

CENTRE FOR MENTAL HEALTH

PhD Confirmation Seminar

The University of Melbourne



MELBOURNE SCHOOL OF
**POPULATION
& GLOBAL
HEALTH**

Protecting the Public while Supporting Medical Practitioners - the risks, predictors and impacts of medico-legal claims for Medical Practitioners in Australia

Presenter: Dr Owen Bradfield

**Supervisors: A/Prof. Matthew Spittal & A/Prof. Marie
Bismark**



Friday 6 November 2020, 1.00pm - 2.00pm

via Zoom

[https://unimelb.zoom.us/
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Medico-legal claims and complaints against doctors are increasing. Although there are mechanisms for protecting the public, there is emerging evidence that they cause significant emotional distress to doctors.

If investigative processes lead to distress, then this distress may paradoxically compromise patient safety and quality of care.

By better understanding the risks, predictors and impacts of medico-legal claims, this PhD seeks to unlock valuable policy insights that will assist regulators and decision-makers promote clinicians' health and wellbeing, while also safeguarding the public from preventable harm.

Owen is a Medical Practitioner, Health Lawyer and 2020 Fulbright Future Scholar who is enrolled in a PhD in the Law and Public Health Unit at the MSPGH.

He graduated from Monash University's pioneering Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery and Bachelor of Laws double degree programme in 2003 with First Class Honours and is currently Chairperson of the Patient Review Panel and a member of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Ethics Committee.

He is interested in the intersection of law, ethics and public health, particularly in the context of public interest regulation.

His PhD focuses on the risks, predictors and impacts of medico-legal claims on Medical Practitioners in Australia.