Tessa joined MSPGH as a senior lecturer within the Health Economics Unit in February this year. Prior to this she was a Senior Research Fellow at the School of Health and Related Research (ScHARR) at the University of Sheffield in the UK where she worked for 12 years. Much of her research focuses on developing and applying measures of health and wellbeing, including those used to measure Quality Adjusted Life Years. She uses qualitative and quantitative research to explore the use of wellbeing as a outcome measure for public policy evaluation, developing and testing the validity of alternative measurement instruments.

The 'Extending the QALY' project is an international research project, coordinated at the University of Sheffield in the UK and involving researchers from the Health Economics Unit at the CHP, and at UTS and Deakin. The project has developed a new 25-item measure to capture the benefits of interventions in health care, care for people with a disability, aged care and for carers. This seminar will give a brief introduction to the use of Quality Adjusted Life Years (QALYs) within economic evaluation and the need for a new measure which captures both health and wellbeing outcomes. The development process for EQ-HWB will be discussed, along with lessons learnt during this process. This includes the conceptual approach underling the new measure, the selection of content for the measure (the domains and questions), face and psychometric validity evidence, and work in progress to value a short version of the EQ-HWB to enable scoring onto a QALY scale. It is hoped this new measure will enable the benefits of interventions for people with long-term conditions, disabilities or in aged care to be more accurately captured; thereby supporting a more efficient allocation of resources.

These seminars are free. Visitors are welcome to attend. For more information contact the Centre for Health Policy +61 3 8344 9111