

## **PhD Scholarship Opportunity focused on preventing work-related injury and illness in Victoria**

### **Monash Centre for Occupational & Environmental Health**

**School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University, Melbourne**

A three year PhD scholarship is available in the Monash Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health (MonCOEH).

Work-related injuries and illnesses are a major public health concern. In Australia the direct and indirect costs of work-related injury and illness for 2008-09 has been estimated to be in excess of \$60 billion. While there has been a steady decline in the number of workers' compensation claims reported to WorkSafe Victoria over the last decade, we do not know if declines in work-related injury and illness have occurred across all types of injuries, or if they have been consistent across different labour market sub-groups (based on demographic, occupational or industrial information). The main objectives of this PhD project are to use workers' compensation data to answer important questions related to the primary prevention of work-related injury and illness in Victoria; and to develop methods to integrate workers' compensation data with other data sources (e.g. labour market survey information or emergency department data) to examine questions concerning the use of workers' compensation data for surveillance purposes. There is also scope to conduct analyses comparing primary prevention performance across different jurisdictions.

This PhD opportunity will provide the opportunity for the successful candidate to develop a focused research agenda related to primary prevention of work injuries using administrative workers' compensation data. This is a unique opportunity for someone with interests in the primary prevention of work-related injuries and illnesses and the use of administrative data for research purposes. The PhD scholarship is funded through the Institute for Safety, Compensation and Recovery Research. Support will be available for the PhD candidate to attend national and international conferences to present their study findings.

The successful candidate will have a clear research focus related to the primary prevention of work injury and illness, and a background in occupational health, public health, epidemiology, biostatistics, medical, or other health or science. A strong academic record is expected with either previous post-graduate training and/or an honours (H1 or H2A) bachelor degree in a relevant discipline. Some previous research training and/or experience is essential. Australian & New Zealand citizens and Australian permanent residents only may apply. .

Applicants should submit i) a 1-2 page summary of their previous relevant experience or background, and a description of the area of primary prevention that is of particular interest to them; ii) CV; and iii) Academic transcripts.

Applications should be submitted to [jane.miosge@monash.edu](mailto:jane.miosge@monash.edu) by 5pm 2/05/14

For further information regarding the project, applicants are invited to contact Professor Malcolm Sim (email: [malcolm.sim@monash.edu](mailto:malcolm.sim@monash.edu)) or Assoc Professor Peter Smith (email: [peter.smith@monash.edu](mailto:peter.smith@monash.edu)). Further information about doctoral study in SPHPM can be found at the "Doctoral Information Handbook" link at <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/epidemiology/doctoral/phd.html>