



Project Title: A clinical trial of an app to improve transition to adult care in adolescents with chronic illness		Code: CHW2
Host School / Institute: Children's Hospital Westmead Clinical School		Address: The Academic Department of Adolescent Medicine, The Children's Hospital at Westmead
Certificates & Clearances required: Yes *Vaccination Certificate *Working with children clearance <i>Information on how to obtain certificates, where necessary, will be given to successful applicants.</i>		
Primary Supervisor: Prof Katharine Steinbeck		
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Co-Supervisor/team: The Academic Department of Adolescent Medicine, researchers from the NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Adolescent Health, an HDR student and a clinical research medical fellow.		
Project Type: Clinical; E-technology trial; recruitment		
Project Category: Adolescent medicine; Chronic Diseases/Illness		
Skills / Attributes of a successful student: Excellent interpersonal communication skills Ability to work with a multidisciplinary team, flexibility, interest in health care services and digital technologies.		
Project Keywords: adolescent; chronic illness; mobile application; transition; health care		
<p>Project Description: Background: Transition from paediatric care to adult care for young people with chronic physical illness parallels many other life transitions; leaving school, entering work/tertiary education, increasing autonomy and independence from family. Failure to engage with adult services is common, as is deterioration in chronic illness control, and unplanned hospital visits. There is interest in the use of apps to assist young people in transition but our recent systematic review (submitted, under revision) identified a limited number of available apps, all of which were illness specific.</p> <p>Project: This project is based at The Children's Hospital at Westmead in the Academic Department of Adolescent Medicine. The Summer Scholar will assist with the recruitment of adolescents, with any chronic physical illness who are transitioning to adult specialist health care, into a trial of a purpose built app, TransitionMate (TM). This app is designed to support independent self management and at the time of recruitment young people are familiarised with TM and shown how to load their personal data. There will be baseline data to collect from the young people in a hospital clinic setting, as well as collection of data from medical records. The trial duration is 18 months so there would be an opportunity for continuing involvement..</p> <p>Scholarship outcome: The Summer Scholar will gain experience in clinical research and its challenges, including recruitment and adherence to protocols and potentially some early follow up interviews. They will assist in early manuscript drafting, and can be a named author on the final publication and be part of the activities of the Centre of Research Excellence in Adolescent Health (www.why.org.au). An interested medical student would also have the opportunity to be involved in clinical observation in The Department of Adolescent Medicine.</p> <p>Timing: There is flexibility around weeks and hours worked. The 8 weeks can include 4th–18th December and then from January 13th 2020, as negotiated with supervisor.</p>		