# Welcome!

We’re really excited you’ve signed up to the Research Think Tank! Research is a skill to be learnt, but often there is an expectation that we will just know how to conduct good research. These monthly meetings are designed to support you to develop your knowledge of how to design good and manageable research projects within your practice.

We’ve developed this workbook to provide a space for reflection and note taking. However, we won’t be checking your work – use this workbook in whatever way suits you. It’s okay if you don’t have a clear idea right away for what you want to do with research, however we find that the people who do have a clear idea get the most out of coming to these sessions. This can be anything from a neatly designed research project, to just understanding how to get started!

As you move through the workbook, there may be some questions that you feel you can’t answer – that is totally okay! Bring them to the next think tank. Chances are, if you’re not quite sure then others aren’t quite sure either. It’s a cliché, but you’ll hear Dayle say it a lot – there’s no such thing as a silly question when we’re learning.

## Who to contact:

You can contact Dayle at [dayle.raftery@theperegrinecentre.com.au](mailto:dayle.raftery@theperegrinecentre.com.au), or call 0483 844 587. She’s always happy to chat research.

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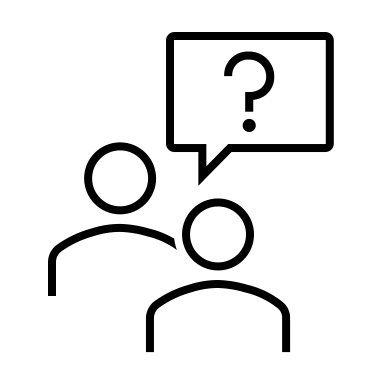
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# Getting Started

These sessions are designed as flexible drop-in sessions; however, we do have a couple of expectations for participants to support their learning:

1. Register for a free account on [The Peregrine Portal](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/)
2. Enrol in the online workbook [Building Research Capacity Workbook](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/)
3. Have a clear-*ish* aim of why you’re coming:
   * Developing a research question
   * Learning about research
   * Developing a QI project

**What do I want to do with this research idea? Make a small change within my team? Create a QI Project? Consider applying for a grant? Continue to explore the research process?**

Often when starting out, it’s a case of ‘you don’t know what you don’t know’. Use the space below to write out some questions that come up for you when you think about designing or running a research project.

# MARCH: So, you have a research idea …

**Thursday 6th March, 10am**

**Corresponding** [**Building Research Capacity Workbook**](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/) **chapters for this month:**

[So, you have a research idea …](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9590/)

[What is translational or implementation-based research?](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9592/)

[The translational pipeline](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9594/)

[Could a program work?](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9679/) | [Does a program work?](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9595/) | [Making a program work](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9642/)

[Putting it all together](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9810/)

## **Notes from the Think Tank**

## **Reflections**

**This is simply a brainstorming activity, not an attempt to land a research question! Jot down some ideas that you currently have about:**

* **research you’d like to conduct**
* **something that you are interested in finding out more about**
* **some difficulties that you’re facing in your work**
* **a problem that you keep coming up against**
* **something that’s working really well and you want to know why?**

What do you already know about your idea and how well it will work? Have you heard of other people doing this? Have you read the literature? Sit tight for next month where we will discuss finding evidence. Write early thoughts below.

# APRIL: Literature Review

**Thursday 3rd April, 10am**

**Corresponding** [**Building Research Capacity Workbook**](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/) **chapters for this month:**

[How to do a literature review](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9643/)

## **Notes from the Think Tank**

## **Reflections**

**Choose one of the ideas from the brainstorming activity in March (or something else you’re interested in).  Do you feel confident starting your literature review? Have a go, and make note of the relevant search terms, articles and literature you find.**

**Review your research ideas that you previously brainstormed.  What stage do your ideas fit into? Has this been done before? Where has it been done?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Efficacy** | **Effectiveness** | **Implementation** |
| *Could it work?* | *Does it work (in the real world)* | *How do we make it work in the real world?* |

# MAY: What is your research question?

**Thursday 1st May, 10am**

**Corresponding** [**Building Research Capacity Workbook**](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/) **chapters for this month:**

[What is your research question?](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9645/)

## **Notes from the Think Tank**

## **Reflections**

This month is a “pulling it together”, or perhaps a going back to the drawing board month. If you need to go back to the drawing board, please stick with us! This is a very normal part of the research journey.

**Looking at your brainstorming ideas and your literature review, what research question(s) do you have?**

# JUNE: Data collection

**Thursday 5th June, 10am**

**Corresponding** [**Building Research Capacity Workbook**](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/) **chapters for this month:**

[How will you collect data?](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9646/)

[How do I choose which measures to use?](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9824/)

## **Notes from the Think Tank**

## **Reflections**

**What do I understand about what data will answer my research question?**

**Were there common measures from the literature review that I could use?**

**What measures do we already routinely use in practice?**

**Are there other ways I can collect information I’m interested in (e.g., attendance rates, interviews or focus groups, service data)?**

# JULY: Counterfactual evidence

**Thursday 3rd July, 10am**

**Corresponding** [**Building Research Capacity Workbook**](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/) **chapters for this month:**

[Including counterfactual evidence](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9829/)

## **Notes from the Think Tank**

## **Reflections**

**What is my hypothesis?**

*Remember the hypothesis is your prediction of what will happen*

**What kind of control group design should I be considering?**

# AUGUST: Data analysis

**Thursday 7th August, 10am**

**Corresponding** [**Building Research Capacity Workbook**](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/) **chapters for this month:**

[Planning data analysis](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9648/)

[Decision tree for analysis choice](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9834/)

[Power and sample size estimation](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9649/)

[Effect size](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9838/)

## **Notes from the Think Tank**

## **Reflections**

**How do my measures I picked out in June get scored? Do I need special software or equipment?**

**Do I have access to a decent number of people to test this out?**   
*E.g. How many people with this presentation/difficulty have I seen in the last 6 months?*

# SEPTEMBER: Ethics

**Thursday 4th September, 10am**

**Corresponding** [**Building Research Capacity Workbook**](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/) **chapters for this month:**

[Ethics](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9652/)

[Ethics – Taking care of people](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9849/)

## **Notes from the Think Tank**

## **Reflections**

What ethical considerations are relevant to my project?

What ethical approval do I need?

# OCTOBER: Who is in your team? … and next steps.

**Thursday 2nd October, 10am**

**Corresponding** [**Building Research Capacity Workbook**](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/) **chapters for this month:**

[Who is in your team?](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/course/building-research-capacity-workbook/9588/)

**NOTE:** The Peregrine Centre can support connecting you with an academic to further your project. If you don’t have connections, don’t let that stop you! We’d love to connect you!

## **Notes from the Think Tank**

## **Reflections**

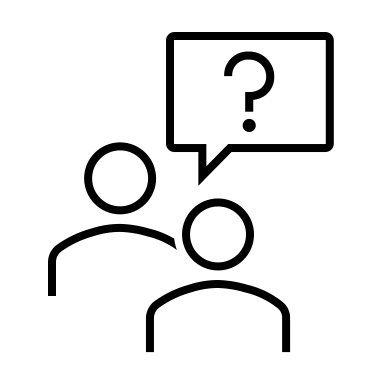
**Who do I need on my team to make this idea work?**

# Tying it Together

Congratulations on making it through the year and building your learning about research. It’s likely you have a lot of questions still and things to learn – remember, conducting good research is a learnt skill.

Take some time to consider the question we asked you at the start (here below). Is your answer the same? Is it different?

The Peregrine Centre provides a bunch of different support to help practitioners get going with research. You can check out all we do [here](https://learn.theperegrinecentre.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/RMHP-Overview-Flyer.pdf).

**What do I want to do with this research idea? Make a small change within my team? Create a QI Project? Consider applying for a grant? Continue to explore the research process?**