

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Title:

Exploring Gut Dysbiosis as a Contributing Factor to Anxiety, Depression, and Cognitive Impairment in Aging

Project Summary:

Aims: This project investigates how gut dysbiosis contributes to anxiety, depression, and cognitive impairment in aging populations.

Significance: Understanding the link between gut microbiota and mental health in the elderly could reveal novel pathways connecting gut health with psychological and cognitive decline.

Expected Outcomes: The research aims to identify gut microbiota changes associated with anxiety, depression, and cognitive decline, potentially uncovering new biomarkers for these conditions.

Potential Research Impact: Findings could lead to preventive and therapeutic strategies targeting gut health to enhance mental and cognitive functions in aging populations, improving overall quality of life.

Preferred Applicant Skillset:

We are looking for a self-motivated PhD candidate with a strong background in biomedical sciences, neuroscience, or a related field. The ideal candidate should have expertise in microbiology and molecular biology techniques, including DNA sequencing and PCR. Strong quantitative skills, with familiarity in data analysis tools such as SPSS or R (preferably R), are desired. Candidates should possess a solid understanding of aging, neurodegenerative diseases, and gut health. Excellent analytical, critical thinking, and data interpretation skills are essential. Strong written and verbal communication skills, along with the ability to work collaboratively in a multidisciplinary team, are required.

Internship Opportunity:

We offer unpaid internship opportunities that provide hands-on training at leading universities, leveraging our extensive national and international collaborations. Interns will gain valuable experience in advanced research techniques and contribute to projects in microbiology, molecular biology, and neurodegenerative disease studies. This unique opportunity allows PhD students to work alongside renowned experts and gain exposure to diverse research environments.

Primary Contact:

Dr Binosha Fernando

+61 406 202 553

w.fernando@ecu.edu.au