Year	Investigators	Title	About the project	Amount funded	Duration of the project
2009	Dr Barbara Griffin, University of Western Sydney A/Prof Sally Carless, Monash University Prof Ian Wilson, University of Western Sydney A/Prof Margot Story, Monash University Dr Margaret Hay, Monash University	Threats to the Validity and Reputation of the UMAT	This research is a multiple study, cross-institutional project that will primarily investigate how the construct and predictive validity of the Undergraduate Medical and Health Science Admission Test (UMAT) is affected by applicants undertaking coaching prior to testing. A second, and important aim in light of the public debate on the validity of medical student selection, is to ascertain stakeholder attitudes to the UMAT and perceptions of its integrity in the face of widespread coaching.	$60,000 + $27,200 from ACER	2 years
2009	A/Prof Hamish Coates, ACER Dr Daniel Edwards, ACER Mr Tim Friedman, ACER Dr Luc Le, ACER	Establishing the Criterion Validity of UMAT	As a selection instrument, the capacity of UMAT to support and add value to other selection mechanisms and to predict future performance is critical. This significance underpins a need to review the criterion validity of the instrument. This research will focus on criterion validity, with the specific aim to identify, document and enhance the concurrent and predictive validity of UMAT.	$92,543	1 year
2009	Dr Jennifer Bryce, ACER Prof Sandra Carr, The University of Western Australia A/Prof Annette Mercer, The University of Western Australia Ms Judy Nixon, ACER	Investigation of the Convergent Validity of UMAT Section 2 (Understanding People) with Measures of Interpersonal Aptitude	This project proposes to investigate whether candidates who obtain high scores on UMAT Section 2 have higher levels of interpersonal aptitude and superior ability in clinical work that involves dealing with people compared to those candidates who were selected into a medical/ health science course with lower scores on UMAT Section 2.	$61,875	2 years
2010	Prof Ben Canny, Monash University Prof Wayne Hodgson, Monash University Dr Margaret Hay, Monash University A/Prof Sally Carless, Monash University Prof Ian Puddey, The University of Western Australia A/Prof Annette Mercer, The University of Western Australia	A comparison of aptitude tests in predicting the performance of medical students	Primary Aim: To compare the predictive validity of UMAT vs GAMSAT vs ISAT in medical student performance at i) the transition from campus-based to clinic-based learning, and ii) end of course assessment. Secondary Aim: To compare these predictive validities with those of scholastic performance and interview performance at i) the transition from campus-based to clinic-based learning, ii) end of course assessment, and iii) overall course assessment.	$90,000 + $25,000 from the GAMSAT Consortium	2 years
2011	Prof Jill Thistlethwaite, The University of Queensland A/Prof Diann Eley, The University of Queensland Prof Malcolm Parker, The University of Queensland A/Prof Camile Farah, The University of Queensland Ms Prue Morgan, Monash University Prof David Wilkinson, The University of Queensland Prof Ben Canny, Monash Univeristy Dr Jianzhen Zhang, The University of Queensland Dr Victoria Brazil, The University of Queensland	A definition and exploration of fitness for purpose	This project aims to enhance our understanding of the added value of UMAT in the selection of applicants into health professional training programs, including medicine, dentistry and physiotherapy, to explore its fitness for purpose and to examine its predictive validity as a complement to other selection processes. This work is important because of the heavy resource burden in terms of financial and human costs involved in health professional training, and the need for universities to be socially accountable in producing professionals who are fit for purpose on qualification and have the potential to continue practising and learning for a further thirty years. The outcomes have the potential to improve the predictive validity of UMAT, while defining its fitness for purpose and added value as one part of the selection process.	$99,912	3 years

Year	Researchers	Title	Description	Funding	Duration
2012	Dr Marita Lynagh, The University of Newcastle Prof Brian Kelly, The University of Newcastle Dr Graeme Horton, The University of Newcastle Prof Nicky Hudson, University of New England	The validity of UMAT and other selection tools for predicting student academic and non-academic performance in a medical program.	The main aim of the research is to assess the predictive validity of student selection methods utilised by the University of Newcastle and the University of New England into its Joint Medical Program. Given the variation in curricula and approaches to teaching between different institutions, this project will investigate how well UMAT and other selection tools (ie. ATAR score, MMI and PQA scores), both individually and in combination, predict student academic and non-academic performance in a self-directed learning style medicine program.	$50,000 + $25,000 from ACER	18 months
2012	A/Prof Alison Rich, University of Otago Dr Janet Rountree, Universityof Otago Prof Greg Seymour, University of Otago Dr Dimitra Lekkas, The University of Adelaide A/Prof Tracey Winning, The University of Adelaide Prof Grant Townsend, The University of Adelaide	Do multifaceted admission processes predict performance of students in two Australasian dental programmes?	The overall aim of this proposed study is to investigate the relationship between the various components of multifaceted admission processes and academic and clinical performance of dental students (2005-2012) in two Australasian dental programmes. In addition, the study aims to identify what combination of admission components best predicts success of dental students. The long-term objective is to ensure that admission of dental students at the Universities of Otago and Adelaide continues to be undertaken using reliable, valid and efficient methods, that the skills of successful applicants are matched with our respective curricula requirements, and that the process is socially accountable.	$100,000	18 months
2013	A/Professor Margaret Hay (*Monash) A/Professor Annette Mercer (UWA) Dr Barbara Griffin (Macquarie, UWS) Professor Wendy Hu (UWS) Ms Dulce Lay (ACER) A/Professor Emma Warnecke (UTAS)	A Multi-centre Investigation of the Predictiv	This study will provide an unprecedented dataset in terms of both the size of the cohort and the extent of the length of the years collated. These two variables will allow for statistically powerful analyses which will provide the most comprehensive data on the predictive validity of the UMAT to date. The use of the CHeReL for the linkage of this data will ensure both the accuracy and the confidentiality of the data collected and linked. The inclusion of all undergraduate medical schools will also allow for a comprehensive examination of the variations in entrance protocols between the schools.	$342,140	18 months
2015	A/Prof Barbara Griffin, University of Western Sydney Prof Wendy HU, University of Western Sydney Dr Robbert Duvivier, University of Newcastle A/Prof Boaz Shulruf, University of New South Wales	Selection in a school-leaver population. Comparing three different processes in one pool of applicants.	This cross-institutional research project takes, for the first time, a state wide approach to understanding selection into undergraduate medical programs. The first aim is to inform efforts at widening participation of underrepresented groups in medical education by examining the total applicant pool across universities to identify i) the size and demographic profile (including socioeconomic status) of the common pool of applicants; and ii) if the different methods of selection used by the four universities affect the demographic profile of those who are shortlisted for a selection interview. The second aim is to better understand the nature of selection interviews.	$64,665	2 years

| 2015 | Prof Marg Hay, Monash University
Prof Wayne Hodgson, Monash University
Prof Michelle Leech, Monash University
Ms Selina Tran, Monash University
Prof Fiona Patterson, Work Psychology Group | Determining the utility of SJTs in undergraduate medical student selection in Australia | Situational Judgement Tests (SJTs) present a set of hypothetical work---based scenarios where test takers are asked to make judgements about possible responses. These judgements assess the test takers decision---making processes in a range of domains. SJTs are emerging as a valuable addition to the student selection processes for health professions. It is widely acknowledged that personal and professional attributes (e.g. communication, integrity, empathy, professionalism, teamwork,
motivation) are essential requirements for health professionals (Patterson et al., 2000). SJTs target these important professional attributes that are currently being assessed via resource intensive Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs). An online SJT may provide an alternative or adjunct to the resource intensive MMI or structured interview for admission to health professions courses. It may also provide an alternative to section 2 (understanding people) of the Undergraduate Medical
and Health Sciences Aptitude Test (UMAT). | $40,000 | 1 year |
| 2015 | A/Prof Boaz Shulruf, University of New South Wales
Prof Marg Hay, Monash University
Prof Philippa Poole, Auckland University
A/Prof Warwick Bagg, Auckland University
Dr John Monigatti, Auckland University
Prof Tim Wilkinson, Otago University
Dr Emma Warnecke, University of Tasmania | Maximising the utility of UMAT and other medical admission tools. | This study aims to add value to the multi-institutional study of the UMAT in three ways: First the investigation will extend the research on student selection into career choice which has been rarely addressed in studies on admissions to medical schools despite its importance. Second, the proposed study will employ non-traditional methodologies, particularly focusing on non-monotonous models which have not been applied to the common selection tools but could be of a major advantage. Third, beyond measure of predictability, the current study will deliver optimized selection algorithms, which will be applicable to different institutions based on their specific objectives and desirable selection outcomes. | $37,556 | 1 year |