

PhD Completion Seminar: Patricia Rarau

Prevalence of Non-communicable Diseases (NCD) risk factors and the cardiometabolic risk status in three study communities across Papua New Guinea

Supervisors:

- ◆ Professor Brian Oldenburg, Head, WHO Collaborating Centre on Implementation Research for Prevention and Control of NCDs, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health
- ◆ Professor Barbara McPake, Director of Nossal Institute for Global Health, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health
- ◆ Dr Justin Pulford, Senior Lecturer, Liverpool School of Tropic Medicine, United Kingdom



Thursday 22nd March



3.00 to 4.00 pm



Arole Conference Room, Nossal Inst,
Level 5, 333 Exhibition Street



Patricia is a PhD student with the Centre of Health Equity at the University of Melbourne. A MBBS and Master of Medical Science graduate from the University of PNG, she has successfully developed and managed population health surveillance projects, and designed and led a noncommunicable disease (NCD) risk factor surveillance study in multiple sites across PNG. Her main interest is strengthening NCD research in PNG and further contribute to NCD surveillance globally to guide policy makers in the prevention and control of NCDs.

Papua New Guinea (PNG), a lower-middle income country in the Western Pacific Region (WPR) is currently experiencing rapid economic development and such is often accompanied by an increase in NCD and risk factors due to associated lifestyle changes. This thesis establishes a baseline prevalence of NCD risk factors in three sites (West Hiri, Asaro and Karkar Is) across PNG and investigates the association between SES and the cardiometabolic risk factors in the study population. Findings showed a higher risk of cardiovascular risk factors among adults living in the peri-urban communities.