However, we found no reviews which have examined this in women with treated and untreated postnatal depression. In this project we plan to conduct a systematic review of the literature to investigate the risk of long-term adverse mental health outcomes in all women with postnatal depression. These outcomes may include subsequent depression, progression to a serious mental illness and suicide.  Through this project the student will have opportunities to learn how to conduct a systematic review, to search for and identify relevant literature, to contribute to group discussions and meetings, to gather and synthesise study findings. This project will provide the student with an excellent introduction to systematic reviews. |
| **Learning objectives:**   1. To support with a systematic review of relevant published literature to address our research question. 2. To write up parts of the systematic review, including methodology, steps taken and findings with the potential of contributing to a published paper. |
| **Any further information:** |
| **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**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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.