



MEDI8102

Evidence-Based Healthcare

Session 1, Special circumstances 2021

Medicine, Health and Human Sciences Faculty level units

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Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor, Lecturer

Emre Ilhan

emre.ilhan@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

Email for appointment

Tutor

Kelly Gray

kelly.gray@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

Email for appointment

Tutor

Eoin Doyle

eoin.doyle@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

Email for appointment

Tutor

Marcus Stoodley

marcus.stoodley@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

Email for appointment

Tutor

Chris Dalton

chris.dalton@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

Email for appointment

Tutor

Kalli Spencer

kalli.spencer@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

Email for appointment

MD Program Support Officer

Cassy Ashford

cassy.ashford@mq.edu.au

Contact via Email

Email for appointment

Taryn Jones

taryn.jones@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MD or ((PHTY800 or PHTY8100) and (PHTY801 or PHTY8101) and (PHTY802 or PHTY8102) and (PHTY803 or MEDI805 or MEDI8105))

Corequisites

((MEDI910 or MEDI8100) and (MEDI911 or MEDI8101)) or ((PHTY805 or PHTY8105) and (PHTY806 or PHTY8106) and (PHTY807 or PHTY8107))

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit will introduce you to the principles underpinning the practice of evidence-based health care, whereby research evidence is integrated with clinical expertise and clients' / patients' values. Specifically, you will learn how to formulate clinical questions about diagnosis, prognosis and treatment, and locate and critically appraise relevant evidence to answer those questions. This unit will provide you with an evidence-based framework for concurrent and future units, that are embedded in the Doctor of Medicine and Doctor of Physiotherapy curricula to enhance communication, reflection and life-long learning skills. By integration with an interprofessional community-based clinical component, you will develop foundational skills in how to implement evidence-based health care in clinical practice.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Critically appraise relevant research using standardised checklists to evaluate the validity and interpretation of studies about diagnosis, prognosis and treatment (Capability 1: Scientist and Scholar)

ULO2: Competently formulate relevant clinical questions about diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of conditions for which people seek healthcare (Capability 2: Clinical Practitioner)

ULO3: Apply knowledge and skills in evidence-based healthcare to develop relevant written reports and critically appraise topic reviews which meet academic writing and

referencing standards (Capability 1: Scientist and Scholar)

ULO4: Competently use electronic resources to search health and medical literature to locate relevant research evidence to answer clinical questions to enhance the practice of medicine and/or physiotherapy (Capability 1: Scientist and Scholar)

ULO5: Discuss practical strategies to successfully implement current evidence into clinical practice (Capability 2: Clinical Practitioner)

ULO6: Explain how psychological, social and cultural issues affect the health of individuals and populations and how diversity can be respected within the context of evidence-based healthcare (Capability 3: Engaged Global Citizen)

ULO7: Participate effectively in classes and peer teams, by seeking and reflecting upon feedback on own your performance to generate strategies that optimise individual and team performance (Capability 4: Professional)

ULO8: Communicate and behave effectively and professionally in accordance with ethical, legal and professional standards of care whilst undertaking community clinical placement activities. (Capability 4: Professional)

General Assessment Information

Information concerning Macquarie University's assessment policy is available at <https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/assessment>. In this unit all assessment tasks will be coarse graded, with grades (P+, P, P-, F) assigned to the focused and generic MD Capability Aspects as well as overall task performance. Only the coarse grade for the overall performance of assessment tasks weighted according to their contribution will be used to calculate the overall unit aggregate. Unit outcomes, based on the Unit aggregate, will be reported to the University using the standard Macquarie grades (High Distinction, Distinction, Credit, Pass, Fail). Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading requirements are contained in Schedule 1 of the Macquarie University Assessment Policy. A single **standardised numerical grade** (SNG) equivalent will be reported for each University grade. Both the numeric equivalents for the coarse grades used in the calculation of the unit aggregate and the conversion of the aggregate to a single SNG are available on the MEDI8102 iLearn page.

To pass this unit, students must demonstrate sufficient evidence of achievement of the learning outcomes. Further details for each assessment task will be available on iLearn, including marking rubrics.

All final grades in the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences are determined by the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences Assessment Committee, and are approved by the Faculty Board. They are not the sole responsibility of the Unit Convenor. Students will be awarded an Assessment Grade plus a Standardised Numerical Grade (SNG). The SNG is not necessarily a summation of the individual assessment components. The final grade and SNG that are awarded reflect the corresponding grade descriptor in Schedule 1 of the Assessment Policy.

If there is a lack of sufficient evidence demonstrating that a student has met the required level of achievement in all learning outcomes they will be awarded a Fail grading with an assigned mark of 49 or less.

Extensions for Assessment Tasks

Applications for assessment task extensions may be considered for short-term, unexpected, serious, and unavoidable circumstances affecting assessment. Applications must be submitted via www.ask.mq.edu.au . For further details please refer to the Special Considerations Policy available at <https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/special-consideration>

Late Submission of Work

All assignments which are officially received after the due date, and where no extension has been granted by the unit convenor or course director, will incur a deduction of 10% for the first day, and 10% for each subsequent day including the actual day on which the work is received. Assessments received 5 days or more beyond the due date, without an approved extension, will be awarded a maximum of 50% of the overall assessment marks. Weekends and public holidays are included. For example:

Due Date	Received	Days Late	Deduction	Raw Mark	Final Mark
Friday, 14th	Monday, 17th	3	30%	75%	45%

Hurdle Assessment

In this unit, the Clinical Placement Logbook (AT3) is a hurdle assessment. This is a requirement for an activity for which a minimum level of performance is a condition of passing the unit in which it occurs. A student who has obtained a SNG over 50, yet fails the hurdle assessment, fails the unit. Please see Macquarie University's Assessment Policy for more information about hurdle assessment tasks.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Clinical Education Simulation and Reflection - Part 1	40%	No	Week 6 (Monday, 30th March 9:00 AM)
Clinical Education Simulation and Reflection - Part 2	40%	No	Week 10 (Monday, 10th May 9:00 AM)
Clinical Reflection Report	20%	No	Week 13 (Monday, 31st May 9:00 AM)

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Clinical Placement Logbook	0%	Yes	Week 14 (Monday, 7th June 9:00 AM)

Clinical Education Simulation and Reflection - Part 1

Assessment Type ¹: Simulation/role play

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Week 6 (Monday, 30th March 9:00 AM)**

Weighting: **40%**

This assessment task will involve submitting an audio or video where you will simulate being a future clinician educating your HAWC volunteer about their condition with a focus on their diagnosis and prognosis. In a written reflection, you will evaluate the alignment between the health care journey of the your HAWC volunteer and the best available evidence. Overall performance, capability aspects and Stage 1 EPAs may be assessed and results recorded in your Macquarie Assessment Portfolio.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically appraise relevant research using standardised checklists to evaluate the validity and interpretation of studies about diagnosis, prognosis and treatment (Capability 1: Scientist and Scholar)
- Competently formulate relevant clinical questions about diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of conditions for which people seek healthcare (Capability 2: Clinical Practitioner)
- Apply knowledge and skills in evidence-based healthcare to develop relevant written reports and critically appraise topic reviews which meet academic writing and referencing standards (Capability 1: Scientist and Scholar)
- Competently use electronic resources to search health and medical literature to locate relevant research evidence to answer clinical questions to enhance the practice of medicine and/or physiotherapy (Capability 1: Scientist and Scholar)
- Explain how psychological, social and cultural issues affect the health of individuals and populations and how diversity can be respected within the context of evidence-based healthcare (Capability 3: Engaged Global Citizen)
- Communicate and behave effectively and professionally in accordance with ethical, legal and professional standards of care whilst undertaking community clinical placement activities. (Capability 4: Professional)

Clinical Education Simulation and Reflection - Part 2

Assessment Type ¹: Simulation/role play

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Week 10 (Monday, 10th May 9:00 AM)**

Weighting: **40%**

This assessment task will involve submitting an audio or video where you will simulate being a future clinician educating your HAWC volunteer about the treatments available for their main condition according to the best available evidence. In a written reflection, you will evaluate the alignment between the health care journey of the your HAWC volunteer and the best available evidence. Overall performance, capability aspects and Stage 1 EPAs may be assessed and results recorded in your Macquarie Assessment Portfolio.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically appraise relevant research using standardised checklists to evaluate the validity and interpretation of studies about diagnosis, prognosis and treatment (Capability 1: Scientist and Scholar)
- Competently formulate relevant clinical questions about diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of conditions for which people seek healthcare (Capability 2: Clinical Practitioner)
- Apply knowledge and skills in evidence-based healthcare to develop relevant written reports and critically appraise topic reviews which meet academic writing and referencing standards (Capability 1: Scientist and Scholar)
- Competently use electronic resources to search health and medical literature to locate relevant research evidence to answer clinical questions to enhance the practice of medicine and/or physiotherapy (Capability 1: Scientist and Scholar)
- Discuss practical strategies to successfully implement current evidence into clinical practice (Capability 2: Clinical Practitioner)
- Explain how psychological, social and cultural issues affect the health of individuals and populations and how diversity can be respected within the context of evidence-based healthcare (Capability 3: Engaged Global Citizen)
- Participate effectively in classes and peer teams, by seeking and reflecting upon feedback on own your performance to generate strategies that optimise individual and team performance (Capability 4: Professional)
- Communicate and behave effectively and professionally in accordance with ethical, legal and professional standards of care whilst undertaking community clinical placement activities. (Capability 4: Professional)

Clinical Reflection Report

Assessment Type ¹: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **Week 13 (Monday, 31st May 9:00 AM)**

Weighting: **20%**

This Assessment Task is comprised of two brief reports that requires you to reflect on your clinical experiences in this unit: (1) a Formal Feedback Report; (2) Clinical Reflection Report. Overall performance and specific capability aspects will be assessed and results recorded in your Macquarie Assessment Portfolio.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Discuss practical strategies to successfully implement current evidence into clinical practice (Capability 2: Clinical Practitioner)
- Explain how psychological, social and cultural issues affect the health of individuals and populations and how diversity can be respected within the context of evidence-based healthcare (Capability 3: Engaged Global Citizen)
- Participate effectively in classes and peer teams, by seeking and reflecting upon feedback on own your performance to generate strategies that optimise individual and team performance (Capability 4: Professional)
- Communicate and behave effectively and professionally in accordance with ethical, legal and professional standards of care whilst undertaking community clinical placement activities. (Capability 4: Professional)

Clinical Placement Logbook

Assessment Type ¹: Log book

Indicative Time on Task ²: 3 hours

Due: **Week 14 (Monday, 7th June 9:00 AM)**

Weighting: **0%**

This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)

This assessment task requires you to submit a detailed logbook of your clinical placement hours for the unit. This result will be recorded overall and for specific capability aspects in your Macquarie Assessment Portfolio.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Discuss practical strategies to successfully implement current evidence into clinical practice (Capability 2: Clinical Practitioner)
- Explain how psychological, social and cultural issues affect the health of individuals and

populations and how diversity can be respected within the context of evidence-based healthcare (Capability 3: Engaged Global Citizen)

- Participate effectively in classes and peer teams, by seeking and reflecting upon feedback on own your performance to generate strategies that optimise individual and team performance (Capability 4: Professional)
- Communicate and behave effectively and professionally in accordance with ethical, legal and professional standards of care whilst undertaking community clinical placement activities. (Capability 4: Professional)

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Teaching and Learning Strategy

This unit integrates the development of Evidence-based and Inter-professional Health Care skills in online lectures and tutorials with clinical application in the Community Clinical Placement. Lectures will provide foundation knowledge, using a variety of delivery modes, including online lectures and Connected Curriculum modules. Tutorials will give students the opportunity to develop practical skills in the key topics, such as formulating clinical questions, searching electronic databases and critical appraisal of evidence. By integration of these skills with real-life clinical examples from the students' experiences on their Community Clinical Placement, students will develop the ability to implement Evidence-Based Health Care in clinical practice.

Inter-professional Learning and Teaching

In this unit, students will have a unique opportunity to work together with inter-professional peers across the Doctor of Physiotherapy and Doctor of Medicine courses on their Community Clinical Placements. Lectures and tutorials will be conducted with students from both courses together in the learning spaces, to facilitate inter-professional team work and understanding. The unit is delivered by an inter-professional team, including health professionals, academics and clinicians with expertise in medicine, physiotherapy, psychology and other clinical backgrounds.

Attendance

Professionalism is a key capability embedded in the Macquarie MD and DPT courses. As part of developing professionalism, students are expected to attend all small group interactive sessions

including tutorials. If attendance is deemed to be of concern, this will be referred to the Lead (Student Professionalism) for remediation, subsequent monitoring, and recording.

All lectures are pre-recorded and will be available for viewing prior to tutorial classes. Online tutorials are scheduled in your individual timetable. The timetable for classes can be found on the University web site at: <http://www.timetables.mq.edu.au/>. You may make a request to your tutor to attend a different tutorial on a one-off basis for extenuating circumstances.

Failure to attend/complete any learning and teaching activities, including lectures and tutorials, may impact your final results. It is the responsibility of the student to contact their tutor or the unit convenor by email to inform tutors if they are going to be absent.

iLearn

This unit's iLearn site will provide weekly resources for students, including:

- lecture notes
- tutorial worksheets
- preparation and consolidation material
- videos
- other teaching resources
- assessment details

Unit materials and readings

The textbooks for the unit are:

- Strauss et al. Evidence-Based Medicine: How to Practice and Teach it. 4th or 5th Edition.
- Herbert et al. Evidence-based Physiotherapy. 2nd Edition

Copies of these books are available in the MQ library and in the co-op bookshop. Digital version of these books are available online and can be accessed via the [MQ Library database](#). Weekly readings will come from journal articles and a range of text book chapters. Most weekly readings will be available on iLearn (Unit Readings and Access to Papers) or MQ Library e-reserve.

Technology and Equipment

To study optimally when off campus you will need to have access to a reliable internet connection to retrieve unit information & at times to submit assessment tasks via iLearn.

Consultation with staff

All staff will be available for individual consultations, please see iLearn site for information on staff availability for consultation.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to

Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Changes from Previous Offering

This is the first Special Circumstances offering of this unit, however it closely aligns with previous weekday offerings. In response to student feedback, and review of the unit by the teaching team, clinical education team, and learning and teaching specialists in the faculty, the following major changes have been made to the unit:

- Assessment tasks have been revised and streamlined to better align with the Community Clinical Placement experiences of students, to reduce student workload, and enable students more practical application of concepts in Evidence-based Practice,
- All content will be delivered online.