



UNSW
SYDNEY



Investigating and improving the wellbeing of older adults with vision impairment

Vision impairment significantly affects quality of life for elderly Australians. Developing novel solutions to improve the mental and physical health of older adults with vision impairment through collaboration with multi-disciplinary researchers, industry and end-users.

Competitive advantage

- Investigations focused on working with the realities of living with vision loss and service delivery, to improve adoption and scale-up
- Network of international collaborators, including leading epidemiologists, disability specialists, health economists, and eye care and low vision rehabilitation delivery specialists

Impact

- Improving delivery of low vision rehabilitation programs to remote and rural Australians using novel technological solutions
- Definitive investigation of an adapted fall prevention program for older Australians with vision impairment

Successful outcomes

- Collaboration with industry partner to deliver programs using tele-practice, amid the COVID-19 pandemic
- Successfully delivered adapted exercise programs to 300 older Australians with vision impairment
- Capacity development of over 70 non-academic client-facing staff in the prevention of falls in older adults with vision impairment
- Contributed to the development of Australasian policy regarding client services for people with vision impairment

Capabilities and facilities

- Largest school of optometry in Australasia, with world-class research facilities, and staff with leading international reputations
- Multi-methodological approaches: epidemiologic studies, in-depth qualitative inquiries, large scale data-linkage using health data, implementation science principles, and co-production with community partners and end-users

Our partners

- Guide Dogs NSW/ACT

More Information

Dr Lisa Dillon

School of Optometry and Vision Science

T: +61 (2) 9385 4639

E: lisa.dillon1@unsw.edu.au

UNSW Knowledge Exchange

knowledge.exchange@unsw.edu.au

www.capabilities.unsw.edu.au

+61 (2) 9385 5008