

# project summary

A **veski** inspiring women fellowship is awarded to Dr Emma Sciberras, who is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Psychology at Deakin University, and an Honorary Research Fellow at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute.

The **veski** inspiring women fellowship will support Dr Sciberras to remain connected with her work on the complex problem of Attention-Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), which affects around 300,000 young people in Australia.

Dr Sciberras is internationally renowned and sought after as a dedicated and enthusiastic research collaborator. Her research is internationally recognised and has already informed the development of two new interventions for children with ADHD focused on managing sleep problems and anxiety.

Dr Sciberras also plans to attend a leading international conference in her field with her baby. The **veski** inspiring women fellowship will allow Dr Sciberras to travel with a family member who can care for her baby while she attends the conference.

Not only will the **veski** inspiring women fellowship support Dr Sciberras to establish her own ADHD research lab across two institutions, but it will also enable her to foster the career development of 20 early career researchers working across this research program.

As a researcher and clinical psychologist, Dr Sciberras' program has a strong translational focus. The support of the **veski** inspiring women fellowship will ensure that Victoria, and Australia more broadly, remain at the forefront of research into ADHD, particularly life course epidemiology and psychological interventions.

#### personal history

Dr Emma Sciberras obtained her DPsych in Clinical Child Psychology from The University of Melbourne in 2010.

Dr Sciberras' research aims to investigate the developmental trajectories of common childhood disorders (using population-based methodologies), such as ADHD, and the risk and protective factors for poor versus better mental health, academic and social outcomes in these children.

The identification of modifiable risk and protective factors will allow for the development of population-based interventions to improve outcomes for children with these conditions.

Dr Sciberras' work has resulted in the personal award of two consecutive NHMRC Fellowships, and two successful NHMRC Project Grant bids as the lead investigator.





### Dr Emma Sciberras

The veski inspiring women fellowship will help fund a post-doctoral research fellow to keep Dr Sciberras' internationally recognised research program running while on maternity leave with her first child.

Dr Sciberras has been awarded multiple prizes in recognition of the significant impact of her research. These include the Tall Poppy Science Award (2016), Australian Psychological Society Early Career Research Award (2015), and Junior European Network for Hyperkinetic Disorder Prize.

Dr Sciberras is a member of the Athena Swan SAGE Pilot Self-Assessment Team at Deakin University, focused on identifying key issues, gaps and opportunities affecting gender equity and diversity to address gender equity problems.

She is a prolific mentor, and has supervised over 40 staff, students and clinical placements. In addition, Dr Sciberras provides ongoing mentorship to three post-doctoral research fellows and early career colleagues in her department. Dr Sciberras considers all these activities as being crucial to her work as an academic promoting science, and in particular women in science.

#### other inspiring women fellows:

- / Dr Cara Doherty
- / Dr Natalie Hannan
- / Dr Maria Liaskos
- / Dr Emily Nicholson
- / Dr Catherine Satzke

#### host institution



## further information

veski.org.au/inspiring-women

about the veski inspiring women fellowships

The Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria announced the veski inspiring women fellows on Wednesday, 21 June 2017 at a reception held at Government House, Melbourne.

The **veski** inspiring women fellowships support outstanding female leaders who are planning for, experiencing, or returning from a career break.

