



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences

2009

Biomedical Research Management

Good training leads to great career performances

Success in biomedical research depends on outstanding research management capabilities. And that's something you can learn.

The Biomedical Research Manager needs to be able to lead, coordinate and manage the activities of experts from all the relevant technical, commercial and clinical disciplines, along with the stakeholders in a project - without losing their focus on the operational activities and strategic objectives. One of the most important roles of the Biomedical Research Manager is to avoid surprises and the consequences that occur because something was forgotten or ignored in the planning and delivery of their project.

As an employer, knowing that your staff have the ability and the confidence to actively manage their projects will allow you to focus on the rest of your business and improve the overall productivity of your organisation.

Every student enrolling in this project will develop a project management plan as a part of their assessment. For most of the students, this is an opportunity to use this assessment to develop or improve the plan for the project that they are working on in their workplace. Students who successfully complete this subject will:

- Understand and be conversant with the major activities involved in planning biomedical research projects from start to finish
- Understand and be able to develop strategies to manage biomedical research projects
- Understand the nuances, rationales, politics, risks and benefits of dealing with a variety of project stakeholders
- Understand the need to comply with regulatory requirements, the processes to fulfil this and be able to identify potential regulatory and legal pitfalls
- Be able to prepare and operate a budget for biomedical research projects and adapt the budget to changing circumstances
- Understand what is required to develop a project plan for the commercial development of the outcomes of clinical research

Who Should Attend

Designed for professionals involved in biomedical research, this course provides development opportunities for those who wish to advance their career or move into a career in biomedical research management.

For organisations it provides the opportunity to provide training that will help meet regulatory requirements, improve investment and risk management and develop staff to increase success rates and maximise economic return. For individuals it provides the opportunity for career development, to acquire the skills and tools to improve personal effectiveness and performance and to increase job satisfaction and success.





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WEEK 1

This week provides an overview of all the activities involved in developing a biomedical research project plan, focusing on the development of a project budget against a number of different scenarios and in the context of a portfolio of projects. Practical workshop sessions, panel sessions and guest speakers provide the opportunity to hear from experienced practitioners and to apply knowledge learned during the week.

Day 1

- What is biomedical research and clinical application
- What is a project and its relationship to programs and portfolios
- What a high performing biomedical research manager should be able to do
- Pipeline and key elements of the research process

Day 2

- The importance of stakeholders in projects
- International issues/differences
- Stakeholder expectations of engagement and levels of engagement needed
- Scope clarity and explicit and implicit deliverables
- Approaches to developing work breakdown structures (WBS)

Day 3

- The pros and cons of various tools to communicate your project
- Costing models and operational budgets
- Building in longer term requirements like insurance cover and data retention
- Linking budgets to project plans and adjusting based on cash flow

Day 4

- Type and categories of risk (commercial, technical, market, people, reputation)
- Quantifying quality and techniques to measure quality
- Data reliability/reproducibility and product and process reliability
- Compliance with regulations
- Overview of budget assignment

Award course assessment: A two hour exam (20 percent), a budget for a clinical research protocol (3,000 words) (30 percent) and an implementation plan for a clinical research (5,000 words) (50 percent).

WEEK 2

This week focuses on ensuring that the project plan developed is robust in terms of flexibility and capacity to respond to changing circumstances, providing tips and tools on how to proactively identify and manage project risks and where trade-offs can be made in biomedical research projects. Practical workshop sessions are supplemented by guest speakers and panel sessions.

Day 5

- Interfacing with the legal, ethical and regulatory environment
- Marketing strategies and tailoring messages to the market
- Creating demand for IP
- Approaches to commercialisation

Day 6

- Research leadership and management
- Situational leadership skills and knowledge workers
- Developing a collaborative team culture to help others achieve their deliverables
- Optimising results from available human resources

Day 7

- Updating assumptions and plans
- Avoiding scope creep
- Anticipating change, changing the plan and communicating change
- Project termination and post project reviews

Day 8

- 2 hour exam
- Developing the project plan (incorporating knowledge from all the previous days)
- Review of course and overview of implementation plan assignment and support resources



Subject Coordinator Associate Professor Bob Cowan brings over 25 years of experience in successfully managing biomedical research through to commercial and clinical outcomes. Bob joined Professor Graeme Clark's bionic ear team at the University of Melbourne in 1985 and has subsequently contributed to research publications and patented outcomes while managing industry contract research as well as NH&MRC and three CRC Program grants. He is currently Chief Executive Officer of the HEARING Cooperative Research Centre and Managing Director of HearWorks, the CRC's commercialisation company. Through Bob's efforts, the HEARING CRC has won CRC Association awards for Excellence in Innovation in 2002 and 2003 for its technological developments in cochlear implants, hearing aids and hearing protection.

Venue: Graduate House, 220 Leicester Street, Carlton VIC 3053

Date: Part 1 - September 7, 8, 9 & 10 2009
Part 2 - October 12, 13, 14 & 16 2009

Cost: \$4,200 per person
(GST is added for non award course attendants)

PLACES ARE STRICTLY LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF 20

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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