



<b>Project Title:</b> Efficacy, safety and dose dependent effects of opioids for osteoarthritis pain: Systematic review and meta-analysis	<b>Code:</b> SPH1
<b>Host School / Institute:</b> <a href="#">Sydney School of Public Health</a>	<b>Address:</b> Level 10 North, King George V Building Sydney
<b>Certificates &amp; Clearances required:</b> No	
<b>Primary Supervisor:</b> <a href="#">Dr Christina Abdel Shaheed</a>	
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<b>Co-Supervisor/team:</b> This systematic review will be supervised by Dr Christina Abdel Shaheed, pharmacist and pain researcher and leading researchers in the pain field, <a href="#">Professor Andrew McLachlan</a> (AM) - Head of School and Dean, School of Pharmacy and Professor Chris Maher - Director, Institute for Musculoskeletal Health, Sydney.	
The team has published a review of opioid analgesics for low back pain which was published in JAMA Internal Medicine in 2016 and has informed policy around the use of opioid analgesia for low back pain internationally. This will be a similar review but for osteoarthritis - the leading condition for opioid prescription in Australia.	
<b>Project Type:</b> Systematic review; Literature Review; Data Analysis	
<b>Project Category:</b> Pharmacology; Public Health	
<b>Skills / Attributes of a successful student:</b> Understanding of medicines is preferred. Some experience in or interest in conducting systematic review.	
<b>Project Keywords:</b> opioid; efficacy; safety	
<b>Project Description:</b> Osteoarthritis is one of the most common causes of opioid prescription in Australia. There is a paucity of evidence evaluating the efficacy, safety and dose dependent effects of opioid in this population group. This review will identify eligible placebo controlled trials evaluating opioid vs placebo for OA pain.  We will evaluate the effect of opioid dose and duration of treatment on treatment effect. The quality of evidence of individual studies will be assessed using the Cochrane risk of bias scale and overall quality of evidence will be determined using GRADE. The review has potential to inform policy and practice around opioid use and prescription for OA pain in Australia and globally.  The successful candidate will be supervised by researchers whose work has influenced policy and practice with regards to opioid use and prescription in Australia and internationally.	