

Information on Postgraduate Research Scholarship - Ref: VCS-EHHS-01-20**Faculty:** Education, Health and Human Sciences**Department:** Health Science**Lead Supervisor:** Paul McCrone**Project Title:** Assessing the cost-effectiveness of interventions for dementia using a care pathway approach**Project Description:**

Cases of dementia are increasing in number as a result of an ageing population. There are no cures for dementia, but treatments and therapies do exist which aim to slow down its progression and to improve the quality of life of those with it. These include pharmacological treatments for Alzheimer's disease (the most common type of dementia), memory clinics, talking therapies, and early detection strategies. Evidence is growing regarding the effectiveness of such options. However, they all require the use of scarce health and social care resources and so it is important to assess their cost-effectiveness. The aims of this PhD project are to: (i) review the cost-effectiveness of interventions to improve health for people with dementia and (ii) model the cost-effectiveness of alternative interventions introduced to routine practice in the UK. There are three main components to this PhD project. The first component of the project will be to conduct a systematic review of the UK and international literature on the cost-effectiveness (broadly defined) of interventions for dementia designed either to delay progression of the disease or to improve/maintain the health-related quality of life of those with it and conduct a review of reviews of clinical evidence for these interventions. The second component will be to construct a simulation model to map out routine care pathways for people with dementia. The model will then be used to assess the cost-effectiveness of the introduction or expansion of specific therapies and interventions.

This doctoral project will enable the student to work closely with economists and clinicians who have a track record of dementia-related work. It is expected that the research will result in high-impact publications and other outputs and will provide the student with a valuable opportunity to continue in this field.

Duration: 3 years, Full-Time Study**Bursary available (subject to satisfactory performance):**

Year 1: £15,285

Year 2: In line with UKRI rate

Year 3: In line with UKRI rate

In addition, the successful candidate will receive a contribution to tuition fees equivalent to the university's Home rate, currently £4,407, for the duration of their scholarship. International applicants will need to pay the remainder tuition fee for the duration of their scholarship. This fee is subject to an annual increase.

Person Specification of Essential (E) or Desirable (D) requirements:	
Criteria:	E or D
Education and Training:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Class or 2nd class, First Division (Upper Second Class) Honours Degree or a taught Master's degree with a minimum average of 60% in all areas of assessment (UK or UK equivalent) in a relevant area to the proposed research project (e.g. economics, health services research) 	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For those whose first language is not English and/or if from a country where English is not the majority spoken language (as recognised by the UKBA), a language proficiency score of at least IELTS 6.5 (in all elements of the test) or an equivalent UK VISA and Immigration secure English Language Test is required, unless the degree above was taught in English and obtained in a majority English speaking country, e.g. UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, etc, as recognised by the UKBA. 	E
Experience & Skills:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous experience of undertaking health or social care research (e.g. undergraduate or taught masters dissertation) 	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of methods used in economic evaluations 	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good writing skills 	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good quantitative skills 	E
Personal Attributes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands the fundamental differences between a taught degree and a research degree in terms of approach and personal discipline/motivation 	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to, under guidance, complete independent work successfully 	E
Other Requirements:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This scholarship may require Academic Technology Approval Scheme approval for the successful candidate if from outside of the EU/EEA 	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A PhD project research proposal that is related to the research area 	E
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The scholarship must commence before June 2021 	E

Closing date for applications: *midnight UTC on Wednesday 14th October 2020*

For further information contact: Prof Paul McCrone

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Making an application:

Please read this information before making an application. Information on the application process is available at: <https://www.gre.ac.uk/research/study/apply/application-process>. Applications need to be made online via this link. **No other form of application will be considered.**

All applications **must include** the following information. **Applications not containing these documents will not be considered.**

- **Scholarship Reference Number (Ref)**– included in the personal statement section together with your personal statement as to why you are applying
- **a research proposal related to the subject topic ***
- **a CV including 2 referees ***
- **academic qualification certificates/transcripts and IELTS/English Language certificate if you are an international applicant or if English is not your first language or you are from a country where English is not the majority spoken language as defined by the UK Border Agency ***

**upload to the qualification section of the application form. Attachments must be a PDF format.*

Before submitting your application you are encouraged to liaise with the Lead Supervisor on the details above.