

Patrick Harris

Postgraduate Research Fellowship 2016

Testimonial

“The RCPA Postgraduate Research Fellowship was instrumental in allowing me to complete my PhD, enhance the quality of my research output and gain experience in whole genome sequencing of antibiotic-resistant pathogens. As part of an international clinical trial of patients with bloodstream infections, we were able to sequence the genomes of all the bacterial isolates cultured from enrolled patients. The clinical trial found that one drug performed less well against standard care, but the genomic characterisation of resistance genes, strain types and virulence factors has helped us better understand the reasons why some patients failed therapy. The findings from the trial were published in JAMA in 2018 (<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2702145>), and the genomic data will form the basis of a number of further studies. The genomes are also now fully available on NCBI as an open-access resource for any researchers with an interest in bacterial infections and antimicrobial resistance. I would like to thank the RCPA Foundation for their generous support during this project. “