This scholarship was established by the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, now the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact (HEI) to honour Dr. Sackett’s leadership in the fields of clinical epidemiology and evidence-based medicine. The Scholarship is awarded in the amount of $5,000 on the recommendation of a selection committee in the Department to a doctoral student in the Health Research Methodology (HRM) graduate program who demonstrates outstanding academic achievement and research potential.

2017 Recipient | Tahira Devji

Enhancing interpretation of patient-reported outcomes in clinical research and evidence-based decision making

Tahira Devji is currently a PhD Candidate in the Health Research Methodology Program. She holds an Ontario Graduate Scholarship and is the recipient of a CIHR Knowledge Synthesis Grant. She is working with Dr. Gordon Guyatt to improve how data from patient reported outcome measures are presented and interpreted in randomized trials, meta-analysis and clinical practice guidelines to inform evidence-based decision-making. Prior to the start of her doctoral studies, she was in the HRM MSc program and completed her BSc in Kinesiology at the University of Waterloo. Tahira is the group lead for the Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development and Evaluation (GRADE) Applicability Project Group. She is also co-authoring the Patient Reported Outcomes Chapter for the Cochrane Handbook and leading several closely linked methods projects on minimal important differences. In addition to interpretation of patient reported outcome measures, her research interests include advancing methods in meta-analyses, guideline development, and knowledge translation.