Public Health (SEACO) Research: longitudinal analysis of the clustering and transition of cardio-vascular disease risk factors among community dwellers

PhD Opportunity

A fully-funded PhD position is available in the School of Medicine & Health Sciences at Monash University Malaysia. Funding includes tuition, a stipend of RM2,600 / up to a maximum of 42 months of candidature. Anticipated start date is late 2020/early 2021 or until the position is filled.

Brief Background of Research Project

Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) has been the leading cause of death in Malaysia for the past many decades. Several studies have shown that risk factors of CVD begin clustering from young, middle age, and manifests into diseases only later in life. Very few have actually tracked the clustered risks to identify the persistence of high-risk groups for early intervention.

This study aims to investigate the clustering of biological CVD risk factors among community dwellers in Malaysia, track the transitions between clusters over time and identify the factors determining the risk of CVD among general population in Malaysia across the clusters.

Project Description

This research is a part of the Southeast Asia Community Observatory (SEACO), longitudinal community cohort. Secondary data on more than 6000 adults information will be available for PhD project.

Supervisor / Supervision team

Prof Tin Tin Su
AP Dr Quek Kia Fatt
Dr Jeevitha Mariapun

Eligibility

Candidates must meet the minimum admission requirements (academic and English language proficiency) for the research degree. In general, this is equivalent to a high distinction average (H1/H1E or 1st Class Honours as per Faculty's and Monash's assessment at admission) from a recognized university. Scholarship will be selected based on comprehensive ranking of academic achievement, research publications, and research experience or research-related awards.

Required Skills

i. **Technical Skills** – Literature review, statistical analysis, use of Microsoft Office or equivalent, use of citation software, public speaking
ii. **Soft Skills** – Project management, written and oral communication, self-management
iii. **Education background (discipline)** – public health, epidemiology, anthropology, applied statistics, medical and health sciences or psychology