



*Breathing
for Life
Trial*



PhD opportunity: Maternal and early life nutritional status and respiratory health of the offspring.

Supervisors: Dr Megan Jensen, Dr Vanessa Murphy, Prof Peter Gibson

We are seeking expressions of interest from highly motivated candidates for a PhD position exploring the link between maternal dietary intake and nutritional status and offspring respiratory health. Children born to parents with asthma are at high risk of developing asthma, the most common chronic disease in childhood; yet, to date, there are no prevention strategies to reduce the risk of adverse respiratory outcomes in this high-risk group. Research has demonstrated that maternal prenatal factors, including poor nutritional status – particularly suboptimal vitamin D status, have been associated with increased wheeze and asthma in offspring. This project will focus on collecting key data on prenatal and postnatal vitamin D status and infant respiratory outcomes from pregnant women with asthma and their offspring. The candidate would be a part of an established team and wider interactive research group, based at the Hunter Medical Research Institute.

Scholarship: ECR Higher Degree by Research Scholarship - Living allowance scholarship at the Research Training Program (RTP) rate for a period of up to 3.5 EFTSL, indexed in January each year.

Eligibility: Domestic and international students with Honours (1 or 2A) or equivalent, or Master Degree from a reputable Higher Education Organisation. English proficiency.

Candidates with a background in health sciences, including nutrition and dietetics, and biomedical sciences are encouraged to apply. The successful candidate will be expected to commence studies by November 2017.

Application procedure: Please email expressions of interest, with a copy of your academic record and curriculum vitae to Dr Megan Jensen megan.jensen@newcastle.edu.au.

Closing Date: July 31st 2017