



Project Title: The quality of medication management guidance provided to caregivers at hospital discharge		Code: SPS8
Host School / Institute: Sydney Pharmacy School		Address: The University of Sydney School of Pharmacy Rm N347, Pharmacy and Bank Building A15
Certificates & Clearances required: No		
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Project Type: Qualitative Analysis; Literature Review		
Project Category: Ageing; Pharmacy		
Skills / Attributes of a successful student: This project would suit a student who has a keen interest in pharmacy and dementia research, excellent verbal and written communication skills, and ability to work both independently and as part of a team.		
Project Keywords: Transitions of care; Caregivers; People with dementia; Hospitals; Medication management		
Project Description: Improving medical care in people with dementia in acute care settings is a major public health need. Compared with inpatients without a dementia diagnosis, inpatients with a diagnosis of dementia are more likely to be exposed to inappropriate polypharmacy and experience worse outcomes (e.g. hospital re-admission and mortality). Caregivers of people with dementia (PWD) play a key role in ensuring safe use of medications including managing side effects and administering medication. This highlights the need to guide caregivers of PWD in medication management at discharge to provide adequate support. However, at present, it is unclear whether this occurs in routine clinical care. To address this gap, the aim of this project is to explore caregivers' experience of medication management guidance at hospital discharge. The project will involve one-on-one semi-structured interviews with caregivers of people with dementia, and qualitative analysis using a thematic approach. The potential significance of this project includes identifying opportunities to improve the quality of caregivers' guidance in medication management at discharge to ensure safe use of medicines. The summer scholarship student will be trained in qualitative research (participant recruitment, data collection, transcription, and data analysis). This project would suit a student who has a keen interest in pharmacy and dementia research, excellent verbal and written communication skills, and ability to work both independently and as part of a team. The student will work at the School of Pharmacy and have the opportunity to collaborate with leading researchers to improve medication management in people with dementia. The student will also have an opportunity to co-author on papers.		