

Measuring and valuing health related quality of life in young children

Presenter: Alex van Heusden

Supervisors: Professor Kim Dalziel (Primary Supervisor, University of Melbourne), Professor Nancy Devlin (Co-supervisor, University of Melbourne)



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Zoom: [https://go.unimelb.edu.au/pm4s - zoom](https://go.unimelb.edu.au/pm4s-zoom)

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Few instruments are available to measure health related quality of life in young children. New medical interventions relevant to young children (e.g., vaccines or genomic screening) are currently being developed. Without a suitably validated preference-weighted age-specific measure, decision makers' ability to efficiently allocate health care resources across age groups is compromised. There are also many complex methodological issues (framing, preference elicitation method, anchoring, normative issues) around how to generate a set of values for these instruments. This PhD aims to address this research gap.

Alexander van Heusden is a PhD candidate within the Health Economics Unit at the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health. His research interests are in non-communicable diseases, quality of life of paediatric populations, as well as the economic evaluations of preventative interventions. His PhD project is exploring methodology around measurement and valuation of health-related quality of life instruments in young children. Alex completed a MPH in and an Honors of Biomedical Science at the University of Otago in New Zealand.