**Project Title:** Analysis of a (completed) survey of medical student and medical doctors’ attitudes to incorporating medical research into their careers.  

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**Project Type:** Data Analysis, Qualitative Analysis, Literature Review, Survey

**Project Category:** Education, Public Health

**Project Keywords:**  
1. thematic analysis  
2. survey  
3. publication  
4. physician research attitudes  
5. qualitative research

**Project Description:**

If medicine is to continue to be able to offer people better treatments and health outcomes evidence based medical research is vital. Physician (or Clinician) Researchers are doctors who undertake medical research either in a basic science laboratory or in patient based research, or a combination thereof. In addition to their medical degree at least two to four years full-time (or the equivalent part-time) training is required. This represents a major personal and economic investment by the clinician and funding sources. Whilst many recognize the importance of clinical research a not uncommon statement made in Australia and overseas is that “Physician Researchers are a Dying Breed”. Challenges include the time commitment, low rates of funding for medical researchers, a widening gap between clinical and academic or research salaries, poor career structure, work-life and family related issues.

We have completed a survey of over 400 University of Sydney related medical students or doctors, to assess their attitudes and perceptions to the benefits and challenges of medical research training and incorporating medical research into their career. Survey results include both quantitative and qualitative components. A thematic analysis is required for the latter component, so related skills are required.

Co-authorship on the related manuscript for publication is anticipated.