

Investigating factors and barriers to healthcare access and utilisation in older culturally and linguistically diverse Australians

Presenter: Kerry Hwang

**Supervisors: A/Prof Jeromey Temple,
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**via Zoom : [https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/81901611835?](https://unimelb.zoom.us/j/81901611835?pwd=YmpvTHQ3RjNrNkVNN0lSVmtFMGgrZz09)
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Access to primary healthcare is critical for healthy ageing, and to allow older Australians to continue living in the community. However older Australians from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) backgrounds face unique and multifaceted barriers to primary healthcare access. While Australian studies have reported the factors and barriers to primary healthcare, they are unmeasured and are often small scaled, making it unclear the extent of the problem in older CaLD Australians. This makes it difficult to evaluate and plan healthcare practice and policy for this ageing cohort.

This quantitative thesis will use nationally representative datasets to measure the multifaceted factors and barriers related to primary healthcare access and barriers in older CaLD Australians living in the community. Anticipated findings will provide a clearer understanding of the primary healthcare inequities facing older CaLD Australians and have the potential to inform policy and practice to help older CaLD Australians age successfully.

Kerry is a PhD student within the Centre for Health Policy, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, and a research assistant at the National Ageing Research Institute (NARI). Kerry's main research focus at NARI involves improving the lives of older people from CaLD backgrounds. Kerry has a Bachelor of Science (Hons) and a MPH majoring in Biostatistics and Epidemiology. When not studying, Kerry can be found playing Futsal or Soccer, and enjoys tearing up Melbourne's cycling trails on his road bike.