

CENTRE FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND CENTRE FOR HEALTH POLICY

PHD Confirmation Seminar

The University of Melbourne

The Effect of Depression and Anxiety on Gambling Decisions

Presenter: Lachlan Cameron

**Supervisors: Dr Jemimah Ride, Prof Jane Pirkis,
Prof Nancy Devlin**

**Tuesday 23 February 2021,
10.30am - 11.30am - Via Zoom**

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Lachlan Cameron is a PhD candidate in the Health Economics Unit at the Centre for Health Policy, and the Centre for Mental Health.

He holds a Bachelor of Commerce with Honours in Economics. His Honours research project explored the existence of cognitive biases in sports betting.

He is interested in health and behavioural economics, and wants to conduct research that helps to reduce harm for socially disadvantaged people, such as people with depression and anxiety and high-risk gambling.

Mental health problems, such as depression and anxiety, and gambling harm are two common sources of social disadvantage. People with depression and anxiety have higher rates of gambling harm. However, this relationship is poorly understood. Better understanding this relationship is important for informing policy to reduce the risk of gambling harm for people with depression and anxiety.

This PhD aims to improve understanding of the relationship between mental health and gambling by exploring how depression and anxiety affect gambling decisions.

This will be achieved through (i) the development of an economic model of gambling behaviour, (ii) interviews with people with experience of gambling on horse racing, and (iii) a discrete choice experiment.

These seminars are free. Visitors are welcome to attend.

For more information contact the Centre for Mental Health +61 3 8344 0908 or the Centre for Health Policy +61 3 8344 9111