2020 UQ Winter Research Scholarship Program
Research Projects offered by School of Veterinary Science

How to apply

The UQ Winter Research Scholarship Program is offered by the School of Veterinary Science and UQ Student Employability Centre during the winter vacation period (mid-June to mid-July). This document provides you with a list of available projects.

1) Browse the projects.

2) Contact a potential supervisor in the area of your interest, or the contact person listed, to discuss your interest to undertake their research project. Gain the research project supervisor’s tentative approval, and include this with your full UQ Summer Research Scholarship application.

3) Submit your application via StudentHub
**Supervisor** | Dr Sarah Purcell | **Duration:** 6 weeks
---|---|---
**Contact Details:** | Email – sarah.purcell@uq.edu.au

**Retrospective evaluation of the clinical use of fresh frozen plasma in dogs in Australia**

Fresh frozen plasma (FFP) is commonly administered to dogs for the provision of clotting factors. Other controversial uses for plasma include the provision of alphamacroglobulins in canine pancreatitis, and passive immunotherapy in canine parvoviral enteritis. Although there are potential benefits of plasma, there are many potential side-effects including anaphylaxis, hypersensitivity reactions, and a host of inflammatory reactions such as febrile non-haemolytic transfusion reactions and transfusion related acute lung injury.

This project aims to use Vet Compass records to gain a better understanding of the frequency with which plasma is used in small animal practice in Australia for conditions other than coagulopathy. Records will primarily be assessed to determine the reason for plasma transfusion, but may also include any adverse effects relating to the use of plasma transfusion, the volumes of plasma administered and clinical outcomes.

The findings will be of direct interest to the profession and wider community within Australia as plasma products are commonly used in practice with little or no evidence to support their use. These products are not only expensive but may also have detrimental effects on our canine patients.

**Number of student places available:** 1

**Expected outcomes** - Scholars will develop skills in data management. The student may then be interested in assisting in formulation of a manuscript for publication outlining the findings of the study and/or presentation of the findings.

**Suitable for** - This project would be suited to a veterinary student in their 3rd or 4th year of study, and would particularly suit a student that has some experience in a veterinary hospital, reading and interpreting hospital records.

**Other important details** – Interested students **must** contact the supervisor/s, prior to submitting an application. Evidence of supervisor support is required to be uploaded as part of the application process.