

# **RACP Foundation Research Awards**

## FINAL REPORT

Project / Program Title		The Transplantation Infectious Disease and Compromised Host Fellowship Program
Name		Dr Olivia Smibert
Award Received		2018 Richard Kemp Memorial Fellowship
Report Date		4 December 2019
Funding Period	Start Date:	23 July 2018
	Finish Date:	1 July 2019

#### **PROJECT SUMMARY**

I received the Richard Kemp Travel Grant the funds of which were used to cover some of the costs associated with both qualifying as a medical practitioner in the USA (undertaking USMLE exams) and moving to Boston, Massachusetts to undertake a 12 month Clinical and Research Fellowship in Transplant Infectious Diseases and Infection in the Immunocompromised Host during the 2018-2019 year.

## **PROJECT AIMS / OBJECTIVES**

The purpose of this fellowship was to improve my clinical skills in the treatment of complex immunocompromised patients, in particular recipients of solid organ transplant, under the supervision of some of the world's most eminent clinicians. I was supervised by professor Dr. Jay Fishman and A/Prof Camille Kotton who were enormously involved in ensuring I was involved with a breadth of clinical cases, research projects and multidisciplinary activities. The fellowship with 75% clinical with both inpatient and outpatient activities in addition to educational and research focused.

### SIGNIFICANCE AND OUTCOMES

I was able to participate in the care of a large number of transplant recipients with complex infectious diseases issues with focused supervision and education from my supervisors. This experience has already been valuable and I have been able to translate new clinical skills into my clinical practice now that I have returned to Melbourne. I was also able to present clinical cases and research at interstate and international meetings during my time (including a Case Record of the Massachusetts General Hospital that will be published in the New England Journal) which will lead to ongoing discussions and research opportunities in the future. I have made professional and academic connections which I will be able to maintain from Melbourne that I hope will be of benefit to the clinical community and provide opportunities in the future for trainees.