Christine Hallinan

Christine Hallinan has a research objective to provide rich and complex evaluations relating to the provision of care in general practice. The research involves an exploration of context on processes of care, and incorporates an examination of the organisational, structural and political milieux of general practice. Specifically, she is interested in the impact of policy instruments (such as general practice incentives) on general practitioner behaviour and practice.

Christine has a background in statistics (Monash) and in nursing (Lincoln Institute of Health Sciences), and has completed a Master of Public Health with a major in program/economic evaluation at the University of Melbourne. She is currently a PhD student at the General Practice and Primary Health Care Academic Centre at the University of Melbourne. Last year Christine was awarded an Australian Postgraduate Award (APA)—this award enabled her to undertake PhD studies full time.

Christine’s home is in the Wimmera wheatbelt and she is married to a fifth generation broad acre farmer. The crops they grow include wheat, barely, lentils, chickpeas and canola. They have four children between the ages of 19 and 5—she calls her two boys ‘the bookends’. Over the past four years Christine has combined life in rural Victoria with weekly overnight stays in Melbourne. This has not only given her a greater appreciation of the rural life she enjoys in the Wimmera, but also enabled her to value the opportunities she has in academia, as well as the many fabulous moments in the car listening to ABC Classic FM. The research Christine is presenting at the conference is a result of a microfinance grant received from the Addressing Disadvantage and Inequity of Education and Health (ADEIH) research theme within the University of Ballarat.