

2010 PhD Project Opportunity

The Freemasons Foundation Centre for Men's Health will award a PhD scholarship in 2010 for a project entitled:

Understanding Men's Health Service Needs: Analysis of Men's Use of Telephone Health Helplines.

The Freemasons Foundation PhD Scholar will receive a scholarship that is equivalent to a Faculty/Divisional PhD scholarship with an annual top up of \$2000.

Candidates should have a strong undergraduate degree and an interest in qualitative research.

Principal Supervisor: Associate Professor Amanda LeCouteur, School of Psychology

Title and short description of project offered for 2010:

UNDERSTANDING MEN'S HEALTH SERVICE NEEDS: ANALYSIS OF MEN'S USE OF TELEPHONE HEALTH HELPLINES

There is considerable room for improvement in the status of men's health. The body of evidence about men's help-seeking behaviour and use of health services still leaves many unanswered questions and a lack of consensus on the key influencing variables. Empirical evidence concerning men's use of health-related telephone help lines is scarce. Existing survey and interview research provides little indication about how men typically present their health problems and concerns during telephone service encounters.

In this research project, the analytic framework of conversation analysis – an empirical method designed specifically for the investigation of naturally-occurring talk and interaction – will be used to analyse a corpus of data drawn from recordings of men's calls to a 24-hour telephone health advice line staffed by Registered Nurses that provides expert health advice. The qualitative analysis is designed to explore, describe and analyse how men use health help lines with a view to improving service delivery and informing policies related to men's health and wellbeing.

For further details, contact the Principal Supervisor, Associate Professor Amanda LeCouteur, amanda.lecouteur@adelaide.edu.au or 8303 5557