

Project: Evidence-based policies and interventions in hypertension management

1. Brief Background of Research Project

Globally, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are the main cause of death and disability. 80% of NCD-related deaths, attributed mostly to cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), occur in low-middle-income countries (LMICs). Hypertension is the leading cardiovascular disorder and the top risk factor contributing to premature deaths. The World Health Organization Western Pacific and Southeast Asian regions reported the highest mortality rates and disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs) accounted due to high blood pressure. A significant fraction of individuals with hypertension are ignorant of their condition and among those who are aware, many have untreated or uncontrolled high blood pressure.

2. Project Description

The proposed study aims to identify needs and possible improvements in the hypertension care continuum, and to facilitate effective, evidence-based targeting programmes and policies for hypertension management and control in the ASEAN region. Monash ASEAN grant funds the project. The stipend will be funded by the Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine, Monash University Malaysia.

The candidate we are looking for should be passionate about performing a range of research activities and provides support for the day-to-day running for the research project and field data collection.

3. Supervisor / Supervision team

Prof Tin Tin Su

Homepage: <https://www.monash.edu.my/jcsmhs/staff/academic/tin-tin-su>

Dr Tan Min Min

Homepage: <https://www.monash.edu.my/jcsmhs/staff/academic/dr-tan-min-min>

Dr Jeevitha Mariapun

Homepage: <https://www.monash.edu.my/jcsmhs/staff/academic/dr-jeevitha-mariapun>

4. PhD Opportunity (research scope of project)

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 mid-late 2021 or until the position is filled.

5. 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.

6. 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, applied statistics, medical and health sciences