

Dr Joanne Gale (Pereira-Gale)

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BIostatistician /RESEARCH FELLOW

- Biostatistician/Statistician with over 15 years experience in academic, government and private sectors.
- Specific expertise in measurement and scale validation, clinical trials and analysis of large complex datasets including linked data.
- Excellent scientific communicator and trainer especially to non-technical audiences.
- Strong commitment to using research and other data to inform effective policy and practice.

KEY SKILLS

- Scientific communication
- Stakeholder management
- Bayesian and frequentist statistical methods
- Data analysis using SAS, C++ and R

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Fellow, Prevention Research Collaboration, School of Public Health, Charles Perkins Centre, University of Sydney, 2013 until present

In this role, my work focuses on the design, collection, analysis and reporting of results from large population based data sets in order to better understand the influence of lifestyle and behaviour on obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. I provide statistical advice to research teams involved in obesity prevention research and program evaluation, analyse cross sectional, longitudinal and linked data, write reports for government, write articles for scientific journals and prepare grant applications.

Selected accomplishments

- Senior statistician on the NSW Schools Physical Activity and Nutrition Survey 2015.
- Preparation of multiple reports to the NSW Ministry of Health on the *GetHealthy* and *Make Healthy Normal* programs.
- Authored a report to Tonga Health on the evaluation of Tonga's first anti-tobacco mass media campaign.
- Supervisor of four NSW Health biostatistician trainees.
- Tutor for Masters of Public Health students.
- Active member of the early and mid-career researcher (EMCR) committee at the Charles Perkins Centre and co-organiser of the 2016 EMCRC Charles Perkins Symposium.

Statistician, CogState Ltd, Melbourne/New Haven, United States 2010 -2013

In this role, I worked as the senior statistician in preparing and analysing cognitive data and producing data reports for domestic and international clients.

Selected accomplishments

- Oversaw the analyses of Phase I and II clinical trial/cognitive testing data including the development and validation of appropriate methodology and software programs.
- Engaged and consulted with clients from the pharmaceutical industry as well as academia to develop statistical analysis plans (SAPs) and industry compliant reports.

- Worked with IT specialists, software programmers, clinicians, psychologists and data managers within major pharmaceutical companies in producing high quality reports resulting from the analysis of Phase I and Phase II clinical trial data.

Junior Dean, Balliol College, Oxford, 2008

I assisted the Dean of the College in the pastoral and disciplinary concerns of the undergraduate population of the College.

Tutor in Statistics, University of Oxford, 2006 to 2007

I tutored both PhD students and undergraduates in biostatistics, survival analysis and generalised linear models.

Research Assistant, Western Australian Institute of Medical Research, Telethon Institute of Child Health Research

Selected accomplishments

- Assisted in the development of the first Western Australian Genome Project.
- Assisted research groups with statistical methodological research.
- Analysed infant data sets to create better health indicators for children.

Statistical Methodologist, Australia Bureau of Statistics (Cadetship/ABS Honours scholarship recipient), Canberra/Perth, 2002-2004

Selected accomplishments

- Provided methodological support to national survey areas.
- Provided statistical training to internal and external clients on survey sampling methods and design.
- Involvement in the design and analysis of the following surveys; job vacancies, business use of IT, post census enumeration and the labour price index.

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

Balliol College, University of Oxford, 2005-2009, DPhil in Statistics

Commonwealth Scholarship Recipient

Dissertation Topic: *The Analysis of Quantitative Phenotypes for Genetic Association Studies.*

I developed statistical methodology and software to find genes that affect variation in continuous human traits like blood pressure and height. This work was part of the first stage of the Wellcome Trust Case Control Consortium (WTCCC) which involved analysing genetic data comprising up to 500 000 points of variation along each of the genomes of over 14 000 individuals. This was the first study of its kind.

University of Western Australia, 1998-2003, Bachelor of Science in Mathematics with 1st class honours

Diploma of Modern Languages (French)

Graduate Certificate in Public Health, NHMRC Scholarship recipient

Iona Presentation College, Western Australia, 1995-1997

Head Girl and Dux of College

Prizes in English, Mathematics, French and Physics, leadership and public speaking