

## **ABSTRACT FROM THE STAR RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED (2009)**

**Title:**                    **Legislating for care: An exploration of the role of care managers under the IDCC & R Act**

**Lead Investigator:**   **Dr Kate Prebble**

The Intellectual Disability (Compulsory Care and Rehabilitation) Act 2003 introduced the statutory role of care manager (CM), a professional who is responsible for the care and rehabilitation of intellectually disabled (ID) offenders. The aim of this descriptive mixed method study is to explore how the CM role is working in practice. Specifically: to identify the characteristics of the individuals who practise as CMs, describe how the role functions in each type of secure and supervised setting, identify issues related to fulfilling the role's statutory requirements, and explore how the role contributes to better outcomes for ID offenders. Successful implementation of the CM role has profound implications for reducing the burden associated with care and rehabilitation of ID offenders and for the safety of the wider community. The findings will inform planning about training and support needs of CMs and contribute to policy related to the care for this vulnerable population.