

3 August 2022

### **Funding progress report: Maggie Harrigan, PhD Doctoral Candidate UWA**

Hello Nicki & Geoff,

I am now half-way into my PhD and I want to provide you with a progress update please. With COVID-19 and the initiation of Trikafta, the PhD is shaping up to look at psychosocial care in an ever-changing landscape! It has been important to be dynamic and roll with these changes. I am really enjoying research and continue to be very grateful for both your funding and support. I have summarised key achievements below since commencing the PhD in Jan 2021. I hope you are satisfied with my progress, and if you ever have any queries or concerns please never hesitate to contact me.

### **Publications**

#### **Articles**

Harrigan, M., Bennett, K., Mulrennan, S., & Jessup, M. (2022). Living with cystic fibrosis during the COVID-19 pandemic: a social connectedness perspective. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies on Health and Well-being*<sup>1</sup>, 17(1), 2062820. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17482631.2022.2062820>

#### **Conference peer reviewed abstracts and poster presentations**

Harrigan, M., Bennett, K. & Mulrennan, S. (2021) Living with Cystic Fibrosis during the COVID-19 pandemic: a social connectedness perspective, *presented at the 2021 Australasian Cystic Fibrosis Conference*, Perth, Australia.

Harrigan, M., Bennett, K. & Mulrennan, S. (2021) Living with Cystic Fibrosis during the COVID-19 pandemic: a social connectedness perspective, *accepted for presentation at the 2022 Sir Charles Gairdner and Osbourne Park Hospital Care Group Research Symposium 2022*, Perth, Australia.

Harrigan, M., Bennett, K. & Mulrennan, S. (2022) Who am I? An exploratory study of self-concept in adults with Cystic Fibrosis during an evolving era of care, *accepted for presentation at the 2022 Australasian Cystic Fibrosis Conference*, Perth, Australia.

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<sup>1</sup> Q1 [Scimago](#).

### ***Clinical group presentations***

Harrigan, M., Bennett, K. & Mulrennan, S. (2022) Who am I? An exploratory study of self-concept in adults with Cystic Fibrosis during an evolving era of care, *presented to the Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Respiratory Department, Perth, Australia.*

### ***Papers in preparation***

Harrigan, M., Bennett, K., Mulrennan, S., & Jessup, M. (2022). Me, myself & I: A systematic literature review of Cystic Fibrosis and self. *To be submitted to the Journal of Cystic Fibrosis*<sup>2</sup>.

Harrigan, M., Bennett, K., Mulrennan, S., Jessup, M. & Waters, P. (2022). Predicting anxiety and depression in adults living with cystic fibrosis: the role of identity, social connection and physical health. *To be submitted to the Journal of Cystic Fibrosis.*

### **Steering committee membership**

SHIFT symposium ('Shaping Initiatives and Future Trends' for the management of Cystic Fibrosis), The Med Collective and Vertex.

'Living Well with CF' project to co-design and augment existing psychosocial resources with professionals and consumers, The Med Collective and Vertex.

### **Awards**

Nomination for the CSL Florey Next Generation Award 2022 (for PhD candidates demonstrating outstanding capability, creativity and potential in the biomedical sciences and/or health and medical research).

### **Brief project overview**

**Current.** Analysing quantitative data collected from 69 adults with CF living in Western Australia. Data surrounding health status, socioeconomic status, mental health, self-identity and sense of social connection. **Pre-Trikafta data.** (*Results currently being analysed and written up as a paper*).



**Dec 2022.** Repeat above surveys **6 months post Trikafta roll-out.**



**June 2023.** Repeat above surveys **12 months post Trikafta roll-out.**



**September 2023.** Conduct 1:1 interviews.



**PhD end date: Jan 2024**

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<sup>2</sup> Q1 [Scimago](#).

## Website summary

***“Me, myself and I: An exploratory study of self-concept in adults with Cystic Fibrosis in an evolving era of care.”***

Hi, my name is Maggie and I am a PhD researcher at the University of Western Australia, with a background in social work. At the beginning of 2022 I gathered information via online survey from adults living with Cystic Fibrosis in Western Australia. Thank you so much to those who took part and are open to staying involved! I gathered information about mental health, sense of identity, social connection, physical health and general life circumstances. Currently, I am analysing all of that information to try and identify certain factors that make it more likely for someone living with CF to experience anxiety and depression symptoms. Understanding this can help CF health professionals identify people who may be struggling and make sure they can access the support needed. Now that Trikafta is rolled-out, I hope to re-survey and interview people to help understand the potential impacts and experiences surrounding Trikafta. I am so grateful for the support of the CF community and wish you all the best as we enter a new era in CF care.

Kind Regards,



**Maggie Harrigan**

Doctoral researcher

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