ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE
The University of Melbourne is among the oldest and largest in Australia. It is a research intensive, comprehensive institution with a strong postgraduate commitment. It aims to be one of the finest universities in the world - a proud institution of higher learning producing graduates, scholarship and research that influences the nation and beyond.

ABOUT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE, DENTISTRY AND HEALTH SCIENCES
 Ranked as the top Australian university in biomeicine by the Times Higher Education Supplement and 14th internationally in 2005, The University of Melbourne Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences provides academic coordination and quality assurance of all the Clinical Research programs. With a history dating back to the establishment of the School of Medicine in 1862, the Faculty is the oldest and one of the most prestigious medical schools in Australia, and is Australia’s premier biomedical research faculty, attracting more national peer-reviewed medical research funding than any other medical and health sciences faculty in the country.

A key strength of the faculty lies in its outstanding staff, comprising a number of internationally renowned researchers and clinicians.

THE CENTRE OF CLINICAL RESEARCH EXCELLENCE IN NEUROSCIENCES
The Centre of Clinical Research Excellence in Neurosciences is an NHMRC-funded national research centre based at Austin Health in Melbourne. It focuses on innovative patient-centred research into stroke, epilepsy and other neurological disorders.

A new clinical research model has been developed, which integrates the entire spectrum of health disciplines from medicine to nursing and allied health, together with basic science disciplines, ultimately leading to high quality research and improved efficiency in translation of findings. The Centre provides a dynamic multi-disciplinary clinical research environment with a strong focus on training and research career development. It is at the forefront of clinical research education and training in Clinical Neurosciences.

Established in 2003, the Centre is headed by a multi-disciplinary team of chief investigators under the leadership of Professor Geoff Donnan, Director of the National Stroke Research Institute; Professor Sam Berkovic, Director of the Epilepsy Research Centre; Professor Mary Galea, Director of the Rehabilitation Sciences Research Centre; and Professor Judy Parker, former Head of the School of Nursing at The University of Melbourne. The Centre is administered by the Department of Medicine Austin Health, The University of Melbourne.

www.ccre.neurosciences.unimelb.edu.au
Postgraduate Training in Clinical Neuroscience Research

These courses can be taken as short courses (without assessment) or clinical research programs (including assessment).

Part 1 Subject Outcomes
Developing a high level of competency in clinical research roles on two main capacities: 1) being able to read, understand and interpret the research literature and 2) asking the ‘right’ questions in order to formulate adequate research hypotheses and answer them appropriately. By exploring a range of specific research methodologies applicable to neurological disorders, you will develop the skills to pose the relevant questions to produce quality clinical research. Through stimulating discussions of the current research questions with expert researchers in the relevant field, you will develop the ability to critically appraise the literature and formulate new research questions. You will communicate your research findings and interact with basic neuroscientists, as well as researchers in other health disciplines. Areas covered here will be genetics, mechanisms of disease, clinical trials, epidemiology, health economics, rehabilitation and translation into clinical practice.

Day 1
• Frontiers in clinical neuroscience research
• Epilepsy: the current clinical research questions
• Genetics in clinical neurological research
• Interface of basic science with clinical research
• Of mice and men: meta-analysis and the interplay of basic and clinical research

Day 2
• Human brain development: recent research approaches
• Intellectual disability and autism: the current clinical research questions
• Research methods in intellectual disability/autism
• Neuropsychiatry and neurotoxic factors: experimental research questions
• Basic research methods of neuromodulators

Day 3
• Stroke: The current clinical research questions
• Clinical trials methods
• Introduction to health economics
• Neuro-epidemiology: disease causation and prevention
• Neuro-epidemiology: disease causation and prevention

Day 4
• Translating clinical research findings into practice
• Multiple sclerosis: the current clinical research questions
• Neuro-rehabilitation research
• Group presentations

Award course assessment: Oral exam presentation (20 %), literature review and new research questions to pursue (5,000 word (60 %).