Translating science into better health
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The never-ending quest to innovate and translate research advances into real benefits for patients continued in 2014, with another successful year for the Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH) Centres for Health Research (CHR).

Building on the hospital’s rich history of health care, the CHR encompasses more than 50 groups participating in research across the campus, helping shape the future of health beyond Queensland and onto the global stage.

Under the stewardship of Metro South Health and its Chairman Mr Terry White AO, PAH is internationally recognised as a leader in biomedical and clinical research, with a strong history of collaboration between clinicians, scientists, university partners and industry.

Throughout 2014, PAH-based researchers continued a long-standing tradition of success in securing National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and other competitive grants, driving progress across a diverse range of research areas.

Nowhere is this more evident than at the annual PAH Health Symposium, with a program built on the hospital’s flagship themes of Cancer, Chronic Disease, Trauma, Immunology and Inflammation, Mental Health, and Health Systems Innovation.

Every year this event provides an opportunity to showcase a week of educational, research and clinical activities, reflective of the partnerships within the PAH community. It attracts international and national experts from all manner of clinical professions to present advancements in research and clinical practice.

Central to this year’s Symposium program was keynote speaker Professor Boris Bastian, from the University of California. As an eminent clinical scientist, he illustrated how interdisciplinary and global partnerships have advanced the understanding of the causes of skin cancers and are translating this new knowledge to novel therapies for treatment.

It is partnerships, both local and global, that are a key feature of PAH’s ongoing success in research endeavours, most notably in strengthening ties with the Translational Research Institute (TRI) and Brisbane Diamantina Health Partners.

Located on the PAH campus, TRI combines the expertise of four leading research institutes (PAH, University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology and Mater Research) and is co-located with biopharmaceutical manufacturer, Patheon.
Brisbane Diamantina Health Partners unites eight of the state’s leading hospitals, research institutes and universities, with the tripartite mission of delivering excellence in patient care, training and research.

These partnerships and more are instrumental in developing the CHR into a global example of outstanding medical innovation and collaboration.

The CHR’s notable achievements last year also include the opening of the Clinical Research Facility (CRF) for low risk clinical research, the second of its planned stages.

With the aim of progressively accepting phased research studies throughout 2015 and beyond, the CRF is a controlled and safe environment to conduct cutting edge patient research with ready access to hospital facilities and emergency response teams.

The research potential of these trials is aided by advances in clinical technology at PAH, particularly in the areas of cancer care, telehealth and diagnostics.

These advances will only be enhanced with the commencement of the Digital Hospital project, the hospital’s largest ever investment in improving healthcare quality for patients.

Due to go live in late-2015, the project will make the PAH the first large scale digital hospital in Australia and further enhance its reputation for innovation and clinical excellence.

The CHR is a vital part of PAH’s commitment to strengthen and facilitate the integration of research and teaching with clinical care.

We look forward to another successful year of leading innovation and research.

Dr Richard Ashby AM
Chief Executive, Metro South Health

Dr Stephen Ayre
Executive Director, PAH-QEII Health Network
Message from the Chair
Centres for Health Research

PAH Centres for Health Research (CHR) has continued the development and support of research across the PAH Campus during 2014, with a number of exciting new developments.

The 2014 year has seen the CHR oversee operations of the new Translational Research Institute (TRI) Clinical Research Facility (CRF) and the establishment of a new biostatistics support service for researchers. There has also been a continuation of CHR’s oversight of Metro South Human Research Ethics Committee (MS HREC), research governance activities, management of grants distribution through the PA Research Support Scheme, and convening the PAH Symposium. This edition of the CHR’s annual research report highlights another successful year of research at the PAH.

Clinical Research Facility
A significant development for the CHR and for the PAH research community during 2014 was the opening of the new Clinical Research Facility (CRF). The CRF is one of the core TRI Facilities and is operated by PAH, under the directorship of the CHR. The CRF will be of substantial benefit to the TRI partner organisations and specifically to PAH researchers, in providing a purpose-built environment in which to conduct clinical trials. The commencement of this service for low-risk research groups in 2014 is testament to the work of many at PAH and in the TRI partner organisations. It is a source of great pride that the CHR was entrusted with the establishment and operation of the CRF.

Biostatistics Service
The PAH Biostatistics Support Service commenced in March 2014, with the assistance and direction of the PAH Research Committee and the PAH Biostatistics Subcommittee. The service provides support in matters relating to statistics such as experimental design, data presentation and statistical analysis. The PAH Biostatistics Support Service has been funded by the PAH Private Practice Trust Fund and has been made available to PAH employees and their research groups.

Metro South Human Research Ethics Committee
The MS HREC continued its excellent work in reviewing applications for research across PAH and Metro South Health. The MS HREC members reviewed a total of 336 applications in 2014, an increase of 11% over 2013. The commitment and dedication of our HREC and staff is evidenced by a turn around time for approvals that exceeds NHMRC benchmarking.

During 2014, there was cause to reflect on the significant contribution to a number of retiring MS HREC members and to welcome new members. In particular, I acknowledge Professor Maher Ghandi’s contribution and excellent leadership of the Committee over three years and welcome Associate Professor Richard Roylance as its new Chair.
PAH Health Symposium

August 2014 saw another successful Health Symposium for the PAH. Themed “Health Research Alliance in Transforming Care,” this year’s symposium was another wonderful opportunity to hear about the research achievements and future goals of our very own clinicians and accomplished researchers. In order to further highlight the fantastic achievements of PAH researchers, this year’s symposium introduced a PA Research Support Scheme (PARSS) session entitled ‘The seeds we have sown’ which featured presentations from recent recipients from six different categories of PARSS funding. Another highlight of the 2014 Health Symposium was the address delivered by Professor Boris Bastian who was this year’s International Fellow. Professor Bastian illustrated in his keynote address how interdisciplinary and global partnerships have advanced the understanding of the causes of melanomas and are translating this new knowledge to novel therapies for their treatment. Quite the inspiration, Professor Bastian also delivered this year’s Kurt Aaron Oration.

PA Research Support Scheme

The PA Research Support Scheme, jointly funded by the Princess Alexandra Research Foundation (PARF) and the PAH Private Practice Trust Fund (PPTF), awarded more than $2.1 million in 2014 to 24 successful applicants in support of three categories of research: People Support ($807,000), Project Support ($750,000) and Research Excellence ($525,000). In addition, the TRADIM Research Grant Scheme (funded by the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (NCCTRC)) awarded $115,000 to three successful applicants. We express our gratitude to the PARF, PPTF and the NCCTRC, and congratulate all the successful applicants and wish them every success with their research.

Research Achievements

I acknowledge notable achievements made by researchers across the PAH and Metro South research community in 2014, including:

- Professor Peter Soyer, Director of PAH Dermatology Department, working with Associate Professor Monika Janda from the Queensland University of Technology to test the value of a dermoscope attachment for an iPhone which effectively forms a mobile teledermoscope.

- Professor David Johnson, Director of Nephrology PAH, who has been an outstanding contributor to the PAH research community and was awarded the US National Kidney Foundation International Distinguished Medal on 25 April 2014.

- Professor Michael Stowasser, Director of Hypertension PAH who published an important breakthrough of a new test, designed in-house, streamlining diagnosis of curable hypertension. This test reduces the traditional five day hospital inpatient stay to a single outpatient morning visit.

On behalf of the CHR, it gives me great pleasure to present this seventeenth Annual Research Report, which is a summary of achievements through a wealth of research partnerships and collaborations. We look forward to continuing to work with our academic, research and health care partners.

Professor Ken Ho
Chair, Centres for Health Research
02 Features
Clinical Research Facility (CRF)

The capability and capacity for supporting translational research on PAH Campus was significantly enhanced in 2014, through the establishment of the Clinical Research Facility (CRF).

The CRF is a core-facility of the TRI operated by the PAH through the Centres for Health Research and under the Directorship of Professor Ken Ho, CHR Chair. The establishment of the CRF was enabled by the formation of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) between the TRI and Metro South Hospital and Health Service in March 2014.

The TRI Clinical Research Facility (CRF) is a multi-use research centre, designed to provide the special facilities and equipment needed by clinical researchers. The CRF enables researchers to investigate the causes of disease, and to conduct research studies of new medicines and medical equipment.

The CRF has been established as a dedicated research facility on Levels 4 and 5 of PAH Research Wing. 2014 saw final fit out and handover of the facility, followed by a staged implementation process:

- Stage one (approved in July 2014) enabled access to desk spaces for use by researchers.
- Stage two, which came into effect on 15 December 2014 saw the beginning of a three month ‘Pilot Stage’ for the conduct of minimal or low risk clinical studies. For the pilot phase, only healthy volunteers undergoing minimal or low risk procedures will be approved.

The CRF Management Committee’s rationale for implementing a pilot stage was to test the CRF’s operational capabilities and ensure that critical functions defined in the SLA are appropriate and reflective of the levels of service required for safe operation of the facility.

The commencement of research activities within the CRF was made possible by the Facility’s Nurse Managers. Nurse Manager Kay Hawley led the early work to establish the service in 2013 and the early part of 2014 and contributed significantly to the CRF’s development. Laurie Kear joined the CHR team in August 2014 to take up the role of CRF Nurse Manager and has continued the development of this important research support function. Laurie brings to this role extensive experience in the clinical and operational management of research programs across a range of health services and research organisations including seven years’ experience in a Phase 1 facility.

An official launch of the CRF is planned for 2015 and at the completion of the “Pilot Stage” the facility aims to progressively expand its scope of use to include Non Low-Risk clinical research studies.

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The 2014 PAH Health Symposium was held from 4 to 8 August. This year marked the first anniversary of the Translational Research Institute (TRI) and the second anniversary of Diamantina Health Partners (DHP), Queensland’s first academic health science centre.

These strategic developments brought together research, teaching and treatment, to ensure the PAH campus is well positioned to remain at the forefront of shaping the future of health in Queensland, nationally and internationally.

Dr Geoff Garrett, Chief Scientist, officially opened the Symposium.

Central to the Symposium program was Professor Boris Bastian, University of California, San Francisco, the Symposium’s International Fellow.

An eminent clinical scientist, Professor Bastian illustrated in his keynote address how interdisciplinary and global partnerships have advanced the understanding of the causes of skin cancers and are translating this new knowledge to novel therapies for their treatment. Professor Bastian was also this year’s Kurt Aaron Orator.

Symposium week featured engaging educational forums covering mass media and consumer alliance. The program was augmented by sessions on new technologies, by oral and poster communication, and by awards, with the Young Investigator Awards being held for the second year in the TRI auditorium.

A new feature in 2014 was a PA Research Support Scheme (PARSS) session titled ‘The seeds we have sown’. Chaired by Dr Liz Jordan and Mr Robert Bowen, six past PARSS recipients presented a summary of their research made possible through their awards. Speakers were Dr Katrina Campbell (2013 Project Grant), Dr Rathika Krishnasamy (2012 Postgraduate Scholarship), Ms Freyr Patterson (2013 Small Grant), Associate Professor Tony Stanton (2012 New Appointment Grant), Professor John Upham (2013 NHMRC Near-Miss Grant), and Dr Timothy Warren (2012 Clinical Research Fellowship).

The week culminated in a special session entitled ‘PAH Health Odyssey – History Transforming Futures’, Chaired by Sue Cumming and Dr David Theile Snr, showcasing a rich history of transforming health care delivery on PAH campus.
Symposium Organising Committee
- Professor Ken Ho, Chair
- Ms Veronica Casey
- Ms Julie Connell
- Ms Areti Gavrilidis
- Ms Kathy Harvey
- Dr Michelle Hill
- Professor Gerald Holtmann
- Dr Sue Jeavons
- Ms Lynette Loy
- Professor Michael Schuetz
- Professor Peter Soyer
- Ms Bernadette Thomson

Programme Committee
- Professor Ken Ho, Chair
- Ms Sue Cumming
- Dr Michael Daly
- Dr Janet Davies
- Dr Michelle Hill
- Ms Kerri Holzhauser
- Dr Ruth Hubbard
- Associate Professor Warrick Inder
- Dr Nikky Isbel
- Dr Graham Leggatt
- Professor Ken O'Byrne
- Professor Andrew Perkins
- Professor Elizabeth Powell
- Associate Professor Gail Robinson
- Professor Michael Schuetz
- Professor Peter Soyer
The PA Research Support Scheme (PARSS) was established in 2011 as a joint initiative of the PAH Private Practice Trust Fund and PA Research Foundation. Administered by the Centres for Health Research, it is a competitive peer-reviewed granting scheme providing funding to researchers based at the PA campus who are working towards improving patient health, with the peer-review process overseen by the PAH Research Committee.

In addition to providing people and research support, the PARSS provides infrastructure support to PAH researchers receiving Project Grant funding from the National Health and Medical Research Council. An average of $123,000 has been awarded annually as Infrastructure Support since 2011.

In 2014 the PA Research Support Scheme attracted a third funding body, the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (NCCTRC). Through the NCCTRC, a partnership between the PAH and Royal Darwin Hospital, targeted research grants for studies focusing on Trauma and Disaster Management (TRADIM) were available for the first time.

In its inaugural year, the PA Research Support Scheme awarded $1.13 million to 19 studies for funding beginning in 2012. Since 2011 the amount of awarded funds has increased annually by an average of 20%.

In 2014 $1.96 million was awarded to 27 applicants for funding beginning in 2015:

**Postgraduate Scholarship**
(max $48,000 p.a for up to 3 years full-time study)

- **Ms Barbara de la Pena** (Institute for Health and Biomedical innovation, QUT): ‘Role of the protein phosphatase EYA4 in preventing genomic instability and breast cancer development’ (Supervisors: Dr Eloise Dray, Associate Professor Warrick Inder, Dr Sally-Anne Stephenson, Dr Nicolas Paquet)
- **Dr Moe Thuzar** (Diabetes & Endocrinology): ‘Regulation and metabolic significance of brown adipose tissue in humans’ (Supervisors: Professor Ken Ho, Dr Phillip Law)
- **Dr Aidan Woodward** (Gastroenterology & Hepatology): ‘Assessment of muscle mass, muscle function and outcomes in patients awaiting liver transplantation’ (Supervisors: Associate Professor Graeme Macdonald, Professor Jeff Coombes)

**PAH Senior House Officer**
(Fellowship in Clinical Research) ($75,000 for one year)

- **Dr Paul Bullen** (Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Surgery) – 6 months Fellowship: ‘Investigating the role of LOXL2 expression in perineural invasion and downstream molecular pathways in cutaneous head and neck squamous cell carcinoma’ (Supervisors: Associate Professor Ben Panizza, Dr Glen Boyle)
- **Dr Aaron Griffin** (ENT Surgery) – 6 month Fellowship: ‘Anti-inflammatory properties of bioactive extracts as novel therapeutics for the treatment of chronic rhinosinusitis’ (Supervisors: Associate Professor Ben Wallwork, Associate Professor Ben Panizza, Dr Peter Cabot)
- **Dr Tavis Read** (Plastics & Reconstructive Surgery): ‘An evaluation of current and novel treatments for the management of in transit melanoma metastases’ (Supervisors: Dr Michael Wagels, Professor Mark Smithers, Professor Peter Soyer, Associate Professor Helmut Schaider)
- **Dr Mihir Shanker** (Trauma Surgery): ‘An experimental model to investigate the influence of mechanics on bone regeneration and healing’ (Supervisors: Professor Michael Schuetz, Dr Devakar Epari)
New Appointment Grant
($75,000 p.a. for 2 years)

- **Associate Professor Dan Siskind** (Metro South Addiction & Mental Health Service): ‘Novel pharmacological treatments for obesity and diabetes for people with schizophrenia managed on Clozapine’ (Co-Investigators: Associate Professor Anthony Russell, Professor Steve Kisely, Mr Karl Winckel)

- **Dr Ian Vela** (Urology): ‘Metastatic prostate cancer and circulating tumour cell in vitro culture’ (Co-Investigators: Professor Colleen Nelson, Dr Benjamin Shepherd, Associate Professor Euan Walpole)

Project Grant
($75,000 for one year)

- **Associate Professor Andrew Barbour** (Surgery): ‘Significance of telomeric length variation in Oesophageal Adenocarcinoma and in Barrett’s Oesophagus’

- **Dr Vaida Glatt** (Institute for Health and Biomedical Innovation, QUT): ‘Effect of fixation stability on the healing of large bone defects in response to lower doses of BMP-2’ (Co-Investigator: Professor Michael Schuetz)

- **Professor Gerald Holtmann** (Gastroenterology & Hepatology) ‘Influence of a behaviourally incentitive (reward) and of stool/mucosa associated microbiome (MAM) on the quality of bowel preparation prior to diagnostic colonoscopies’ (Co-Investigators: Dr Marguerite Kutyla, Professor Mark Morrison, Dr Erin Shanahan, Dr Natasha Koloski)

- **Professor Elizabeth Powell** (Gastroenterology & Hepatology): ‘Susceptibility to infection in patients with decompensated cirrhosis and ascites’ (Co-Investigators: Dr Katharine Irvine, Professor Mark Morrison, Associate Professor David Looke)

- **Associate Professor Raymond Steptoe** (The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute): ‘Using single-cell transcriptomics to define T-cell tolerance in EBV+ lymphoma’ (Co-Investigators: Professor Maher Gandhi, Dr Gethin Thomas)

- **Professor Michael Stowasser** (Endocrine Hypertension Research Centre): ‘The thiazide sensitive sodium chloride cotransporter – in vivo quantification by urinary exosome analysis for diagnostic purposes in salt sensitive hypertension’ (Co-Investigators: Emeritus Professor Richard Gordon, Dr Martin Wolley, Dr Samuel Xu, Dr Ashraf Ahmed)

- **Professor Elizabeth Ward** (Clinical Support Services): ‘Can a computerised home-therapy program (SwallowIT) provide an effective model for delivering intensive swallowing therapy? An RCT of an innovative service model for Head & Neck Cancer patients’ (Co-Investigators: Dr Bena Cartmill, Associate Professor Sandro Porceddu, Professor Elizabeth Isenring, Dr Anne Hill)

Small Grant
($25,000 for one year)

- **Ms Shannon Crouch** (Intensive Care Outreach Service): ‘The use of altered rapid response calling criteria in a tertiary referral facility’ (Co-Investigators: Professor Leanne Aitken, Mrs Amanda Vaux)

- **Associate Professor Gerald Kaye** (Cardiology): ‘Assessment of adherence to beta-blocker (bisoprolol) in heart failure patients followed up at Princess Alexandra Hospital outpatient clinic’ (Co-Investigators: Dr Dariusz Korczyk, Dr Mohsen Habbibian, Dr Goce Dimeski)

- **Associate Professor Ben Panizza** (Otolaryngology Head & Neck Surgery): ‘Development and characterization of a corticosteroid-based mucoadhesive in situ nasal gelling system for post-operative chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS)’ (Co-Investigators: Dr Harendra Parekh, Dr Peter Cabot, Associate Professor Ben Wallwork)
**ALH Breast Cancer Grant**  
($75,000 for one year)

- **Associate Professor Sandie McCarthy** (Cancer Services): ‘Enhancing cognitive function after breast cancer treatment with the Younger Women’s Wellness After Cancer Program’ (Co-Investigators: Professor Debra Anderson, Associate Professor Alexandre Chan, Professor Patsy Yates, Professor Selena Bartlett)

- **Professor Ken O’Byrne** (Cancer Services): ‘Optimisation of in vitro and in vivo cell culture for breast cancer circulating tumour cells to provide a window into metastatic disease’ (Co-Investigators: Professor Colleen Nelson, Dr Ian Vela, Professor Erik Thompson, Dr Anthony Davies)

**Near-Miss NHMRC Grants**  
($75,000 for one year)

- **Associate Professor Andrew Barbour** (Surgery): ‘Understanding oesophageal cancer response to therapy: The DOCTOR Trial Genomics Sub-study’ (Co-Investigators: Dr Nicola Waddell, Dr Lutz Krause, Dr Katia Nones, Mr John Pearson, Professor Mark Smithers, Professor John Zalcberg, Professor David Watson)

- **Dr Katherine Irvine** (School of Medicine, UQ): ‘Identifying protective v pathogenic macrophages in chronic liver disease: Critical for macrophage-targeted therapy’ (Co-Investigators: Dr Antje Blumenthal, Professor Elizabeth Powell, Associate Professor Andrew Clouston)

- **Professor Michael Stowasser** (Endocrine Hypertension Research Centre): ‘Finding curable hypertension in post-menopausal women’ (Co-Investigator: Emeritus Professor Richard Gordon)

**TRADIM Research Grant**  
(up to $50,000)

- **Associate Professor Eric Chung** (Nephrology): ‘Genitourinary injury and adult pelvic trauma: Clinical outcomes, multidisciplinary delivery of healthcare service and guideline implementation in the management of urinary and sexual dysfunction’ (Co-Investigator: Dr Ajay John)

- **Professor Michael Schuetz** (Trauma Services): ‘Quality of trauma data for understanding serious bicycle-related injuries in Brisbane and Darwin: Comparing circumstances, patterns, treatment, severity, costs and outcomes of serious cycling injury’ (Co-Investigators: Associate Professor Kirsten Vallmuur, Dr Robert Eley, Dr Annette Hollian, Dr Andrew Staib)

- **Dr Davie Lie** (Metro South Addiction & Mental Health Service): ‘Management of psychological trauma in older persons following disasters’ (Co-Investigators: Professor Steve Kisely, Dr Vijay Raj, Dr Melinda Martin-Khan, Associate Professor Dan Siskind)
Postgraduate Students

The number of research higher degree students under the supervision of Princess Alexandra Hospital staff continued to increase in 2014. Included in the Postgraduate Students section of the report are the names of the 261 students who make up this year’s impressive list:

### PhDs in 2014

- **38** COMPLETED
- **41** COMMENCED
- **105** IN PROGRESS

### Masters in 2014

- **17** COMPLETED
- **22** COMMENCED
- **38** IN PROGRESS

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**Nga Phan**

*In vitro anti-inflammatory properties of biological extracts as novel therapeutics for the treatment of chronic rhinosinusitis*

Nga is a MPhil candidate at the Pharmacy Australia Centre of Excellence. Her MPhil is focused on developing novel anti-inflammatory drugs for the treatment of chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS).

CRS is a condition characterised by persistent inflammation of the sinonasal mucosa. It is one of the most commonly reported health conditions and causes significant health expenditure. At present, there is a lack of consistent and effective treatments available and refractory and recurrent disease remains a challenge. As such, the development of novel anti-inflammatory drugs for CRS is warranted.

It is apparent from the literature that the pathogenesis of CRS is multi-factorial and complex. CRS is a heterogeneous condition and multiple pathophysiological mechanisms are likely to exist. This study focuses on interleukin-1β and nuclear factor kappa B as a subset of the mediators involved in inflammation and CRS.

An understanding of these mediators and their processing pathways can aid in the identification of novel anti-inflammatory targets.

Compounds and extracts sourced from biological entities have traditionally been used for medicinal purposes based on anti-inflammatory, anti-microbial and anti-carcinogenic properties. In this study, a variety of biological extracts have been sourced from the tropical rainforests around Australia and kindly provided by an Australian life sciences company, EcoBiotics Limited. These biological extracts were assessed for modulation of cell signalling processes involved in interleukin-1β release and nuclear factor kappa B translocation using phorbol-12-myristate-13-acetate differentiated THP-1 cells as an in vitro model for inflammation and CRS.

The results from this study support a role for further research for biological extracts in the treatment of inflammation and CRS based on anti-inflammatory properties through modulation of cell signalling processes involved in interleukin-1β release and nuclear factor kappa B translocation.
Clinical Research Fellowships

Clinical Research Fellowships are awarded under the PA Research Support Scheme to provide stipend support to assist advanced trainees to begin a career in research while developing their clinical skills and experience. During the Scheme’s 16 years of operation, 43 Clinical Research Fellowships have been awarded. In 2014, four Fellowships were awarded to Catherine Barnett, Aidan Woodward, Moe Thuzar and Bryan Hawardan.

Dr Moe Thuzar
Regulation and Metabolic Significance of Brown Adipose Tissue in Humans

Moe is an Endocrinologist undertaking PhD studies on the regulation and metabolic significance of brown adipose tissue in humans.

Unlike white adipose tissue, which stores energy, brown adipose tissue (BAT) burns nutrient energy as heat and represents a potential target for management of obesity. In rodents, BAT is regulated by a complex interplay of neuroendocrine factors, and offers protection from obesity. In humans, BAT was previously considered to be present only in infants for body temperature maintenance. In recent years, with the advancement of the hybrid molecular imaging technique (Positron Emission Tomography-Computed Tomography) using glucose tracer (Fluoro-deoxy-glucose), it is discovered that BAT is present in most adult humans.

The observation that body weight is inversely related to BAT status suggests that BAT may be metabolically significant in humans, as in rodents. However, the metabolic role of BAT in adult humans is still not clear, and very little is known about the factors regulating the function of human BAT.

This project aims to advance the understanding of how BAT activity is controlled and its metabolic contribution in humans. This knowledge will be important in moving towards successful manipulation of human BAT for therapeutic benefit in the future.

Dr Aidan Woodward
Assessment of muscle mass, hepatic function and outcomes in patients awaiting liver transplantation

Receiving the 2014 Clinical Research Fellowship allowed Aidan to involve himself in full-time research for the first time. Initially he enrolled in a MPhil degree with The University of Queensland with the intention of completing this within 2 years. However, after thoroughly enjoying the experience, he converted his project to a PhD in November 2014 and was successfully confirmed.

The project is investigating methods to assess sarcopenia in patients with chronic liver disease undergoing liver transplantation. Assessment of muscle mass has traditionally been difficult in patients with cirrhosis due to fluid and sodium retention. One of the main aims of the project is to discover a reliable non-invasive measure of muscle mass and quality.

In 2014 good progress was made with the project, having completed comprehensive body composition studies on 20 patients by the end of 2014. The aim is to have 60 patients assessed by the end of 2015.

In addition to his project, Aidan has been able to assist Mr Matthew Wallen with his PhD project looking at the effect of exercise on liver transplant outcomes.
03 Committee Reports
Metro South Human Research Ethics Committee

The Metro South Human Research Ethics Committee (MS HREC), established and administered within the PAH Centres for Health Research (CHR), reviews the ethical and scientific validity of proposed research protocols for compliance with endorsed national standards and guidelines across Metro South Health.

The MS HREC continues to participate in the NHMRC’s National Approach for the single ethical review of multicentre studies with Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria.

In 2014, the MS HREC satisfactorily demonstrated compliance with the National Certification Scheme criteria for multi-centre ethical review processes. It has been certified for an additional three years from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2016 with scope to extend for a further two years at the end of 2016. The Metro South Chief Executive received a new certification Certificate, dated 1 January 2014.

The success in achieving certification under the National Approach places further responsibility on the CHR to establish a Monitoring Program across the health service, to ensure that ongoing human research projects granted ethics approval by the MS HREC are conducted appropriately (National Statement (2007) Chapters 3.3.19-3.3.22 and 5.5.1-5.5.10). In 2014, 30 monitoring visits were conducted. The overall standard of research conduct was good with no concerns for participant safety identified. The most common finding related to the documentation of participant consent, and the establishment of staff delegation logs to ensure research staff were cognisant of their research responsibilities. The feedback sought from all researchers involved in monitoring visits has been overwhelmingly positive and included some suggestions for further improvement.

In 2014, the Committee saw an increase of 11% in applications from the previous year, with 336 applications received. This increase was almost entirely attributable to applications for exemption from full HREC review: that is, quality assurance activities requiring ethical oversight. The exponential increase (187% since 2013) in the number of these applications has prompted the HREC Chair to initiate a collaborative discussion with key stakeholders to determine how best to facilitate quality assurance activities within an ethical framework with the least administrative burden.

National and State Development

A national NHMRC consultation on the development of the Human Research Application Form (HRAF) was held in Queensland on 2 July 2014. This took the form of a specialist workshop comprised of Queensland Health stakeholder groups (including MS HREC Chair and CHR Research Ethics support staff). The outcome was a number of recommendations relevant to the design and content of the intended HRAF, with feedback to be incorporated by the NHMRC into a redeveloped format in 2015. The proposed HRAF is intended to meet the needs of researchers who wish to conduct any form of research involving humans. It will therefore include not only health and medical research, but areas such as psychology, social sciences and epidemiology. The HRAF may also be used for other aspects of human research applications, such as the collection of information required for jurisdictional and/or institutional research governance processes.

Training

Committee members and Ethics Secretariat staff attended a number of professional development meetings including the following training and education forums:

- Online Good Clinical Practice (GCP) training. GCP training was made available to MS HREC members and CHR staff.
- On 8 July 2014, MS HREC members and staff attended a state-wide Health and Medical Research (HMR) Stakeholder Research Presentation. The day focussed on a range of research related issues that impact upon Queensland’s research agenda. Of particular interest were sessions held on the topic of the Public Health Act (PHA) with potential revisions to the current PHA form discussed. The future role
of the Department of Health Central Allocation Service (which currently manages multi-site applications) was also discussed, with a proposed, researcher initiated, self-allocating service through an Online Forms Website being mooted.

• A Data Linkage Symposium, sponsored by the HMR, was held on 25 November 2014 and attended by the CHR Research Ethics support staff. Chaired by the Director, Statistical Analysis and Linkage Team, Dr Trisha Johnston, the event showcased a number of projects making use of linked data for health services management and health related research. Other diverse presentations focussed on matter such as the use of collections across settings of clinical indicators to linked data used in an Australian Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health.

• Associate Professor Amanda Wheeler attended the 2014 Intensive Research Ethics Course in June 2014. The Course (convened by Monash University at Bowral NSW, and facilitated by Professor Colin Thompson) covers in-depth a range of ethics-related subject matter, from monitoring research to human genetics, and is recognised as a premier event in this field.

HREC Membership

• After serving five years on the Committee (two years as a Category F – Knowledge in Research Member, and three years as Chair), Professor Maher Gandhi resigned on 30 June 2014 to focus on his research, academic and clinical positions. The Committee acknowledged Professor Gandhi at its 3 June 2014 HREC meeting, and I take this opportunity to personally identify Professor Gandhi’s rich contribution (both personal and professional) to the MS HREC.

• Associate Professor Richard Roylance, a longstanding Committee member who joined in 2006, was appointed to the role of Chair as of 1 July 2014, vacating the role of Deputy Chair/Chair of Low Risk Review Panel to Associate Professor Scott Campbell, who has been a member of the Committee since March 2009. Dr Liz McCaffrey was appointed as Deputy Chair in July 2014, having been a member since February 2012.

• As part of the usual cycle of membership change, 2014 saw the departure of several other Committee members after many years of service. Mr Col Sutcliffe (long-term Category B lay member), Dr Malcolm Smith (Category E lawyer member), Associate Professor Karam Kostner (Category F researcher) and Ms Mabel Tsui (Category B lay member) left the HREC in 2014. Each member was individually acknowledged for their contribution to the MS HREC, and I wholeheartedly endorse this.

• In late 2014 the HREC embarked on a new phase of recruitment, with various HREC categorised vacancies advertised across Metro South Health. The response was impressive with a number of highly skilled respondents subsequently appointed as Committee members in 2014.

• By the end of 2014 Ms Cara Joyce Cabilan, Mr Scott Hutton and Ms Sarah Stirling were appointed to the MS HREC as Category C professional care members. Additionally, several other prospective members were identified to be recruited to the Metro South HREC in 2015.

HREC Staff

The function of the MS HREC is fundamentally reliant upon the professionalism of its staff. It would be remiss not to formally acknowledge in this report, the outstanding work undertaken by the staff of the HREC. In 2014, Ms Sonia Hancock left her position as the HREC Coordinator, taking up a promotion as the Research Governance Manager. Ms Rebecca Lacey was subsequently recruited and appointed as HREC Coordinator, and has taken up that challenging role with a high level of expertise. Ms Carine Hoye continues as HREC Administrator, providing the ‘day-to-day’ interface between the HREC and researchers – a task undertaken with the highest level of skill.

The institution sincerely appreciates all former HREC members for their contributions, warmly welcomes the new members, and thanks all current members for their hard work and dedication, without which research could not be conducted within Metro South Health.
Metro South Human Research Ethics Committee Members 2014:

- Associate Professor Maher Gandhi, Chair (until June 2014)
- Associate Professor Richard Roylance, Chair (from July 2014)
- Associate Professor Scott Campbell, Renal Physician, Deputy Chair
- Mr John Bennett, Lawyer
- Dr Mary Boyde, Professional Care / Nursing
- Ms C J Cabilan, Clinical Research Officer
- Dr Wendy Foley, Professional Care / Nutrition
- Professor Rick Jackson, Physician and Researcher
- Dr Jennifer Jones, Professional Care / Clinical Ethics
- Associate Professor Karam Kostner, Physician and Researcher
- Ms Beverley Gaye Kurkowski, Lay Person Female
- Dr Adam La Caze, Pharmacist
- Dr Elizabeth McCaffrey, Oncologist and Researcher
- Associate Professor Peter Mollee, Haematologist and Researcher
- Mr Kelly Perkins, Professional Care / Nursing
- Associate Professor Gail Robinson, Clinical Director Mental Health
- Dr Malcolm Smith, Lawyer
- Dr Lyndall Spencer, Professional Care / Nursing
- Mrs Florence Spurling, Pastoral Care Role
- Dr Paul Spurling, Lay Person Male
- Mr Col Sutcliffe, Lay Person Male
- Ms Mabel Tsui, Lay Person Female
- Professor Amanda Wheeler, Academic Researcher

Photo legend:
Standing L-R: Beverley Kurkowski, Dr Jennifer Jones, Dr Elizabeth McCaffrey, Professor Rick Jackson, John Bennett, Assoc Professor Scott Campbell, Assoc Professor Gail Robinson, Florence Spurling, Carine Hoye (MS HREC Administrator)
Seated L-R: Dr Adam La Caze, Kelly Perkins, Professor Maher Gandhi, Associate Professor Richard Roylance, Sonia Hancock (MS HREC Coordinator), Dr Paul Spurling
Not pictured: Professor Karam Kostner, Dr Lyndall Spencer, Dr Mary Boyde, Dr Wendy Foley, Mabel Tsui, Assoc Professor Peter Mollee
PAH Research Committee

The PAH Research Committee aims to promote a strong culture of research excellence and cross-disciplinary collaboration among the PAH clinical research community, with the purpose of improving human health.

Administered within the Centres for Health Research, the Committee is represented by clinical (medical, nursing and allied health) and non-clinical divisions of the PAH, the Metro South Human Research Ethics Committee, UQ School of Medicine, UQ Diamantina Institute, and Queensland University of Technology.

The Research Committee provides strategic advice to the PA Research Support Scheme (PARSS), a joint funding initiative of the PAH Private Practice Trust Fund (PPTF) and the PA Research Foundation. The competitive peer-reviewed Scheme provides people and research support for PAH campus researchers working towards improving patient health. In 2014 the PARSS attracted a third funding body, the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (NCCTRC). Collectively, the Scheme awarded a total of $2.07 million to 36 research projects through three categories: People Support ($873,000), Project Support ($865,000) and Research Excellence ($329,800).

The PAH Biostatistics Support Service was established in March 2014 with funding from the PPTF. Administered by the Centres for Health Research, this much needed resource provided advice and service for 61 different projects through the biostatistics clinic and ran two educational seminar series.

The Research Committee continued to profile research by incorporating research presentations in the PAH Medical and Surgical Grand Rounds.

In 2014 the Committee incorporated presentations into the annual PA Health Symposium, which had the theme ‘Health Research Alliance in Transforming Care’. For the first time recipients of PARSS grants presented outcomes of their studies, in a session entitled ‘Award winners and research outcomes: the seeds we have sown’.

The work of the Research Committee receives strong support from the PAH Executive, who value the strategic advice it receives to sustain the varied research conducted on the PAH campus whilst encouraging the scope of research to broaden and evolve.

Research Committee Members 2014:
- Professor Ken Ho, Chair
- Dr Nigel Brown
- Professor Maher Gandhi
- Professor Len Gray
- Ms Kathy Harvey
- Associate Professor Carmel Hawley
- Professor Amanda Henderson
- Dr Ingrid Hickman
- Professor Gerald Holtmann
- Ms Kerri Holzhauser
- Associate Professor Richard Roylance
- Professor Michael Schuetz
- Professor H. Peter Soyer
- Professor Michael Stowasser
- Associate Professor Euan Walpole
- Professor Elizabeth Ward
- Dr Bruce Wyse
PA Research Foundation

Our Mission: To bring research to life
Our Vision: To prevent and cure disease

The PA Research Foundation (PARF) funds lifesaving research aimed at developing better diagnoses, treatments and preventions for some of Australia’s biggest health challenges. The PARF is fortunate to receive donations from the general public, the business community, bequests, PA hospital staff and from the thousands of patients and their families who have benefited from the medical treatment provided by the PAH.

The PARF supports PAH based researchers from Queensland Health, The University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, Griffith University and the Mater Medical Research Institute. Our researchers are at the forefront of discoveries across all health and medical research disciplines including medical, nursing, allied health and basic research.

Established in 1984, The PARF is a statutory authority that raises funds for health and medical research at the PAH. The PARF is managed by the CEO and an independent Board of Directors composed of local business leaders and the medical community.

It aims to support the significant health and medical research advances being made at the PAH. Since the opening of the Translational Research Institute (TRI) on the PAH campus, research performed by PAH based scientists and clinical researchers has been moved to the forefront of health research in Queensland and the world. The Foundation is excited to continue promoting the PAH campus as a premier site for clinical research and an internationally acclaimed academic health research centre enhancing interdisciplinary collaborations between clinical researchers and basic scientists.

In 2014 the PA Research Foundation contributed $744,000 to the 2015 PA Research Support Scheme, a scheme administered by the Centres for Health Research. The support scheme delivered funding to 27 outstanding applicants from a variety of disciplines, including: the PAH Departments of Surgery, Cardiology, Cancer Services, Otolaryngology (Head and Neck Surgery) and Gastroenterology; UQ’s School of Medicine and Diamantina Institute; QUT’s Institute for Health and Biomedical Innovation; and the Australian Prostate Cancer Research Centre – Queensland.

I would like to thank all those who generously donated to the Foundation and in doing so invested in the future health and wellbeing of our families and communities.

PA Research Foundation Board of Directors 2014:
- Mr Robert Bowen, Chairman
- Mr William Deutrom OAM, Deputy Chairman
- Ms Narelle Smith, Board Secretary
- Mr Michael Back
- Mr Richard Bowly
- Mr Cameron Buchanan
- Ms Karina Collins
- Mr Andrew Griffiths
- Professor Ken Ho
- Professor Ian Frazer OAM
- Dr David Theile Snr AO
- Dr Bruce Wyse

Mr Robert Bowen, Chairman
The Health Practitioner Research Collaborative (HPRC) comprises researchers and allied health practitioners and provides research leadership and support for applied and translational research across hospitals and the community health services in Metro South Health.

A significant achievement in 2014 was the Allied Health Workforce Research and Innovation Strategic Directions 2014-2016 led by Dr Rachel Elphinston (Research Workforce Development Officer) and Gail Gordon (Executive Director of Allied Health, Metro South Health). These directions provide a vision and strategies to support our allied health workforce to further enhance research activity – the driver of clinical innovation and effectiveness (see Figure 1 for a summary and http://www.health.qld.gov.au/cfahr/docs/allied-health-plan.pdf for more information).

Transforming Health Care through Priority-driven Allied Health Research Excellence and Innovation

**Research close to practice**
- Enable rapid translation of evidence from research to practice and policy
- Mobilise and integrate research governance and infrastructure

**Research as core business**
- Build and support research capacity, culture, and productivity
- Support a culture of innovation and research success

**Research in partnership**
- Enhance research partnerships and collaboration
- Strengthen leadership in research and innovation

Figure 1 Overview of the Allied Health Workforce Research & Innovation Strategic Directions
Further policy and procedure development and research training that addressed health practitioner research needs continued to contribute to effective research practices and patient centred care. A Quick Guide to External Research Requests document provided guidance and resources to ensure all research at PAH and wider MSH in collaboration with external organisations is of the highest ethical standards with accountable research governance processes. Additionally, the Centre for Functioning and Health Research (CFAHR) offered a series of Q&A research workshops with research fellows and doctoral students which promoted research activities by allied health and encouraged clinicians to engage in research.

Research productivity across MSH increased once again in 2014 and was showcased in many forums including the impressive Metro South Allied Health Showcase. The PAH Symposium session ‘Health Odyssey, History Transforming Futures’ also provided the opportunity to join medical and nursing colleagues in celebrating the successful allied health research journey.

Allied health researchers paved the way in new methodologies such as the social network analysis Discovery Interviews. This approach involves a qualitative research methodology conducted to engage consumers/patients and better understand the patient and clinician experience of the health system.

There are many opportunities for research growth in 2015. The PAH Division of Rehabilitation has collaborated with the Centre of National Research on Disability and Rehabilitation Medicine (CONROD) and the Menzies Health Institute Queensland, Griffith University, to establish a new conjoint Professor of Rehabilitation. Indeed, health practitioner research will continue to flourish with the ongoing investment in dedicated health practitioner research positions and fellowships, the fostering of partnerships with researchers and consumer groups, and the research capacity building of clinicians, and the implementation of the Metro South Allied Health Workforce Research and Innovation Strategic Directions. We also continue to work together with the Centres for Health Research to ensure consistent and sustainable research processes and governance across Metro South Health.
Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service

The Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service (ABIOS) is a community rehabilitation service for people with acquired brain injury, their carers and service providers.

ABIOS provides step-down services to individuals being discharged from the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit (BIRU) and also provides direct services for other referrals within 150 km of Brisbane, paralleled by the provision of state-wide training and consultancy.

The Skills To Enable People and Communities (STEPS) Program, which aims to optimise community reintegration and establish sustainable networks of support in people’s local communities around Queensland, is a community rehabilitation group program for adults with acquired brain injury and their families and friends, comprising two main phases:

- the STEPS Skills Program is a structured, six-week group program that facilitates community reintegration, and
- the STEPS Program Network Groups are ongoing groups formed by people who have completed the STEPS Skills Program.

ABIOS and STEPS have consolidated many research projects exploring Acceptance and Commitment Therapy and the delivery of the STEPS Program through telehealth. In conjunction with Griffith University and University of Queensland researchers, ABIOS was successful in obtaining an NHMRC grant to explore prospective memory rehabilitation and metacognitive skills training for adults with brain injury. ABIOS has also been successful in publication of research that highlighted hope as extremely important for family members of people with acquired brain injury. Following on from this research, ABIOS is participating in a mixed methods review of hope among family members.

Mr Ray Quinn, Manager

Alcohol and Drug Assessment Unit

The Alcohol and Drug Assessment Unit (ADAU), located within the PAH Division of Medicine, is a small, multidisciplinary addiction treatment service.

The Unit provides inpatient consultation liaison services and outpatient treatment programs. Patients are referred from both within the PAH and from the community. Treatment approaches predominantly involve Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) and include relapse-prevention medication.

The Unit conducts research directly related to improving patient outcomes. In 2014 this included for alcohol dependence, an ongoing randomised controlled trial (RCT) that aims to more effectively target specific aspects of patients’ treatment needs. ADAU also began a number of studies that aim to identify key prognostic factors in alcohol and cannabis dependence treatment outcome.

Polysubstance use is widespread. It often includes combinations of traditional and ‘designer’ drugs. Research into the management of these presentations is minimal. ADAU is collaborating with Professor John Saunders, MD, FRACP, FRCP (Centre for Youth Substance Abuse Research (CYSAR), The University of Queensland; University of Sydney) that aims to more effectively understand these complex presentations.

ADAU research also involves collaboration with national (CYSAR, The University of Queensland; Queensland University of Technology) and international (UCLA; University of Plymouth) groups.

Associate Professor Gerald F.X. Feeney
Medical Director
The PAH Anaesthetic Department achieved another successful year in the anaesthetic research program.

The development of a research culture in the Department continued to progress with involvement in multicentre international collaborative research projects. We have one fulltime research nurse position shared by Ms Catherine Jowett and Mrs Stacey Clifford currently to carry out our day to day research activities.

The Anaesthetic Department took an active part in a research project on “Frailty score for risk prediction in elderly patients undergoing intermediate or high risk surgeries” in collaboration with the Departments of Geriatric Medicine and Internal Medicine.

The Anaesthetic Department continues its active involvement with the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) clinical trial network. Our involvement with the trial group is evident by the active participation in the following:

- Peri-Operative Ischaemic Evaluation (Poise 2) trial recently concluded;
- Measurement of Exercise Tolerance for Surgery (METS) Study;
- BALANCED Anaesthesia Study: International multicentre prospective, randomised clinical trial of two levels of anaesthetic depth on patient outcome after major surgery;
- The RELIEF Trial REstrictive versus LIbEral Fluid Therapy in Major Abdominal Surgery; and
- Intravenous Iron to reduce transfusion and improve post-operative haemoglobin in patients with fractured neck of femur.- ‘IronNOF trial’.

The Department published several abstracts, conducted clinical workshops and delivered lectures in the 2014 Australian Society of Anaesthetists national conference. Major effort has been invested to increase the research culture and profile within the Department by engaging more clinicians with our research projects.

The Department has also been involved with small scale research projects involving resident medical officers and UQ undergraduate medical students.

Dr Peter Moran, Director of Anaesthesia

Dr Pal Sivalingam, Director of Research
The APCRC-Q is an initiative between the Queensland University of Technology’s Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation and the Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH).

APCRC-Q staff and students are co-located in the main PAH building and the Translational Research Institute on the PAH campus.

The Centre experienced several highlights in 2014. Dr Ian Vela commenced a joint PAH-QUT appointment in July 2014. Dr Vela’s appointment as a Urologic Oncologist and his expertise in Circulating Tumour Cell (CTC) research significantly strengthens APCRC-Q’s capability to translate its research into improved clinical outcomes. In 2014, APCRC-Q continued to offer opportunities for PAH patients to participate in ten clinical trials coordinated through the Multidisciplinary Team Clinic for Advanced Prostate Cancer. A prostate cancer imaging trial comparing 68Ga PSMA-PET and MP-MRI was established in collaboration with the Greenslopes Private Hospital and the Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital and will be extended in 2015. Support from the PA Research Support Scheme Spirit Group Prostate Cancer Research Grant partially funded a new random control trial to evaluate the prognostic and metabolic benefits of metformin during treatment of metastatic prostate cancer with androgen deprivation therapy.

APCRC-Q’s research activities in 2014 were supported by competitive grants and philanthropic funding totalling over $7m. In 2014, members of the APCRC-Q received four Fellowships totalling $877,204 (including two National Health and Medical Research Council Career Development Fellowships) and were awarded nine grants totalling over $5.4m for research commencing in 2015.

Three APCRC-Q students (2 PhD, 1 Masters) completed their studies in 2014 and the Centre welcomed six new PhD students joining the eleven candidates (10 PhD, 1 Masters) continuing their studies in 2014.

Outcomes of APCRC-Q’s research were published in 39 peer-reviewed journal articles, 1 book chapter and 12 peer-reviewed conference abstracts.

Professor Colleen Nelson, Executive Director
Distinguished Professor Judith Clements, Scientific Director
Professor Pamela Russell, Head of Biomedical Imaging and Prostate Cancer Models
Associate Professor Elizabeth Williams, Head of Tumour Models
Dr Ian Vela, Head of Urological Oncology Research
Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Batra J
- NHMRC Career Development Fellowship, Exploring the role of MIRSNPs in diagnosis and prognosis of prostate cancer, $411,768 (2015-2017)
- 2014 Mahatma Gandhi Pravasi Samman Award
- Best Poster Prize, 10th Indo-Australian Conference on Biotechnology, Manipal, India, April 2014
- 2nd prize for Oral Presentation, 2nd Annual Translational Research Institute Poster Symposium, 16 October 2014.

Bock N
- Women in Technology PhD Career Start Postgraduate Biotechnology Award (2014)

Hollier B
- Australian Government Department of Education Endeavour Research

Soekmadji C
- Best Poster Prize, 3rd International Society for Extracellular Vesicles meeting, Rotterdam, The Netherlands, May 2014

Stylianou N
- 2nd prize for Poster Presentation, 2nd Annual Translational Research Institute Poster Symposium, 16 October 2014

Tse B
- United States Department of Defence Postdoctoral Training Award, Developing a Novel Therapeutic Strategy Targeting Kallikrein-4 to Inhibit Prostate Cancer Growth and Metastasis, $124,056 USD (2014-2016)

Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit / Hypertonicity Service Research Group

The Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit (BIRU) is Queensland’s tertiary referral centre for acquired brain injury rehabilitation.

The service offers specialised interdisciplinary neurological rehabilitation to clients aged in the broad working age group who have acquired brain injury. Along with the Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service (ABIOS), the BIRU Day Hospital, and the STEPS (Skills to Enable People and Communities) Program, BIRU is encompassed within the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Service, PAH Division of Rehabilitation.

The Hypertonicity Service has a research focus on the hemiplegic shoulder and effects of the hemiplegic arm on gait and balance following an acquired brain injury. Research is conducted on an interdisciplinary model with allied health and university based researchers. Other research activities include: management of hypertonicity of muscles (spasticity) following neurologic injury; and memory, dysphagia, and self-awareness training following injury.

The Hypertonicity Service Research Group has been successful in obtaining funding for ongoing research including:

- Evaluating the Effectiveness of a Multidisciplinary Hypertonicity Clinic Service for the Acquired Brain Injury Population.
- Selective Botulinum Toxin Injection in the Management of Post Stroke Hemiplegic Shoulder Pain.

Dr Ron A Hazelton, Medical Director
Breast and Endocrine Surgery Unit

The Breast and Endocrine Surgical Unit at the PAH provides a comprehensive world class tertiary surgical service for the management of breast and endocrine surgical conditions within a multidisciplinary setting.

More than 280 newly diagnosed breast cancers are treated within the unit each year. Breast cancer is managed in conjunction with the Medical Oncology and Radiation Oncology Units. Surgeons meet on a weekly basis with clinicians from the other disciplines in a combined breast oncology multidisciplinary clinic to ensure that ‘state of the art’ breast cancer treatment is provided in keeping with nationally accepted best practice guidelines. A multidisciplinary endocrine meeting is also conducted monthly between surgeons, endocrinologists and radiologists to discuss and streamline management of patients with endocrine disorders.

The Unit surgeons also work closely with the Breast Screen Queensland Brisbane South Service so that surgical expertise is provided for screening, assessment and diagnosis of early stage breast cancers treated at the PAH.

Members of the Breast and Endocrine Surgery Unit have excellent collaborative working relationships with scientists in the Translational Research Institute (TRI) for the conduct of clinically relevant research, particularly in the field of breast cancer. Recent research examining the role of viruses and microbes generally in breast cancer development has received grant funding and is presently an ongoing collaborative study.

Associate Professor Ian Bennett, Chairman

Cardiology Department

The PAH Cardiology Department services a diverse population of patients from the acutely ill myocardial infarction and unstable rhythms to stable angina and routine procedural patients having permanent pacemakers.

The broad expertise of the Cardiology Department has secured a large number of clinical trials from a variety of commercial companies, the National Institute of Health and investigator-driven research.

In particular, 2014 saw the PAH lead the way in Australia with the implantation of leadless pacemakers. The Department is involved with two Phase 2 international leadless pacemaker trials with the PAH chosen as the only hospital in Australia for one of these trials. Dr John Hill, Director of Electrophysiology, is the National Principal Investigator for this study and the Coordinating Principal Investigator for the other Phase 2 study.

Other device studies undertaken include:

- Investigating the safety and efficacy of a new injectable liquid for the prevention of remodelling of the ventricle and congestive heart failure after acute myocardial infarction.
- Use of a new lead to assist in automatic AV-VV optimisation in patients requiring a CRT-D device.
- Final year of follow-up for the Protect-PACE Study of which Dr Gerald Kaye is the international lead principal investigator.

The most prominent drug studies being undertaken in the Cardiology Department in 2014 are investigating a novel drug, proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9 (PCSK9), on patients taking maximum statin therapy with elevated LDL levels to enhance cholesterol homeostasis.

Dr Paul Garrahy, Director of Cardiology
The Cancer Nursing Research Group (CNRG) worked collaboratively with medicine and allied health to produce some great research outcomes in 2014.

The highlight of the year was the implementation of the Group’s first NHMRC grant, a Partnership Project investigating a novel intervention to promote women’s wellness after cancer. In 2014 the outputs were also pleasing, with numerous nursing staff presenting at conferences or completing postgraduate studies. There were six cancer nursing staff undertaking research higher degrees. The team successfully obtained competitive research funding in 2014, with nine nurse-led funded grants underway. Numerous papers were published in 2014 and collectively presented at many international and national conferences.

Research in progress in the CNRG in 2014:

• Scoping the prevalence and determinants of cardiotoxicities following cancer treatments
• Linked SA/NT data analysis to determine cardiotoxicity after cancer treatment
• Ginger intervention for chemotherapy-induced nausea: feasibility study
• Centre for Research Excellence in End of Life Care
• A pilot study of a multicomponent non-pharmacological intervention to reduce breathlessness and associated symptoms in people with cancer
• Improving quality of life in high-risk cancer populations: a randomised trial of a structured intervention for head and neck cancer survivors.

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Yates P
• International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame
• Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) award for Nursing Excellence

Professor Alexandra (Sandie) McCarthy, Chair of Cancer Nursing
The Cardiovascular Imaging Research Group has a close working relationship with the PAH Oncology Department. Its work focuses on four themes to deal with the complex association of cardiovascular disease with other diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and renal disease, as well as to understand how cardiac imaging techniques can influence patient outcomes and cost-effectiveness of care.

Activities in 2014 included:

- Associate Professor Stanton was awarded an NHMRC grant to look at cardiovascular risk in healthy participants with a family history of early onset cardiovascular disease, using coronary CT calcium scoring.

- Clinical Research Nurse, Sarah McLennan, submitted her final thesis for MPhil; Associate Professor Stanton also supervises four research higher degree students.

- 10 year follow up study looking at cardiomyopathy in diabetic patients was completed with a first paper accepted for publication.

- Four papers published on the interaction between the cardiovascular system and kidney disease in collaboration with other researchers.

- Granted ethics approval for retrospective and prospective studies into heart failure admissions in 2014 in collaboration with other large Australian research centres.

- Collaborations with researchers at Princess Alexandra, Mater, Ipswich, and Prince Charles Hospitals; Menzies Institute, Hobart; Baker IDI, Melbourne; ANU, Canberra; and University of Glasgow, UK.

- Final follow up of a 3 year study looking at cardiovascular risk in healthy participants with a family history of early onset cardiovascular disease, using carotid artery ultrasound scanning.

The research focus will continue to be primarily based around cardiovascular imaging. Current research interests include the interaction between cardiovascular disease and other chronic conditions and the utility of cardiovascular imaging to improve the detection of, and subsequently help guide strategies to reduce, cardiovascular risk.

Associate Professor Tony Stanton
Academic Director
The Centre for Functioning and Health Research (CFAHR) operates across Metro South Health and is a strategic collaboration of three leading Queensland university partners: The University of Queensland, Griffith University and Queensland University of Technology.

The primary objective of the CFAHR is to enhance Allied Health research capacity. This unique research centre integrates research, education and practice across the health care continuum to deliver innovative change in practice within the Health Practitioner disciplines. This report details the performance and activities of the Centre’s fourth full year of operation.

The CFAHR team consists of five and a half full time research staff, two post-doctoral fellows, and part time strategic support from a workforce development officer. In 2014 CFAHR had two staff on maternity leave and one research position unfilled. Despite reduced capacity, this report supports sustained growth in research productivity.

In 2014 CFAHR enjoyed continued grant success with more than $4 million of competitive funding awarded across a range of funding bodies (more than $2 million NHMRC, $1.2 million Department of Health).

Building research capacity and evidence for best clinical practice remained key agenda items for the team, with staff contributing to more than 80 collaborative projects locally, nationally and internationally, and supporting more than 38 research higher degree students. In 2014 our researchers produced 54 published papers with 25 more papers in press, one book, 15 book chapters and 18 published abstracts. In addition the national and international profile of the unit was marketed through an extensive array of research presentations, workshops and seminars in national and international forums.

Professor Elizabeth (Liz) Ward, Centre for Functioning and Health Research and Conjoint Professor, School of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences, The University of Queensland

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Fleming J
- Awarded UQ Commendation for Excellence in Research Higher Degree Supervision

McPhail S
- NHMRC Career Development Fellowship – Clinical Research (2015-2018)

Ward E
- Fellow of Speech Pathology, Australia

Below L to R: Associate Professor Pim Kuipers, Dr Emmah Doig, Dr Emma Finch, Professor Liz Ward, Saira Mathew, Laurenie Wall, Klaire Somoray, Zephanie Tyack, Elise Gane, Associate Professor Jenny Fleming, Dr Adam Semciw, Dr Elizabeth Beadle (absent: Dr Steven McPhail, Dr Bena Cartmill, Dr Rachel Elphinston)
The Centre for Kidney Disease Research (CKDR), consisting of more than 60 research staff, enjoyed yet another highly productive year in 2014.

Activities included:

- 117 original research articles and eight book chapters, cited more than 2800 times
- 37 abstracts at scientific conferences, delivering more than 15 invited keynote lectures and plenaries at national and international scientific meetings (including the opening plenary of the 50th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology)
- $13,274,397 in competitive research grant funding
- Collaboration with more than 160 investigators from more than 70 centres in ten countries
- Three international research fellows and a medical partnership established with Guandong Traditional Chinese Medicine Hospital in Guangzhou
- Three students completed PhDs, one completed a Masters, two commenced their PhD and 15 students continued their PhD studies
- Fifteen new studies received ethics and governance approvals in 2014 bringing the total number of active studies conducted by the Centre to more than 90.

Professor David Johnson was awarded an International Distinguished Medal by the US National Kidney Foundation in April 2014 and Ms Megan Rossi was the overall winner of the University of Queensland 3-minute Thesis Competition for 2014. Dr David Small received two travel awards: an inaugural TRI Frazer Family Travel Award; and the ANZSN Travel Fellowship for basic scientists.

In December 2014 Professor David Johnson and Associate Professor Carmel Hawley were awarded an NHMRC Program Grant for $10,141,300 (2016-2020) to establish better evidence, better care and better outcomes for people with chronic kidney disease in collaboration with investigators from the University of Sydney and University of Adelaide. In October 2014 the Australasian Kidney Trials Network (AKTN), in collaboration with researchers from Royal Adelaide Hospital, was awarded an NHMRC grant commencing in 2015 to continue recruitment to the Australian and New Zealand arm of the PEXITAS study.

In 2014 the AKTN commenced recruitment for the CKD-FIX study and continued to coordinate clinical trials in the CKD population (IMPROVE-CKD) and the HD population (FAVoured). The main paper detailing results from the HONEYPOT trial was published in the Lancet Infectious Diseases (January 2014), and the results of the HERO trial were accepted by AJKD in 2014 (publication due in early 2015). Additionally, the BLOCade study completed follow-up in 2014 and trial results will be published in mid-2015. During 2014 the AKTN continued to provide educational opportunities for researchers from the renal community. Associate Professor Carmel Hawley held a workshop on clinical trial design at the Renal Society of Australasia’s Annual Scientific Committee in Melbourne in September, and presented to Early Career Researchers at the International Society of Nephrology’s Nexus Symposium in Brisbane.

Also at the end of 2014, Dr David Vesey and Associate Professor Glenda Gobe received an NHMRC Project Grant (2015-2017) in collaboration with investigators from the IMB and Monash University, and Associate Professor Gobe was part of a successful NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence with lead investigator Professor Wendy Hoy, for CKD.QLD (2015-2019), and was also a principal investigator in a successful ARC LIEF Equipment Grant application for a photo acoustic VevoLAZR instrument (2014-2015, $450,000).
Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

**Johnson D**
- US National Kidney Foundation International Distinguished Medal

**Rossi M**
- The University of Queensland Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences 3-minute Thesis Competition, Winner
- Diamantina Health Partners Research & Innovation Ideas Awards, Finalist
- The University of Queensland Graduate School International Travel Award
- Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology Travel Award

**Small D**
- TRI Frazer Family Travel Award
- ANZSN Travel Fellowship

Above: Centre for Kidney Disease Research team with co-directors Professor David Johnson and Associate Professor Glenda Gobe
The Centre for Liver Disease Research (CLDR) has as its mission to develop a centre of excellence in hepatology spanning the spectrum of translational research. The scope of this research ranges from identifying novel pathogenic mediators / mechanisms driving the progression and complications of chronic liver disease to developing specific strategies to monitor and improve the outcome of treatment for patients with liver disease.

In 2014, we recognised the need to expand our formal collaborative network to ensure ongoing international competitiveness, and joined with the Greenslopes-based Centre for Liver Research and three prominent liver research groups from the QIMR Berghofer Institute to create the new network CLDR. We have also expanded into new areas of research, expanding our multi-disciplinary skill base through collaborations with public health, epidemiology, and microbiology researchers, as well as primary care clinicians. Through these activities, we have engaged a wide audience of hepatology researchers and practitioners, whom we brought together at a successful networking event, and positioned our new Centre as a key node for hepatology research in Brisbane.

Going forward, our focus will be on increased integration of scientific and clinical research projects in order to rapidly translate scientific outcomes into clinical practice to benefit the health of the community affected by liver disease.

Professor Elizabeth Powell, Director

The Centre for Online Health (COH) had a very productive year across its telehealth research and teaching programs as well as service delivery commitments in Queensland.

COH staff and students generated 24 journal papers and 36 conference presentations, including five invited keynote addresses. The centre also celebrated PhD completions for Dr Natalie Bradford (supervised by Associate Professor Anthony Smith and Dr Nigel Armfield) and Dr Farhad Fatehi (supervised by Professor Len Gray and Dr Anthony Russell).

The University of Queensland Vice-Chancellor Peter Høj and Federal Health Minister Peter Dutton officially opened the Centre of Research Excellence (CRE) in Telehealth in September. Led by the COH, the CRE brings together expertise from a range of centres and Universities in Australia with the primary aim of accelerating telehealth research see (www.cretelehealth.org.au). A total of 17 RHD students have commenced telehealth projects associated with CRE research themes, which include investigations of telehealth applications in small rural hospitals, indigenous communities, the home, and residential aged care facilities.

A number of other telehealth research programs progressed in 2014, including an NHMRC-funded randomised control trial of telehealth in residential aged care facilities, the NBN Telehealth Pilot Project funded by the Department of Health and Ageing, the whole-of-community Health-e-Regions project funded by QGC, and an indigenous telemedicine project supporting patients with diabetes funded by the Diamond Jubilee Trust. COH has also developed research partnerships with the Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council and the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health.
In conjunction with the Australasian Telehealth Society, COH held the 14th annual 2014 Successes and Failures in Telehealth conference from 17-18 November in Adelaide. The conference attracted 170 prominent national and international speakers and delegates from around the world.

Professor Len Gray was awarded the Senior Research Excellence Award from the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, and Associate Professor Anthony Smith was awarded the Dignan-Stephens prize by the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health for best-practice care and service to children and adolescents. Associate Professor Smith was also appointed as an Adjunct Professor of Telemedicine at the University of Southern Denmark to support collaboration between COH and selected Danish universities. Dr Natalie Bradford and Dr Liam Caffery received best paper awards at the Successes and Failures in Telehealth conference.


The COH continues to nurture two very important partnerships with Children’s Health Queensland and the Metro South Hospital and Health Service. These partnerships are supported by service level agreements where the COH is tasked to develop and deliver telehealth services on behalf of each organisation. In May, the Queensland Telepaediatric Service celebrated its 20,000th telehealth consultation since it was established in November 2000. In November, the QTS transferred from Herston to the Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital. The PAH Telehealth service is expanding, with a broad range of disciplines exploring the use of telehealth. In combination the two centres coordinate a total of between 3000 and 4000 telehealth consultations annually. The COH is also delivering specialist geriatric telehealth services to selected residential aged care facilities through the RES-e-CARE business, which is operated in conjunction with UniQuest.

Telehealth is attracting plenty of interest in Australia and internationally as a key strategy to overcome the logistical challenges associated with health service delivery. We anticipate that the next five to ten years will be both challenging and rewarding for the COH as we work closely with clinicians through the change processes required for telehealth adoption on a widespread scale.

Professor Len Gray, Director

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Bradford N
- Best Paper, Successes and Failures in Telehealth Conference

Caffery L
- Best Paper, Successes and Failures in Telehealth Conference

Gray L
- Senior Research Excellence Award, Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences UQ

Smith A
- Dignan-Stephens Prize for Best-Practice Care and Service to Children and Adolescents, Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, Royal Children’s Hospital
The Centre for Research in Geriatric Medicine (CRGM) continues to be very active in its major theme areas including telegeriatrics, frailty, dementia care, assessment and clinical decision support systems, and quality indicators.

Our research productivity remained high in 2014, as evidenced by 22 peer-reviewed publications, recruitment of $623,000 in competitive and commercial research income, and further advancement of our practice innovations.

Associate Professor Ruth Hubbard, Deputy Director of CRGM, was promoted to Associate Professor, reflecting her excellent and accelerating research contribution. Professor Len Gray was also awarded the Senior Research Excellence Award from the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

The Centre continues to attract international interest and develop international collaborative research. In 2014, we hosted two extended sabbatical visits of senior geriatricians from China and Denmark, while CRGM staff and students presented at eight international conferences. Funded by a travel fellowship from the Dementia Collaborative Research Centre, Dr Melinda Martin-Khan visited Oxford University to further develop her ongoing collaboration with The Institute of Population Ageing.

A considerable number of medical students volunteered to contribute to research projects throughout the year, and three additional research higher degree students commenced their studies with CRGM.

Our model of telegeriatric services into small rural hospitals has been implemented by the PAH into five hospitals, and has been replicated in several others throughout the state. The Res-e-Care telehealth service to residential aged care facilities continues in nine facilities, and is being evaluated with a pragmatic randomized controlled trial. The Comprehensive electronic Geriatric Assessment (CeGA) Online software product continues to be used in a wide range of Queensland hospitals. A “community” version is now in development to support consultations in general practices throughout the state.

Professor Len Gray, Director, Centre for Research in Geriatric Medicine

Associate Professor Paul Varghese, Director, Geriatric Department

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Gray L
- Senior Research Excellence Award, Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, UQ

Martin-Khan M
- Dementia Collaborative Research Centre Travel Fellowship

Left: Centre for Research in Geriatric Medicine Team
The Clinical Pharmacology Department sits within the PAH Division of Medicine with responsibility for clinical pharmacology activities.

These include quality use of medicines, drug utilisation evaluation, therapeutic drug monitoring and drug safety.

The Department makes an important contribution to numerous drug committees, including the Hospital Drugs and Therapeutics Committee, High Cost Drugs Subcommittee, Antimicrobial Subcommittee, Adverse Drug Reactions Subcommittee and Medication Safety Working Party, as well as the Queensland Hospitals Medicines Advisory Committee and the Australian Advisory Committee on Prescription Medicines. Revision of the PAH Prescribing Guidelines (10th edition), was conducted in collaboration with pharmacy.

The Department has a long history of involvement in the development and provision of drug assays for immunosuppressant drugs, including cyclosporin, mycophenolate and tacrolimus and is an international reference centre for tacrolimus. The Department continues to provide a tacrolimus monitoring service, predominantly for kidney and liver transplant recipients.

The Department collaborates with general medicine, geriatrics, clinical toxicology, nephrology and pharmacy in research activities. There is ongoing collaboration with the Departments of Renal Medicine and Haematology with measurement of an iron biomarker, hepcidin, utilising a mass spectrophotometric method developed in house. Drug utilisation studies continue to be conducted in collaboration with pharmacy.

Associate Professor Peter Pillans, Director

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Associate Professor Peter Pillans, Director
In 2014 the Dermatology Research Centre (DRC) was successful in the UQ School of Medicine Research Centre Review process.

The Review occurs every four years and is based on criteria such as the centre’s research focus, core staff and students, infrastructure and capabilities, research collaborations and linkages, and research funding and publications. The Centre renewal demonstrates the DRC is a research centre of international standing and competitiveness.

Of particular significance in 2014 was the generous Philanthropic support of $4.5 million (2014-2018) that Professor Soyer obtained from Epiderm ($2.05 million), Merchant Charitable Foundation ($1 million) and the Princess Alexandra Research Foundation ($500,000), which was leveraged with generous support from UQ ($1 million). This philanthropic support will enable melanoma and skin cancer research at the DRC.

Some other funding highlights were Associate Professor Rick Sturm’s awarding of both an NHMRC project grant and a Cancer Council Queensland grant to commence in 2015, while Associate Professor Helmut Schaider successfully obtained a UQ ResTeach Grant for 2015. Our collaborations with commercial sponsors (including Leo Pharma and AbbVie) have continued.

The DRC also had some significant personal achievements to celebrate including the promotion of DRC Deputy Director Tarl Prow to Associate Professor and the awarding of a highly competitive NHMRC Early Career Fellowship (Overseas) to Dr Anthony Raphael. Associate Professor Prow was also the inaugural winner of the 2014 TRI Symposium Innovation Award for developing two novel technologies.

Numerous research projects on melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer, as well as other dermatological conditions, continue to progress, along with research continuing the development and validation of novel technologies. Other dermatological research has included the continued establishment of a registry for data of patients with skin cancer complicated by perineural invasion, as well as several commercially sponsored clinical trials on Hidradenitis Suppurativa.

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

**Prow TW**
- Inaugural winner of the 2014 TRI Symposium Innovation Award

**Raphael A**
- NHMRC Early Career Fellowship (Overseas) (2015-2018)

The DRC Team with (seated): Associate Professor Nicole Lin, Deputy Director Associate Professor Tarl Prow, Director Professor H. Peter Soyer, Associate Professor Rick Sturm, Associate Professor Helmut Schaider.
The Department welcomed Dr Jeyakantha Ratnasingam, a Pituitary Fellow visiting from Malaysia, and Dr Moe Thuzar, who commenced a PhD with Professor Ken Ho assessing the regulation of human brown fat.

Dr Ratnasingam will perform a retrospective review of the outcomes of non-functioning pituitary adenomas who have gone to surgery with the view of determining predictors of growth. Dr Viral Chikani’s PhD continues on track, assessing anaerobic effects of growth hormone.

Associate Professor Warrick Inder continues to publish clinically relevant translational research, particularly in the areas of glucocorticoid replacement and the effects of opioids on pituitary function. Associate Professor Inder has established significant research links with other Departments within the hospital (Cardiology, Pain Management, Orthopaedics) and interstate (Perth and Adelaide). He also is mainly responsible for establishing research projects for registrars and medical students, making the Department attractive for training junior doctors.

Dr Clair Sullivan has performed leading systems research around the National Emergency Access Targets and this is driving policy at a State and National level. Associate Professor Russell has been fortunate to assist Professor Len Gray in the supervision of Dr Farhad Fatehi’s PhD assessing reliability of Telehealth. This work supports the expansion of this valuable service to rural and remote Queensland.

The Department appreciates the support of Professors Rick Jackson and David McIntyre who supervise the new ‘Beacon’ clinics for management of Type 2 diabetes in the community with up-skilled GPs. The success of these clinics is currently being assessed by a NHMRC funded randomised controlled trial.

Associate Professor Anthony Russell, Director

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Ho K
- Life Membership, Endocrine Society of Australia

Thuzar M
Emergency Department

The PAH Emergency Department (ED) is a designated Level 6-Trauma Centre which in 2014 had 61,825 presentations with 16.8% admitted to short-stay unit and 30% to the wards.

The admission rate is amongst the highest in Australia and demonstrates the high level of clinical acuity. The ED has 22 senior staff specialists who provide clinical expertise to patients and supervision and training to the registrars, senior health officers and interns. Complementing the ED workforce are 195 nurses dedicated to provide timely, efficient, and quality care to patients.

In 2014, the ED Research Team expanded its capacity through the addition of two research nurses, and a summer research program for medical students of The University of Queensland. Utilising its expanded capacity, the Team undertook studies that saw hospital databases linked to map inpatient movements, identifying and addressing undesirable referral practices in order to improve patient outcomes, and introducing the Cardiology Admission Single Point Emergency Referral (CASPER) which sees a single cardiology registrar receiving referrals for direct ward admissions of cardiology patients. The Team’s research included projects with a focus on the improvement of clinical outcomes, enhancement of patient and staff safety, public safety, departmental efficiency, and continuing professional development for doctors and nurses.

The partnership between the ED and its external collaborators, The University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, and Griffith University, remained strong and pivotal in the department’s success.

A total of $1,436,200 of research funding was awarded to the Department, mainly from the Queensland Emergency Medicine Research Foundation (QEMRF).

Dr Phillip Kay, Director
Dr James Collier, Co-Director
Dr Andrew Staib, Deputy Director
Dr Michael Sinnott, Research Head

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Hughes J
- Best Paper, 12th International Conference for Emergency Nurses, Perth, Western Australia, October 8 - 11, 2014
The Endocrine Hypertension Research Centre (EHRC) was highly active in clinical research in 2014.

With previously obtained Princess Alexandra Hospital Research Support Scheme (PARSS) funding, it completed and published in the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism, with Dr Ashraf Ahmed as first author, a pilot study on a novel approach to diagnosing primary aldosteronism (PA). PA is a common specifically treatable and potentially curable form of hypertension. Requiring only a four hour outpatient procedure it is less expensive to treat than the current gold standard approach, which requires a five day inpatient stay, yet promises to be just as reliable. This led to a successful NHMRC Project Grant application to enable full validation of the test with expanded patient numbers.

Dr Martin Wolley continued his PhD studies examining various aspects of salt-sensitive hypertension, including diagnostic issues in PA and the development with Ms Aihua Wu of a urinary assay to quantify renal tubular expression of a sodium channel critical in salt and BP regulation. Collaborative work between Dr Wolley, Dr Shengxin Xu and colleagues in the UK (Drs O’Shaughnessy, Cambridge and Glover, Nottingham) revealed new mutations causing PA and Familial Hyperkalaemic Hypertension (also known as Gordon syndrome, named after the EHRC’s founder and Co-Director).

Visiting Research Fellow Dr Remi Goupil (Montreal, Canada) embarked on studies in renovascular hypertension, including an examination of the utility of renal vein renin measurements in predicting benefit from renal artery angioplasty.

An ongoing multicentre study, led by Dr James Sharman (Menzies Institute, Tasmania) is examining the effects of treating hypertension by specifically aiming to lower central (rather than peripheral) blood pressure. In all, 11 full scientific peer-reviewed papers were accepted for publication.

Professor Michael Stowasser, Co-Director
Emeritus Professor Richard Gordon, Co-Director
The Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the PAH has a strong clinical and translational program of research in the field of gastrointestinal and liver disease in close collaboration with scientists at the TRI. The UQ Centre of Advanced Imaging and the Queensland Institute for Medical Research, utilising the research facilities at the PAH.

The research program brings together researchers, scientists, clinicians and PhD research students to better understand the pathophysiology of a range of gastrointestinal and liver diseases along with techniques for diagnosing these diseases and novel treatment approaches including clinical trials. Specialised areas of research are focussed on infective and inflammatory disorders including functional gastrointestinal disorders.

During 2014, the team was successful in attracting substantial NHMRC funding and grants from the PAH, the Queensland government and commercial sources of support. The team produced numerous publications in high ranking journals, had several presentations accepted and were invited to present state-of-the-art lectures at the prestigious Digestive Diseases Week conference in the USA and the United European Gastroenterology Week conference in Vienna.

The team is founding partner and major contributor to the Australian Gastrointestinal Research Alliance (AGIRA) and was successful in their bid to host a major International Symposium on ‘Mucosal microbiome and mucosal and systemic dysfunction: mechanisms and clinical manifestations’ in 2017.

The research strategy for the upcoming years is to take the lead in research that explores the role of the gastrointestinal microbiome for highly prevalent gastrointestinal and liver diseases. This will also include the influence of inflammation on brain-gut interactions. Ultimately the aim is to improve the quality and cost-efficiency of care delivered to patients and to translate our pathophysiological findings into treatment outcomes.

Professor Gerald Holtmann, Director

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Koloski NA

- Rome Foundation Ken Heaton Award for Paper most cited in Functional Gastrointestinal & Motility Disorders
The Clinical Haematology Department sits within the PAH Division of Cancer Services. PAH Cancer Services are the State referral centre for some rare malignancies and provide highly specialised care for cancers including high grade lymphoma and acute leukaemia.

This care is supported by the Stem Cell Transplant Program. Laboratory and Clinical Haematology is an integrative academic department and its activities continue to increase particularly in the number of clinical trials and research output.

The Clinical Haematology Department had more than 60 active clinical trials in haematological diseases in 2014. About fifty percent of the Department’s trials are industry sponsored and others are under the auspices of the Australasian Leukaemia and Lymphoma Group (ALLG).

Activities in 2014 included:

- Professor Maher Gandhi was appointed as Leukaemia Foundation Queensland Chair in Blood Cancer Research UQ, based at TRI on the PAH campus
- Professor Andrew Perkins was appointed Professor of Cancer Genomics at MMRI / TRI / UQ
- Dr Colm Keane was appointed as Staff Haematologist to the Department
- Early Phase Clinical Unit was established
- 35 new research studies were authorised to commence at PAH
- Ibrutinib vs Chlorambucil trial in relapsed CLL led to approval of Ibrutinib in the US; results published in NEJM 2014
- Research work in partnership with UQDI / QUT/ TRI and ALLG 28 major publications.

The Department’s research strategy is to define blood and tumour markers predictive of therapy outcome, develop and validate tumour markers using various techniques including next generation sequencing for molecular diagnostics, immunotherapy for blood cancers, and more early phase clinical trials.

Associate Professor Devinder Gill, Director

**Fellowships, Awards and Prizes**

_Mapp S_

- ALLG Scholarship for the Specialist Certificate in Clinical Research (Oncology) at University of Melbourne
The PAH Intensive Care Unit (ICU) demonstrated another successful year in critical care research with a number of high quality publications and success in grant funding awards.

Multidisciplinary research continues to be a feature in the Unit and includes collaboration with medical, nursing and allied health teams. The level of productivity and success is only possible because of the enthusiasm and dedication of the staff in the Unit.

The strengths of the ICU’s research program include the multi-disciplinary nature of the team, as well as the broad reach of research questions across the entire continuum of critical illness.

2014 was a big year for the PAH-ICU research. Seven new projects commenced in 2014 and many larger research projects continued throughout the year. The most successful ICU studies in terms of recruitment were ADRENAL, the international, multi-centre trial operational in 45 sites, with 51 participants, and the TRANSFUSE study, with 28 enrolled.

Staff of the Unit published 29 articles for the year and there was more than $1.95 million of research funding allocated to PAH-ICU researchers in collaboration with other partners. We were successful with both NHMRC and ARC grants. All of this has contributed to both the medical and nursing streams of research to be able to increase the FTE of their support staff to aid in education, recruitment and study management.

We look forward to another productive year.

Associate Professor Chris Joyce, Director
Associate Professor Peter Kruger, Assistant Director
Professor Bala Venkatesh, Director of Research
Professor Leanne Aitken, Chair in Critical Care Nursing

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Conway P, Cohen J, Venkatesh B
• Best poster prize: ‘Plasma free cortisol in subarachnoid haemorrhage’; Annual Scientific meeting of the College of Intensive Care Medicine

Nair P, Venkatesh B, Myburgh J
• Best free paper prize: ‘Vit D in critical illness’; Annual Scientific meeting of the College of Intensive Care Medicine

Nunnink L
• University of Qld School of Medicine Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching

Venkatesh B
• Elected as President of the College of Intensive Care Medicine
Internal Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology

Associate Professor Ian Scott was appointed the inaugural Chair of the Australian Deprescribing Network, dedicated to researching ways for reducing inappropriate polypharmacy in older, multi-morbid populations.

A systematic review of barriers and enablers to deprescribing for prescribers was completed by PhD student Kristen Anderson. Studies on prescribing pertaining to patients residing in aged care facilities and effects of benzodiazepines on rates of falls in older patients were undertaken by PhD students Mr Arun Poudel and Ms Anna Ballokov.

The Department also participated in research:

- which defined the optimal compliance rate for the National Emergency Access Target (NEAT) including a description of how PAH was able to double its NEAT compliance within 18 months
- into advance care planning (ACP) and important work being done in evaluating a pilot ACP program being implemented across Metro South Health
- collaborations with the PAH Departments of Anaesthesia and Geriatric Medicine in a prospective study of a cohort of older patients undergoing moderate to major surgery aimed at identifying pre-morbid patient characteristics
- in evidence-based medicine in collaboration with McMaster University Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics

- on guideline development and implementation for the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand / National Heart Foundation of Australia which is being used as the blueprint for updating the 2016 Acute Coronary Syndrome clinical guidelines
- on the effectiveness of integrated models of health care delivered at the primary-secondary interface, with the CRE in Integrated Primary-Secondary Care.

Other ongoing work centres on: deprescribing mediated by telehealth-based geriatric consultations in residential aged care facilities; causes of, and strategies to counter, clinician biases against disinvesting in low value interventions; reviews of the clinical impact and implementation challenges pertaining to electronic health records; review of the efficacy of rapid response systems in adult hospitals; effects of volunteers on the care and health status of older inpatients; leadership issues relating to success of academic health science centres in Australia; impact of telephonic coaching on access to, and equity of, cardiovascular risk reduction programs in Queensland Health; the role of system physicians in improving health service delivery; and the prevalence of, and predisposing factors to, misdiagnosis in older patients.

Associate Professor Ian Scott, Director
Research activities at Metro South Addiction and Mental Health Services (MSAMHS) have grown steadily with lifestyle issues (e.g., smoking cessation and use of physical exercise to promote health and wellbeing), treatment options, psychological intervention programs, and treatment modality being investigated.

Currently there are 52 active research studies being conducted across all sites at MSAMHS with most of these studies being conducted by practicing clinicians with support from the research staff. This research team is made up of Professor Steve Kisely, Associate Professor Dan Siskind, Associate Professor Gail Robinson, Director of Medical Services and Professor David Crompton, Executive Director. Two research assistants and a research officer are also employed for this team. To increase the research capability of staff, the service is currently sponsoring eight PhD and 14 Master Degree Students. This is in addition to four staff that completed their PhD and three Master degrees programs last year.

Our research strategy is to support the Academic Clinical units in designing, implementing and completing clinical and health services research that is relevant to the needs of Metro South Health and with a clear pathway for translation into practice. This includes building research capacity and securing external grant funding to supplement existing resources.

Research funding in 2014 includes $1.74 million from the NHMRC in collaboration with UQ’s Rural Clinical School in Toowoomba. Outputs have included publications in the British Medical Journal, Cochrane Systematic Reviews and Psychological Medicine.

MSAMHS staff have also been active in promoting research findings in both National and International conferences and also successfully contributed to 28 journal publications in reference journals.

The high quality work of clinicians engaging in research is recognised by the number of awards received from professional and research grant bodies.

Professor David Crompton OAM, Executive Director
Associate Professor Gail Robinson, Director of Medical Services
Professor Steve Kisely, Director of Research

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Kisely S
- Fellowship of the Canadian Psychiatric Association

Parker S
- AFPMH Young Psychiatrist Fellowship Award
- RANZCP New Investigator Grant

Siskind D
- West Moreton Hospital and Health Service Australia Day Achievement Award – shared with QCMHR Policy and Epidemiology group (Awarded for excellence in mental health policy and epidemiology research)
The Neurosurgery Department sits within the PAH’s Division of Surgery. It is a 36 bed unit which includes eight high dependency beds.

The Department shares its accommodation with Neurology and the Acute Stroke Unit. Patients include those suffering from an acquired brain injury caused by trauma, subarachnoid haemorrhage and cerebral vascular accidents. Also well represented are tumours and lesions of the brain and spinal cord. The large health care team of nursing, allied health, administration officers and medical staff make a collaborative contribution towards providing excellent care for the neurosurgery patient and their family.

The Department’s continuing contribution to research saw another two studies receive authorisation in 2014 to take place at the PAH campus. These new studies are focused in the areas of seizures post-craniotomy and patient language function post-surgery. A number of papers were published in 2014 and the research team presented a poster at the First International Brain Stimulation Meeting in Singapore.

Research in progress in the Neurosurgery Department in 2014 included:

- Evaluating participant oriented outcomes such as pain levels, quality of life, activity tolerance and disability (clinical outcome) following spinal fusion procedures and evaluating bony fusion rate and its correlation with clinical outcome
- Tumour banking from the PAH to the Wesley tissue bank
- Studying language impairment in dominant hemisphere gliomas
- Lumbosacral transitional vertebrae and its prevalence in the Australian population
- Examining the incidence of post-operative intracranial hypertension secondary to sigmoid sinus venous occlusion in patients undergoing vestibular schwannoma surgery via a translabyrinthine approach
- Parasitic and atypical features of the central nervous system in non-immunocompromised patients.

Dr Bruce Hall, Chairman
In 2014 there were 40 publications accepted across the Nursing Practice Development Unit with approximately $2 million granted in research funding.

Ms Christine Ossenberg was accepted for the NETNEP International Nurse Education Conference and won a prize for the best student abstract at the ANZAHPE conference.

Findings from one of our previous studies – 'What matters to graduates? An evaluation of a structured clinical support program for newly graduated nurses' (funded from a PA grant in 2012) informed us about graduates needs for effective integration and work performance.

Following budget constraints in 2013 the following key support strategies (based on the findings of our previous study) were implemented to progress graduates through a shorter time period: dedicated clinical facilitator roles; structured graduate education days and purposeful communication with the clinical units. This trial has now been evaluated with positive results.

One of the Unit’s Nurse Researchers worked with the PAH Patient Flow team to test the sensitivity of a questionnaire to assess the needs of patients in the community following discharge from hospital. The pilot work has assisted in determining the questionnaire score that should be used to reliably determine when patients are requiring specific discharge needs.

**Fellowships, Awards and Prizes**

**Ossenberg C**

- Student Prize, Australian and New Zealand Association of Health Professional Educators (ANZAHPE)
The vision of the Nutrition and Dietetic Department is to be recognised as an international centre of excellence in nutrition and dietetic practice. Its mission is to advance nutrition through innovative practice.

The Department produces high level research output with 70% of the 34 peer reviewed publications in 2014 having a Dietitian as a senior author. Translational research and capacity building is acknowledged with 30% of publications authored by a clinically based staff member.

Strategies such as critical appraisal processes embedded into key performance indicators and awards for research translation recognised staff who actively bridge the research-clinic gap. The research strategic plan encapsulates three main themes which are Obesity and Metabolism headed by Dr Ingrid Hickman (Director of Research), Oncology and Malnutrition headed by Professor Liz Isenring, and Kidney and Cardiovascular Disease headed by Associate Professor Katrina Campbell. Dr Maree Ferguson fulfilled the Clinical Academic Fellow role and we had seven Dietitians undertaking a research higher degree under our supervision within these themes.

Our fields of expertise have been recognised internationally with our research fellows invited to present plenary sessions at four international and three national conferences in 2014. Our PhD student Megan Rossi was awarded best poster at the International Society of Nutrition and Metabolism in Renal Disease in Germany, and Veronique Chachay was awarded her PhD from The University of Queensland under the Principal Supervision of Ingrid Hickman.

More than $155,000 in research funding was attained in 2014 to support the ongoing nutrition research program at PAH. The Department is actively involved in multidisciplinary collaborations across a number of research institutes on campus and continues to develop translational research opportunities to improve nutrition and health outcomes.

Annabelle Stack, Acting Director

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Rossi M

- Best Poster Presentation – General Program at the International Society of Nutrition and Metabolism in Renal Disease Germany

Above: Nutrition and Dietetics Team
The PAH Occupational Therapy Department consists of 70 staff across 50 full time equivalent positions, with active research programs in 2014 in the areas of knowledge translation, brain injury rehabilitation, head and neck cancer services, and leisure in spinal injury rehabilitation.

The Department has a conjoint research appointment with The University of Queensland and in 2014 supported ten PhD students and one NHMRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow.

One new research project was authorised in 2014, and a further 10 earlier projects were continued including 13 translational research in lymphedema assessment. Current projects are funded by a NHMRC Project Grant, a NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence, the PAH Private Practice Trust Fund, and the Division of Rehabilitation. New funding awarded for projects commencing in 2015 totalled $1,405,000 including two new NHMRC Projects Grants.

Outcomes from previous research are being translated through our Research and Evidence in Practice Program, for example research evidence on stroke education has been incorporated into rehabilitation.

Linkages with other institutions include The University of Queensland, Griffith University, University of NSW, University of Sydney, and LaTrobe University. Prizes included a best conference poster prize awarded to Mary Whitehead, a Postgraduate Scholarship awarded to Freyr Patterson, and a UQ commendation for research supervision awarded to Jenny Fleming. Five book chapters and 14 journal articles were published and a further 10 papers accepted for publications. Staff presented their research at 15 national or international conferences.

Future research strategies include increasing multisite collaborative research, focusing on consumer perspectives, and continuing leadership in research knowledge translation.

Mary Whitehead, Director
Ruth Cox, Acting Director

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<th>Fellowships, Awards and Prizes</th>
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<td><strong>Fleming J</strong></td>
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<td>• UQ Commendation for Excellence in Research Higher Degree Supervision</td>
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<td><strong>Patterson F</strong></td>
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<td>• PA Research Support Scheme Postgraduate Scholarship (2015).</td>
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<td><strong>Whitehead M</strong></td>
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<td>• Award for Best Conference Poster “Participatory Action Research of Knowledge Translation in Occupational Therapy” - Queensland Translating Research into Practice (TRIP) Symposium</td>
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The PAH Orthopaedic Unit provides a comprehensive orthopaedic service within a multi-disciplinary setting. Located with the Division of Surgery the Unit comprises 52 beds catering for elective and trauma patients.

The Unit provides a tertiary referral service to the state in complex trauma, pelvic trauma, acute and complex spinal injury management, orthopaedic oncology, micro-vascular hand surgery, upper and lower limb surgery joint replacement and joint revision surgery.

Dr Cameron Cooke is the Director of the Orthopaedic Unit assisted by Deputy Directors, Dr Mark Dekkers, Dr Doug King and Dr Nicola Ward.

The Unit has an active research program across all aspects of orthopaedics and recognises the importance of supporting and mentoring novice researchers.

Dr Cameron Cooke, Director

Dr Mark Dekkers, Dr Doug King, Dr Nicola Ward, Deputy Directors
Pathology Queensland’s vision is to be a market leading contemporary provider of healthcare support services, and an innovative and market competitive commercial organisation that partners with its customers to improve health outcomes for the community.

Achievements of Pathology QLD-PAH in 2014 included:

- The QEII Laboratory, which is part of the PAH Group Laboratories, commenced 24/7 service from July 2014. This significantly improved pathology service delivery to the QEII Jubilee Hospital with its new Emergency Department opened in October 2013.

- The Microbiology Department at PAH was assessed in June 2014 by National Association of Testing Authorities Australia (NATA) and recommended to continue accreditation.

- The Microbiology Department implemented the routine use of MALDI-TOF technology for the identification of clinical bacterial isolates. This significantly reduced turnaround times for identification by 24 hours.

- The Chemical Pathology Laboratory continued its active research programs with the publication of research papers in peer reviewed journals.

Dr Nigel Brown, Director

Standing L-R: Colleen Kirstenfeldt, Deanna Banks, Karen Dent, Dr Kee Cheung, Dr Goce Dimeski, Sandra Wood, Cheryl Fernando

Seated L-R: Dr Samuel Boros, Dr Robert Bird, Dr Nigel Brown, Joel Douglas, Jake Farr-Wharton
The Pharmacy Department has a strong involvement in hospital wide research, with 1.5 full time equivalents of clinical trials pharmacists who are responsible for pharmaceutical management for more than 164 clinical trials.

This role includes dispensing, accountability recording, and liaising with investigators/research assistants. Many of these clinical trials are international multi-centre high profile pivotal studies.

Major research focus areas include cancer care, pharmacist prescribing, infectious diseases, smoking cessation and quality use of medications with important publications in these areas in 2014. The department has 0.5 trials pharmacist dedicated to managing the cancer trials of which there are 113 in progress and a number of which are international multi-centre studies focusing on the treatment of melanoma, lung cancer and haematological malignancies.

The Department’s PhD student research is diverse and includes quality use of medicines research, drug stability research, pharmacokinetic modelling in cancer care, and liver disease. Many of our researchers have been invited into state-wide and national networks as a result of their research. This year we had 18 of our pharmacists present at our national hospital pharmacy conference and one of our pharmacists involved in strategic planning of research for the profession at a national level (SHPA Future Summit). The Department has also had cancer care pharmacists invited to present their research work at a variety of cancer related conferences and symposiums. As well as this the pharmacist continues to encourage and support undergraduate student research projects, with the Department supervising 15 undergraduate research students in 2014.

Our Department has a large focus on translating research into practice. Our Senior Consultant Pharmacist and Assistant Director for cancer provided expert input into the Queensland Remote Chemotherapy Supervision (QReCS) guide published in 2014 and regularly reviews journal articles submitted to international cancer journals.

Lynette Loy, Director

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

George E
- The Amgen Australia Prize in Pharmacy: Best overall results for an Honours student completing the Bachelor of Pharmacy
- The Chalmers Prize: Student completing the Bachelor of Pharmacy who is most deserving on the basis of not only academic success but also other matters deserving of recognition, including qualities of character and participation in undergraduate activities.
- The Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd Prize 1: Female student who, completing the program without failure shows the greatest proficiency in all courses leading to the Honours degree.
- Kos Sclavos Leadership Prize: An award for the 4th Year student who is deemed to have achieved outstanding engagement with the industry, the community, the School and fellow Bachelor of Pharmacy students.

Gupta D
- Best Poster Allied Health Showcase
- People’s choice award in the ‘National Medicine Symposium

Hale A
- Best Oral Paper SHPA MM2014 conference

Sandhu G
- Best Abstract of Special Interest Group (Drug Disposition and Response) – Australian Society of Clinical Pharmacologists and Experimental Toxicologists Conference, December 2014, Melbourne

Semmler J
- SHPA William Harris Award
Physiotherapy Department

In addition to two new research projects approved for 2014, the PAH Physiotherapy Department had numerous ongoing research projects in 2014, including:

- Perceptions of readiness for hospital discharge; PHD Candidate Project.
- Modified conservative management versus early surgical intervention amongst young people with anterior shoulder dislocation: a randomised controlled trial.
- Do motor assessment scale scores reflect functional outcomes following physiotherapy intervention?
- Evaluating the effectiveness of a multidisciplinary hypertonicity clinic service for the acquired brain injury population.
- Selective botulinum toxin injection in the management of post stroke hemiplegic shoulder pain.
- Telehabilitation: a novel approach to the provision of Heart Failure Rehabilitation Programs.
- Stroke IMPACT randomised control trial: Improving physical activity via treadmill training – randomised controlled trial.
- Development, reliability and validity of the Queensland Evaluation of Wheelchair Skills.
- Validity and predictive value of the BOOMER and DEMMI in the Medical Assessment and Planning Unit (MAPU).
- Spaced retrieval, errorless learning and vanishing cues in retraining sit-to-stand in people living with dementia, comprising two studies: a comparison of sit-to-stand strategies used by older adults and people living with dementia, and sit-to-stand retraining in people living with dementia.
- Understanding lateral reactive balance control mechanisms in older adults with hip osteoarthritis.

Cherie Hearn, Acting Director
The Queensland Melanoma Project has continued to be actively involved in Phase I, II and III clinical trials.

2014 saw the completion of recruitment to the Combi-AD trial, an international adjuvant study comparing Braf inhibitors to placebo in resected Stage III disease, for which the Unit was in the top three international recruiters. Other trials to complete recruitment in 2014 were the Phase I NY-ESO1 study for in-transit melanoma and the Phase III MSLT II study.

The UQ Surgical Oncology Unit, the laboratory research arm of the Queensland Melanoma Project, has continued to collect tissue from patients undergoing nodal surgery. Molecular and genetic analysis will be performed on the tissue collected and correlated with the clinical data within the melanoma database.

The Queensland Melanoma Project continued to have a strong collaboration with QIMR, UQ Dermatology and Cancer Council Queensland.

Members of the Queensland Melanoma Project published a number of journal reviewed articles in 2014 and presented local data at both National and International conferences.

Professor Mark Smithers
Director Queensland Melanoma Project Princess Alexandra Hospital,
Chairman Upper GI and Soft Tissue Unit Princess Alexandra Hospital

Dr Chris Allan, Kim Wright, Alison Martin, Associate Professor Euan Walpole, Jennifer Addison, Professor Mark Smithers, Dr Victoria Atkinson, Janine Thomas, Assoc Professor Andrew Barbour, Dr Sam Yang, Dr Gerard Bayley

Not pictured: Professor Bryan Burmeister, Dr Matthew Foote, Dr Andrew Pullar (Radiation Oncology)
The Queensland Spinal Cord Injuries Service (QSCIS) sits within the Division of Rehabilitation of the PAH. The service consists of:

- The Spinal Injuries Unit (SIU)
- Transitional Rehabilitation Program (TRP), and
- Spinal Outreach Team (SPOT).

The Spinal Injuries Unit is the only specialist spinal injuries unit in Queensland and offers both acute and rehabilitation services. The Transitional Rehabilitation Program provides post-primary rehabilitation services for people with spinal cord injuries who have undergone inpatient rehabilitation in the SIU. The Spinal Outreach Team is a community interdisciplinary rehabilitation service which provides consultancy for people with spinal cord injury, family and community members, as well as other health professionals.

QSCIS aims to assist individuals who have suffered spinal cord injury to reach their maximum potential, and stay healthy. The Service uses a continuum for acute care, rehabilitation, and ongoing management of individuals with spinal cord injury, representing a best practice model in its field.

QSCIS uses an interdisciplinary team approach to service delivery and all QSCIS services have active research programs. In 2014, the service continued to be involved in local and international research involving individuals with acute and long term spinal cord injury. One of our active research involvement is with the Rick Hansen Institute through a Phase III prospective, multicentre trial involving assessing Minocycline’s efficacy in improving neurological and functional outcome after acute traumatic spinal cord injury. There is also research involving the access to care and improving quality of life with spinal cord injury.

We are delighted to congratulate Dr Timothy Geraghty for being awarded the academic title of Professor of Rehabilitation from Griffith University for his outstanding contribution to research in the rehabilitation arena. Our Senior Research Officer, Delena Amsters is progressing with her PhD. Emilie Gollan, our Senior Physiotherapist in progressing with her Master’s Degree.

QSCIS continues its commitment to support ongoing and new research including participation in the Department of Rehabilitation Research Collaborative.

Dr Sridhar Atresh, Director

Greg Ungerer, Manager, TRP

Kiley Pershouse, Manager, SPOT

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Geraghty T
- Awarded Professor of Rehabilitation, Centre of National Research on Disability and Rehabilitation Medicine (CONROD), Griffith Health Institute, Griffith University (2014–2017)
The Queensland University of Technology’s (QUT’s) Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (IHBI) and the Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH) continued their strong partnership in 2014. Together they deliver high-impact research that addresses real world health problems to benefit patients and the wider community.

QUT researchers at the PAH are involved in three broad research areas: trauma, nursing practice research and cancer, including a specific focus on prostate and women’s cancers.

Researchers from IHBI, based at the PAH, published 43 papers in 2014 and 30 IHBI postgraduate students conducted their studies on the PAH campus.

**Trauma**

The Trauma Research group is headed by orthopaedic and trauma surgeon, IHBI Chair in Traumatology and PAH Director of Trauma, Professor Michael Schuetz. The group brings together engineers, computer scientists, surgeons and emergency specialists at the PAH. The expertise of a multidisciplinary team allows us to address emerging issues in the management of orthopaedic trauma and to improve community capacity to respond to trauma.

The Trauma Research group also received a new grant in 2014 to work on Bicycle injuries in Queensland: demographic data, injury pattern, outcome, costs. This project was a retrospective review of data of 261 cyclists who were admitted and treated within the PAH Trauma Unit in 2011 and 2012. The study evaluated demographic data, mechanism of injury, injury pattern, economic costs and outcome. With a growing number of cyclists, this information informs both road safety campaigns and trauma management.

**Cancer**

QUT’s cancer research includes the Cancer and Ageing Research Program (CARP), led by Professor Ken O’Byrne and Associate Professor Derek Richard; and The Australian Prostate Cancer Research Centre - Queensland (APCRC-Q), led by IHBI Chair of Prostate Cancer Professor Colleen Nelson and QUT Cancer Program Leader, Distinguished Professor Judith Clements.

CARP researchers are seeking to identify changes that occur to human cells and their genome that causes ageing and development of ageing diseases such as cancer, arthritis and Alzheimer’s disease. This will in turn enable CARP researchers to work on therapeutics that can prevent cancer; develop medicines that will target most cancers; and develop therapeutics to combat other ageing diseases such as Alzheimer’s disease and arthritis.

APCRC-Q aims to effectively prevent, diagnose and treat prostate cancer. The interdisciplinary team involves geneticists, protein chemists, urologists, oncologists and clinical pharmacologists whose research is facilitated through domestic and international collaborations. In 2014 Dr Ian Vela commenced a joint PAH-QUT appointment as a Urologic Oncologist. Dr Vela’s expertise in Circulating Tumour Cell (CTC) research significantly strengthens APCRC-Q’s capability to translate its research into improved clinical outcomes.

APCRC-Q focuses on developing therapeutic targets and biomarkers for genetic predisposition, early detection and prognosis, and understanding the molecular mechanisms underlying disease progression. The research is carried out with a translational approach to inform and drive improved clinical practice - one example of which is APCRC-Q’s management of clinical trials – in 2014 PAH patients had the opportunity to participate in ten clinical trials.

**Nursing practice**

QUT and the PAH are collaborating on numerous nursing-specific research projects. The Cancer Nursing Research Group is led by Associate Professor Alexandra McCarthy, who holds a formal joint appointment between Cancer Services Southern and QUT’s School of Nursing. The Head of QUT’s School of Nursing, Professor Patsy Yates, is a Cancer Services Southern Visiting Fellow.

In 2014, the group conducted a project investigating the pre-post determination of effect of oncogeriatric assessment and intervention on chemotherapy outcomes in solid cancer patients aged 70 years and over.

IHBI looks forward to a continued association with the PAH Centres for Health Research in 2015.

**Professor Lyn Griffiths, IHBI Executive Director, Queensland University of Technology**
The Division of Diagnostic Radiology continued to have an ever increasing service workload and provision of support to the multi-disciplinary clinics, collaborative clinical studies with other units, research projects within the Department as well as multicentre trials.

While our research contribution to a large number of trials in these clinical settings is not always directly recognised, research collaborations continue to be a major focus, with Radiology registrars required to produce at least two major projects during their training.

Our research incorporates all aspects of the Department – MRI, CT, Ultrasound, Nuclear Medicine, Molecular Imaging, Vascular and Interventional, Nursing Practices, as well as providing our services for clinical trials being conducted by many other departments. Each year the number of research projects being performed by Radiology staff increases. There are numerous T1 and T2 translational studies being undertaken, with a large amount of other research underway.

Our current research includes characterising renal abnormalities with Dual Energy Computed Tomography, perineural invasion with the 3T MRI, drug eluting balloon angioplasty in the V&IR Department and a study on Cook Embolisation Coils.

During 2014 there have also been research collaborations with both CSIRO and Cook Medical. Equipment purchases in 2014 included a PET-MR. The Siemens Biograph mMR provides 3T MRI combined with molecular imaging, giving us insight to new diagnoses and research.

Various funding was received by the Department’s Radiologists and Radiographers in 2014, with many lectures and presentations given over the year, most notably at the RANCZR ASM. Journal articles published, as a result of the research performed, were prolific with contributions from Radiology Consultants, Registrars and Radiographers.

Dr Susanne Jeavons, Director
Radiation Oncology Department

It has been a very productive and successful year for Radiation Oncology.

In addition to the state-of-the-art linear accelerators delivering dynamic intensity modulated radiotherapy treatments, we have now developed an internationally recognised stereotactic radiotherapy centre of excellence.

The recent acquisition of the Gamma Knife (the only public provider of this technology) will further enhance this program.

In 2014 there were more than 35 peer reviewed journal publications and book chapters, 12 national and international presentations, the supervision of nine higher degrees and two advanced trainee fellowships in addition to the awarding of more than $1.2 million in competitive grant funding. The Department also remains one of the leading accruers to national and international cancer collaborative trial groups such as the Trans Tasman Radiation Oncology Group (TROG).

To further complement our technological research we have developed strong clinical and research links with Allied Health. This has seen research in patient reported outcomes through projects such as the SwallowIT study, which aims to promote innovative ways of providing prophylactic swallowing therapy for the rehabilitation of head and neck cancer patients.

**Fellowships, Awards and Prizes**

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<th>Fellowship Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chua B</td>
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<td>- Fellowship in head and neck cancer and stereotactic body radiotherapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Varian Prize Winner 2014, RANZCR Annual Scientific Meeting, Melbourne. Best research presentation by an advanced Radiation Oncology trainee or Fellow: ‘Long term results of a PET guided policy for the management of node positive head and neck cancer following chemo-radiotherapy’</td>
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<td>Finnigan R</td>
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<td>- Fellowship in stereotactic body and brain radiotherapy</td>
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Associate Professor, Margot Lehman, Acting Director

Associate Professor, Sandro Porceddu, Director, Radiation Oncology Research
Radiation Oncology – Mater Centre (ROMC) continued to accrue patients to in-house studies as well as randomised controlled trials with the able assistance of the Centre’s Research Coordinators.

As the Coordinating centre for the MP3 study, in 2014 ROMC commenced enrollment into a new local study: Split course Radiation Therapy for prostate cancer.

Radiation Oncology Medical Physicists have developed new technology to provide lung shielding for total body irradiation (TBI) using 3-D printing. The Radiation Therapy team at ROMC continued with both investigational and implementation research. The Advanced RT Practitioner Palliative Radiation Therapy presented at international meetings and continues to develop this new and exciting role.

Two Radiation Therapists attained their Masters qualification.

Post-graduate completions:

- Timothy Deegan: Masters Thesis title: The role of CBCT in prostate radiation therapy: an investigation of fiducial marker and soft-tissue based image guidance techniques
- Steve Went: Master of Health Science (Medical Radiation Sciences).

Post Graduate Research Degree Candidates:

- Catriona Hargrave: PhD Thesis title: The development of a clinical decision making framework for IGRT

With the completion of the Lady Cilento Children’s Hospital (LCCH), the Centre now delivers the radiation therapy for the Queensland paediatric population. This means ROMC now collaborates with ongoing and new studies instigated by the Paediatric Radiation Oncology Team at LCCH, as well as starting a range of implementation studies, evaluating workflow and new treatment techniques used to treat this population.

Dr Brigid Hickey, Acting Director

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Parfitt M, Deegan T, Eva B, Henry K
- Winners of RACE Live Planning Challenge, Australasian and Asia Pacific Pinnacle Users Group Meeting

Dr Brigid Hickey, Acting Director
In addition to its research activities with the Lung and Allergy Research Centre, the PAH Respiratory and Sleep Medicine Department continued its collaboration with the UQ School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering in its world leading research in complex analysis of snore related sounds to diagnose sleep disordered breathing, and the development of validation studies.

The UQ School of Medicine Lung and Allergy Research Centre (LARC) is focused on better understanding the mechanisms that promote airway inflammation in asthma and other chronic lung diseases, with particular expertise in immune function and how this is important for protection against respiratory infections and allergies.

Current projects are examining virus infection susceptibility in asthma, the role of plasmacytoid dendritic cells in lung host defence, immune function in Indigenous children with bronchiectasis, influenza vaccination in COPD, bacterial infection and protracted bronchitis in children, and the pathogenesis of severe asthma and characterisation of allergies to sub-tropical grasses.

2014 was a highly productive year, with success in attracting NHMRC research funding, including a Project Grant to study influenza vaccination in COPD, and two NHMRC Centres for Research Excellence in ‘Indigenous Lung Health’ and ‘Severe Asthma’. Multiple papers were published in peer reviewed journals. Key achievements included defining immune responses to the common cold virus, and why this is abnormal in asthma, better understanding of the effectiveness or otherwise of influenza vaccination in COPD, and outlining how much sub-tropical grass pollens contribute to the burden of allergic disease and abnormal B-cell function and IgE production.

Newsletters and community outreach activities included: ‘Future hayfever seasons will be worse thanks to climate change’, ‘Hay fever survival guide: why you have it and how to treat it’ and ‘Ensuring pollen data aren’t gone with the wind’.

Associate Professor Craig Hukins, Director PAH Respiratory and Sleep Medicine Department

Professor John Upham, Research Director, UQ Lung and Allergy Research Centre
The PAH Rheumatology Department performs clinical trials at various phases to assist the investigation of novel therapies, particularly in rheumatoid arthritis.

In 2014 the DARWIN 3-A study of GLPG0634 treatment in subjects with moderate to severe acute rheumatoid arthritis received authorisation to commence at the PAH.

In 2014 Ranjeny Thomas, Professor of Rheumatology at The University of Queensland and head of the Autoimmunity Division at the UQ Diamantina Institute, published 11 papers, eight as senior author, and was invited to write a review for the prestigious Nature Reviews Rheumatology, bringing her career total publications to more than 130 articles, reviews and book chapters, with 4411 total citations.

Professor Thomas raised more than $1 million in funding, including being awarded an NHMRC Research Fellowship, an NHMRC Project Grant, and two Equipment Grants. She initiated a new collaborative research partnership with the UWA to develop her research project into understanding the pathogenesis and treatment of spondyloarthopathies through the SKG mouse model.

Five of Professor Thomas’s students successfully graduated with their PhDs in 2014, and her other RHD students obtained their relevant milestones for the year. She received a number of national and international invitations to deliver plenary lectures in 2014, including for the International Genetics of Ankylosing Spondylitis Consortium (China), NZ Rheumatology Association Annual Meeting, Sixth International Symposium on Rheumatoid Arthritis (China), American College of Rheumatology Meeting (USA) as well as an invited public lecture for the BrisScience series at the State Library of Qld.

She was honored with two awards for her successful commercialization activities with Janssen, through the UQ Partners in Research Excellence Award (Ranjeny Thomas, UQ and Kathy Connell, Janssen) and the Knowledge Commercialisation Australasia Award for Best Commercial Deal (Unquest and Dendright).

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Thomas R

- Translational Research Institute Translational Research Award
Speech Pathology Department

In 2014 the research momentum in the Speech Pathology Department was sustained despite dedicated research staff (Dr Emma Finch and Dr Bena Cartmill) being on extended leave.

This was achieved partly through the extensive existing collaborations, both interdepartmental, interhospital, and with Universities (in particular through the Centre for Functioning and Health Research) plus the work of the existing five PhD students and advanced clinicians in the Department, which resulted in nineteen publications and numerous conference presentations.

A major conference highlight was the hosting at PAH of the International Global Post Laryngectomy Rehabilitation Workshop in conjunction with the ENT Department by the speech pathology consultant clinicians Kelli Hancock and Nadine Lawson.

Three staff completing PhDs were researching in areas reflective of the Department’s clinical specialties in communication and swallowing problems of structural and neurological origin. Research areas included brain injury (subacute rehabilitation by Kerrin Watter), stroke (communication partner training for patients with aphasia by Ashley Cameron) and head and neck cancer (Laurelie Wall).

A significant highlight was continued grants in 2014 to support Dr Bena Cartmill’s growing program of research looking at novel interventions for swallowing problems related to (chemo) radiotherapy in patients with head and neck cancer. Emergent themes of the T2/T3 research goal areas are in the use of telehealth and technology in assessment and treatment programs for alternative service delivery models across the main patient groups.

These themes are expected to develop further in 2015 and beyond.

Wendy McCallum, Director

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

McCarthy K, Budden C
- Best presentation at the Metro South Allied Health Showcase in August 2014: MBS: are we doing our best?’

Wall L
- Finalist – Diamantina Health Partners Research and Innovation Awards
The Therapeutics Research Centre (TRC), located within the impressive TRI facilities, brings together researchers in therapeutics, toxicology and nanotechnology, and is led by Professor Mike Roberts (Director) and Dr Jeffrey Grice (Deputy Director).

In 2014 the TRC had eight staff and 12 research students. Professor Roberts holds joint professorial positions at the University of Queensland and the University of South Australia and the Therapeutics Research Centre has facilities at both Universities. He is funded through an NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellowship (2011-15). He jointly holds a NHMRC Program grant (administered through the University of Sydney) until 2018.

Notable research grants awarded in 2014 included two US FDA Grants for three and six year terms, totalling $2,099,500 (USD). The FDA grants, on critical quality attributes of topical products and on developing pharmacokinetic models, are being shared across our two sites at UQ and the University of South Australia and involve co-investigators in Germany, the United States, Brazil and Australia. We also received a UQ Minor Infrastructure and Equipment Award for $38,000 to upgrade the LaVision multiphoton microscope in the TRI Core Microscopy facility.

The Centre published 25 peer-reviewed journal articles and one book chapter in 2014. Fourteen of the papers were published in A or A+ journals. In addition, five book chapters were accepted for publication and are now in production, to be in print in 2015.

We continued to receive postdoctoral and undergraduate trainees during 2014, from Egypt, Iran, Canada, and France. There were four degree completions: Dr Tristan Allsopp completed his MPhil, while Adnan Mahmood (Iraq) and Klintean Wunnapuk (Thailand) were awarded PhDs. Camilla Thompson also received her PhD from the University of South Australia for studies she performed here at UQ. Isha Haridass and Haolu Wang commenced their PhD studies. Students who achieved milestones were Xiaowen Liang, Navin Chandrasekaran, Eman Abd and Haolu Wang.

Professor Michael S Roberts, Director
The Trauma Research Group of the PAH Trauma Service brings together clinical and engineering expertise to tackle emerging issues in relation to the management of orthopaedic trauma at QUT’s Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (IHBI) and PAH.

Ongoing research projects in 2014 included:

- Minocycline in acute spinal cord injury, a Phase III trial run in collaboration with the Rick Hansen Foundation, Canada, and funded through Queensland’s Smart State ‘National and International Research Alliances Program’.

- Biomechanics of fracture healing study enabling precise control of the mechanical environment and real-time monitoring of healing progression. Application of the model allows investigation into clinically relevant research questions of extreme loading events on healing and intelligent, adaptive fixation devices to accelerate healing, and with other modelling approaches, lead to an enhanced understanding of the influence of the mechanical environment on bone healing.

- Bone regeneration study investigating the effectiveness of a range of biofabricated tissue engineering constructs in combination with cells, graft material or growth factors for regeneration of bone defects. The development and application of in vivo monitoring and ex vivo analytical tools allows functional assessment of the treated limb and characterisation of the quality and quantity of the new formed bone.

- Engineering in health program to facilitate enhanced engagement with healthcare professionals and industry to empower students with knowledge, skills and confidence in order to connect medical engineers with health needs to drive MedTech innovation. Focusing primarily on simple solutions, or frugal design, applications aim to meet both developed and developing country needs.

Professor Michael Schuetz, Director

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Schuetz M

- Research Award, Australian Orthopaedic Association
The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute

The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute (UQDI) is a modern research facility where clinical and basic sciences converge in the translational research of cancer, immunology and genomic medicine.

In 2014, UQDI grew significantly and is now host to more than 300 researchers, students and support staff.

Discovery
Research highlights from 2014 included:

- The discovery of hidden genetic links offering hope for rheumatoid arthritis sufferers, pointing to treatment options already in clinical use in other diseases.
- The identification of changes in immune cell populations during the development of squamous cell carcinoma as the disease progresses from sun-damaged skin to pre-cancerous lesions to full blown tumours.
- The discovery that treatments blocking the cells responsible for normal bone destruction may help prevent bone cancer (osteosarcoma) from spreading.
- The opening of the $2 million Diamantina Individualised Oncology Care Centre (DIOCC), an innovative, world-leading centre enabling scientists to take their genomics research one step closer to tailoring treatments for patients with cancer.
- The establishment of a world-leading program in “near-patient” research into blood cancer.

In 2014, 38 new grants commenced totalling more than $8.5 million of research income. These new grants included support from national competitive funding schemes such as the NHMRC as well as support from the Cancer Council Queensland, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, National Breast Cancer Foundation and Leukaemia Foundation.

There was a significant increase in the number of publications from the Institute, up from 163 in 2013 to 231 in 2014.

Above L-R: Professor Ian Frazer (CEO and Director of Research, TRI), Professor Peter Høj (Vice-Chancellor and President, UQ), Ms Terri Butler MP , Member for Griffith, Mr Tom Dery (Chairman, Australian Cancer Research Foundation), Professor Matt Brown (Director, UQ Diamantina Institute), Dr Ian Brown (CEO, Australian Cancer Research Foundation)
Learning
UQDI instigated a number of student recruitment initiatives to raise the profile of the institute, not only within UQ but on a national and international scale.

Key recruitment initiatives resulted in an increased number of honours students in 2014 – 18 in total, the highest ever for the institute.

UQDI continues to be an attractive option for RHD students and in 2014 UQDI grew its research higher degree programs resulting in 8 MPhil and 49 PhD students enrolled.

In 2014 the Institute continued to develop specialised training initiatives to drive the translation of research into the clinics and wards of hospitals. The MBBS-MPhil Scheme and MPhil in Translational Research are two attractive initiatives increasing UQDI’s exposure to medical students and graduates and helping to train the next generation of clinician-scientists.

Engagement
Key engagement events for UQDI in 2014 included a free public forum, Your Health Future: “Genes & Me”. The forum gave the general public an opportunity to join leading experts, including Hon Lawrence Springborg MP, Minister for Health, discussing the rapidly changing field of genetics. The Your Health Future forums are set to continue in 2015.

In addition to large engagement events, UQDI hosted more than 20 donor and not-for-profit talks and tours resulting in more than 1000 people visiting the Institute to hear from researchers and students.

Professor Matt Brown, Director
2014 has been another year of change for the UQ School of Medicine (SoM). Without doubt, the most important event of the year was the accreditation review of the School and our new MD program by the Australian Medical Council (AMC).

The AMC Directors agreed that accreditation of the existing MBBS and the new MD program was confirmed for the maximum six-year accreditation period.

The development of the MD program was a major project for 2014. The first cohort entering the MD commenced studies in 2015. The new MD program is characterised by a strong focus on the clinical sciences, early engagement with the clinical environment, enhanced teaching of research methodology and greater opportunities for intercalated research higher degrees either within the School or with any of the UQ schools/research institutes affiliated with SoM.

The dividends of the faculty restructure started to emerge in 2014 as the School and Faculty work more closely to reduce duplication and inefficiencies, mitigate risk and increase collaboration between teaching and research institutions.

There was $8 million in research income received during 2014 by SoM researchers at PAH, in TRI and elsewhere on the PAH campus, representing well over a third of the School’s research income in 2014.

New research funding of $8.8 million awarded to PAH-based researchers commenced in 2014, including $3 million in new NHMRC Project Grants and an Early Career Fellowship, and a further half million in local participation in over a dozen NHMRC project and partner grants led in partner institutions around Australia.

The Dermatology Research Centre received more than $5 million in philanthropic funding from the Epiderm (formerly known as the Australian Dermatology Research and Education Foundation), the Merchant Charitable Foundation and PA Research Foundation. The funding will underpin vital, world-leading research into melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers. The centre also received a significant number of NHMRC grants. Associate Professor Tarl Prow was awarded a $542,562 Project Grant for his study into the influence of skin cancer on topical elongate microparticle drug delivery. Professor H. Peter Soyer and his colleagues were also awarded a $814,994 Project Grant for their study into the genetic polymorphisms associated with clinical and dermoscopic naevus signature patterns. Dr Anthony Raphael was awarded $393,276 as an Early Career Fellowship for his project that modulates the skin immune system with physical stimulus.

Associate Professor Ruth Hubbard and colleagues from the Centre for Research in Geriatric Medicine were also awarded a $282,511 NHMRC Project Grant for their study into the risk stratification of older people in hospital and the validation and influence on clinical decision making.

Later in 2014 PAH researchers were awarded $2.8 million in further NHMRC Project Grants and Fellowships to commence in 2015. Professor John Upham from the Lung and Allergy Research Centre was awarded $1,266,560 for his study into using influenza vaccination to understand and improve anti-viral immunity in some lung diseases. Over the next 4 years, together with colleagues from
Melbourne, Professor Upham will undertake a comprehensive evaluation of immune responses to influenza vaccination in a large group of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) patients and control subjects. This is an ideal model system to understand immune function in COPD in a way that cannot normally be achieved in human studies. The study will identify clinical features associated with suboptimal antibody production in COPD. Gene expression profiling and systems biology will examine gene expression signatures and molecular pathways that predict suboptimal antibody responses in COPD. In the final year of the project they will assess whether changing the vaccine schedule will improve immunity in COPD.

Professor Michael Stowasser from the Endocrine Hypertension Research Centre was also awarded $263,133 for his project to streamline the diagnosis of primary aldosteronism. Associate Professor Richard Sturm from Dermatology Research Centre was awarded $579,492 to investigate the molecular basis of human nevogenesis and melanoma initiation. Professor Gerald Holtmann Associate Dean (Clinical), Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences & Faculty of Health & Behavioural Sciences was awarded $719,480 for his study into the pathophysiology of functional dyspepsia: Integration of upper gut function, inflammation and a systems biology approach.

Other major commencements included $684,680 in the Therapeutics Research Centre, as part of a University of NSW NHMRC Program Grant led by our Centre’s Director Professor Michael Roberts, for an integrated research program in human toxicology to ensure rapid translation of results into practice and regulation.

Dr Helen Benham, (Acting) Head PA-Southside Clinical School

Professor H. Peter Soyer, Head PA-Southside Cluster of the School of Medicine, and Director Dermatology Research Centre

Professor Darrell Crawford, Head School of Medicine, and Director Liver Research Centre
The Upper GI Research Unit had a productive year with involvement in both clinical and laboratory research.

In 2014, the NHMRC funded Immunonutrition study was completed, to which the Upper GI Research Unit recruited more than 40% of patients. Results are expected to be reported in early 2015. Recruitment continues in both the Doctor and Top Gear studies.

The UQ Surgical Oncology Unit, the laboratory research arm of the Upper GI Research Unit, continued to perform molecular and gene expressions on oesophageal and gastric cancer specimens. Correlating these results with the clinical data collected within the UPGI cancer database has resulted in a number of papers being published in 2014.

Collaboration continues with the World Esophageal Cancer Collaborative, International Gastric Cancer Association, Australasian Gastro-intestinal Trials Group, Australian and New Zealand Gastro-oesophageal Surgeon Group and Queensland Institute of Medical Research.

Members of the Upper GI Research Unit have published a number of journal reviewed articles in 2014. Members have presented local data at both international and national conferences.

Professor Mark Smithers, Director
Multiple members of the Urology Department contribute to or direct research activities. The ADMET clinical trial was successfully initiated with recruitment of patients beginning in September 2014.

Linkage with the Epworth Prostate Centre as a recruiting centre for this trial has also been established. Further linkage with the Gold Coast University Hospital Department of Urology for this and other trials is under negotiation. The PSMA PET trial in localised prostate cancer recruited successfully the 20 patients aimed for Phase I and is under analysis. The international PROSTVAC trial successfully completed recruitment.

Competitive research grants and funding obtained in 2014 totalled more than $10.5 million dollars over the next 2-3 years.

Two PhD students were under the direct supervision of Department Urologists (Dr Simon Wood and Dr Ian Vela). Publications of manuscripts and abstracts across the Department totalled more than 25, including major publications in high impact journals such as Cell. Members of the Unit also were invited to speak or present posters at more than 20 major national and international meetings.

The integration of other major centres in South East Queensland and around Australia into research programs and trials initiated by the PA Urology Unit and APCRC-Q will be a major focus of future research projects. Other GU Oncology trials other than prostate cancer and non-oncology trials are planned for initiation in 2015.

Translational research that impacts directly on patient care and outcomes is a focus of the Unit. The strategy of making clinical and translational research part of our core business will position the PA Urology Department as one of the premier academic Urology units in Australia.

Dr Simon Wood, Director

Fellowships, Awards and Prizes

Vela I

- EJ Whitten Foundation Fellowship $25,000
05 Clinical Research, Publications, Grants & People
Clinical Research

• **Accelerated BEP Trial Phase 3**
  (Thomson D, Atkinson V, Cuff K, Joubert W, McCaffrey E, O’Byrne K, Walpole E)
  The aim of this study is to determine whether giving the same dose of BEP on a 2-weekly schedule will be more effective than a 3-weekly schedule and will be well tolerated in participants with intermediate and poor-risk metastatic germ cell tumours. The current gold standard practice for the treatment of germ cell tumours is the 3-weekly schedule.

• **Access to Care and Timing (ACT) Project: International Protocol**
  (Schuetz M, Dvorak M, Atresh S, Jacobson E, Urquhart S, Williams R)
  The primary objective of the project is to develop the ‘ACT Model’: a health care delivery model of the provision of pre-hospital, acute and rehabilitation services for people with traumatic SCI, in order to evaluate the timeliness and location of care delivery and the relationship to outcomes.

• **A conversation about medications with patients after a stroke or TIA**
  (Coombes J, Hall G, Cottrell N, Whitty J, Rowett D)
  This feasibility study is aimed at improving safe management of medications by patients who have had a mild stroke or TIA using patient centred education.

• **AC220-007**
  (Marlton P)
  A Phase 3 Randomized Study of Quizartinib (AC220) Monotherapy versus Salvage Chemotherapy in Subjects with FLT3-ITD Positive Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) who are Refractory to or have Relapsed after First-Line Treatment.

• **ADMET - Random control trial to evaluate the prognostic and metabolic benefits of metformin during treatment of metastatic prostate cancer with androgen deprivation therapy**
  Ethics approval, trial registration, administration and patient recruitment were the focus of this research in 2014. Ten participants were recruited into the trial at the PA Hospital in 2014 and data collection is proceeding. A second trial site in Melbourne was negotiated in 2014 and will open for recruitment in 2015.

• **ALLG CM11**
  This is an open label single arm, prospective Phase II multicentre study adding pegylated interferon alfa-2b to nilotinib in the frontline treatment of Chronic Phase Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia patients, aiming to measure rates of disease response for this combination.

• **ALLG MPN01 Registry**
  The aim of this observational registry is collect information on patients in Australia and New Zealand who have been diagnosed with a Philadelphia-negative myeloproliferative neoplasm or related disorder, and to understand the nature of the disease in the local area.

• **Allied health, research, and recruitment and selection practice’s: an exploratory investigation**
  (Elphinston R, Robinson A)
  The aim of this study is to investigate the current recruitment and selection practices for allied health professionals within a large metropolitan health organisation, specifically in relation to the assessment of research and evidence-based practice knowledge and skills. It will also examine key personality and demographic factors in the recruitment and selection literature that may be associated with research capacity.

• **A long-term follow-up study of subjects who participated in a clinical trial in which bms-914143 was administered for the treatment of chronic Hepatitis C**
  (MacDonald G)
  To find out how long the virologic response and review long-term progression of liver disease in participants treated in a previous study using Lambda. To follow participants who have previously been treated with Lambda in selected trials. Blood tests and liver ultrasounds will be completed to achieve the aims of the study.

• **AMBER: Activating Mind and Body with ExeRcise**
  (Chapman J, Chamoli S)
  This study is a randomised controlled trial of two different types of exercise for adults with poor mental health involving MH outpatients of the RBWH and PAH Mood and Psychosis ACU at Metro South Addiction and MHS. The outcomes efficacy (cardiorespiratory fitness, cardiovascular health, and psychosocial functioning), feasibility and acceptability.
• **Anaemia Therapy for Chronic Kidney Disease**  
  (Hawley C, Van Eps C, Fahim M)  
  Efficacy and safety of FG-4592 for anaemia in non-dialysis CKD patients. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness and safety of FG-4592 in the treatment of anaemia in people with chronic kidney disease (CKD) not on dialysis.

• **An audit of drugs taken in overdose from the Princess Alexandra Toxicology Service (PATS)**  
  (Page C)  
  The aim of the audit is to describe the effects of a drug taken in overdose in patients who are admitted to the Toxicology Unit at PAH. The information gathered will be used to inform clinicians of the toxicological effects of drugs taken in overdose in an effort to improve clinical care.

• **An investigation into the nutritional status of patients receiving the Enhanced Recovery after Surgery Protocol versus standard care following oesophagectomy**  
  (Benton K, Isenring L)  
  The objectives are to evaluate the effect of ERAS protocol on nutritional status, dietary intake and quality of life on patients undergoing oesophagectomy compared to standard care seven days before and after surgery, and to evaluate whether improvements are maintained at 42 days post surgery.

• **An observational study of Propofol TCI providing spontaneous ventilation**  
  (Booth A, Vidhani K)  
  A retrospective analysis of anaesthetic techniques used for microlaryngoscopy in elective Ear, Nose and Throat surgery. It aims to identify the number of cases performed using propofol TCI (target controlled infusion) to maintain spontaneous breathing while fully anaesthetised. The anaesthetic record of those cases will be analysed as a case series for publication.

• **An Opinion Leader (OL) model of health service consumer engagement – Can this approach enhance contemporary SCI rehabilitation theory and practice?**  
  (Amsters D, Schuurs S, Kendall M, Carpenter C, Kuipers P)  
  The aim of the research is to implement and evaluate a model of engagement involving people with SCI as research partners. The principal topic of engagement for the participants is examining the determinants of participation after SCI.

• **A pilot study to determine patient and organisational outcomes following implementation of the Joint Patient Education Program (JPEP) in the Orthopaedic Unit of the Princess Alexandra Hospital**  
  (Smerdon S, Brunelli V, Gosson S)  
  This purpose of this pilot study is to develop and evaluate an orthopaedic specific joint patient education program (JPEP) designed to address patient knowledge of pre- and post- surgery preparation and care in those patients admitted for total joint replacement surgery at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

• **A prospective evaluation of the impact of the nurse practitioner role on emergency department service and outcomes**  
  (Gardener G)  
  The Nurse Practitioner (NP) is a registered nurse educated and authorised to function autonomously and collaboratively in an advanced and extended clinical role that includes direct referral of patients to other health care professionals, prescribing medications, and ordering diagnostic investigations. This research will evaluate the impact of the NP role on service indicators and the quality and safety of patient care in EDs.

• **A prospective study of language function following surgical resection**  
  (de Zubicaray G, Copland D, Drummond K, McMahon K, Phal P, Robinson G, Johnson K, Olson S, Ong B)  
  The aims are to investigate the incidence of postsurgical communication difficulties (aphasia) during the chronic recovery period in a prospective, multi-site cohort of Australian patients with low and high grade primary brain tumour resections conducted in Brisbane and Melbourne.

• **A randomized double blind phase 3 efficacy trial of PROSTVAC-V/F +/- GM-CSF in men with asymptomatic or minimally symptomatic metastatic castrate resistant prostate cancer**  
  (Wood S)  
  International multicenter Phase 3 clinical trial assessing efficacy of immunotherapy (PROSTVAC) in men with metastatic castrate resistant disease.

• **A retrospective evaluation of the outcomes of state wide disaster mental health programs established and delivered following the cyclones and floods of 2010-2011**  
  (Crompton D)  
  Following the Queensland floods and cyclones of 2010-11 a systematic approach that included staff training, e-guides, web based information services, state-wide 24 hour telephone intake service and integrated links with community agencies and general practices was developed and implemented. This program provides a unique opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of services specifically developed to address the impact of a large scale disaster.

• **ART-123 Phase III**  
  (Venkatesh B, Krishnan A)  
  ART-123 is a multicentre phase III double blind placebo controlled trial looking at the use of a synthetic thrombomodulin (also named ART-123) for treatment of bacterial sepsis with associated coagulopathy.
• **Asia, Australia and New Zealand Dyspnoea in the Emergency Department study**  
  (Keijzers G, Kelly AM, Eley R)
  Very little is known about how common shortness of breath (SOB) is as a symptom, the distribution of causes and whether treatment complies with evidence-based guidelines. This study will build on the existing evidence on the range of causes of SOB, how these vary over seasons and geographical areas and compliance with recommended treatments.

• **A single arm, prospective Phase II study of Split-Course Pelvic Radiotherapy for Locally Progressive, Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer**  
  (Gogna K, Bettington C, Hickey B, Holt T, Lehman M)
  The primary objective of the trial is to test the hypothesis that split-course hypofractionated pelvic radiotherapy improves bladder and bowel health related quality of life in patients with local symptoms associated with castrate resistant prostate cancer (CRPC).

• **ASPECT**  
  (Venkatesh B, Purcell R)
  ASPECT is a phase III randomised blinded antibiotic trial comparing eftolozane/tazobactam with meropenem.

• **Assessing effectiveness of Levetiracetam prophylaxis at reducing seizure incidence in patients undergoing craniotomy, with no previous seizure history**  
  (Olson S, Singh B)
  The Caesar Trial aims to compare the current standard drug, Levetiracetam, with control patients receiving no prophylaxis, to determine if prophylactic therapy reduces overall seizure incidence post-craniotomy, in patients with no previous seizure history. Secondary objective is to identify pathological or demographic factors which may contribute to an increased seizure risk.

• **Assessment of muscle mass, hepatic function and outcomes in patients awaiting liver transplantation**  
  (Woodward A, Wallen M, Coombes J, Macdonald G)
  This project will look at measures to accurately assess muscle mass and function and correlate both of these with outcomes in patients with chronic liver disease awaiting liver transplant. It is anticipated that this research project will establish a reliable, clinically significant non-invasive assessment of sarcopenia in cirrhotic patients which can be used in exercise intervention trials.

• **Assessment of the current timing of spinal cord injury decompression surgery**  
  (Bachelor P, Atresh S, Geraghty T)
  A retrospective analysis of the last 4 years of the Princess Alexandra Hospital SCI Patient Admissions.

• **A study of registered nurses’ practices and medication knowledge of nurse-initiated medications in an Australian Emergency Department**  
  (Cabilan C, Hughes J, Eley R)
  This study determined nurses’ attitudes towards nurse-initiating in the ED. It determined that the practice was not driven by personal appraisal; rather it is motivated by patient benefits and principles of safety. Confidence was initially low, but was alleviated with continuing clinical experience and education.

• **A study of the epidemiology of systemic amyloidosis in Queensland**  
  This retrospective, observational epidemiological study aims to approximate the incidence and prevalence of systemic amyloidosis in the Queensland population. Secondary aims are to assess age-adjusted mortality rate and impact of rurality on incidence and mortality.

• **AURA3: AZD9291 versus platinum-based doublet-chemotherapy in locally advanced or Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer**  
  (O’Byrne K, McCaffrey E, McGrath M)
  No approved therapy is currently available for patients with T790M mutation positive (T790M+) tumours that have EGFR TKI resistance and the significant side effects and the relatively low response rates to chemotherapy confirm the unmet medical need that exists in this patient population.

• **Australian and New Zealand Hip Fracture Registry**  
  (Cooke C, Lynch G)
  To identify and address the widespread variation in outcomes of hip fracture care, some international jurisdictions have implemented clinical registries to audit the provision and outcomes of care. In Australia, the registry will operate as an observational, longitudinal audit to improve health system performance to maximise outcomes for older people.

• **AZA-MDS-003**  
  (Mills T)
  A Phase 3, Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind Study to Compare the Efficacy and Safety of Oral Azacitidine Plus Best Supportive Care versus Placebo plus Best Supportive Care in Subjects with Red Blood Cell Transfusion-dependent Anaemia and Thrombocytopenia due to IPSS Lower-risk Myelodysplastic Syndromes.
• **BEDSIDE 905-ED-012**  
  (Chung E)  
  This is a randomized, double-blind, parallel group, multicentre, Phase IIIb study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of adding Mirabegron to Solifenacin in patients with overactive bladder (OAB) who have used Solifenacin during the 4 week lead in period but whose symptoms have not completely resolved.

• **Bed Unit Day Investigation and Implementation (BUDII)**  
  (Sinnott M, Spencer L, Eley R, Wong A, Kozan E)  
  BUDII is a technology platform that links a number of separate and distinct hospital data bases to provide a spatio-temporal map of inpatient movements and facilitate operational and research enquiries. To date the study has demonstrated an alternative way to undertake bed census.

• **Benefits of peer outreach**  
  (Harkness J, King R, Crompton D)  
  This randomized controlled trial will be finding out whether peer outreach from an NGO to mental health inpatients assists transition from hospital to community. Admissions and other health status indicators for both the study group and a control group for a period of 12 months prior to and after the outreach visit are being collected and will be compared.

• **Bicycle injuries in Queensland: demographic data, injury pattern, outcome, costs**  
  (Neumann M, Eley R, Jacobson E, Schuetz M)  
  This project is a retrospective review of data of 261 cyclists who were admitted and treated within the PAH Trauma Unit in 2011 and 2012. The study evaluates demographic data, mechanism of injury, injury pattern, economic costs and outcome. With a growing number of cyclists this information informs both road safety campaigns and trauma management.

• **Bicycle trauma**  
  (Eley R)  
  Currently there are minimal data collected prior to hospital attendance for cycling related accidents. This study with CARRS-Q at QUT determined the gaps in data collection and is generating a minimum data set. These data could be beneficial in the prevention of accidents and management of injuries.

• **Bile duct injury after transplantation**  
  (Reiling J, Fawcett J, Griffin A, Lockwood D)  
  With the demand for liver donors far exceeding the number available it is important to consider the use of livers currently believed unsuitable for transplantation. One such group is livers donated after cardiac death (DCD). These livers were initially used enthusiastically but the development of bile duct scarring in up to 40% of cases has become a major issue. This study is to validate the results of our previous studies.

• **Biomechanics of Fracture Healing**  
  (Epari, Schuetz)  
  This study enables precise control of the mechanical environment and real-time monitoring of healing progression. Application of the model allows investigation into clinically relevant research questions of extreme loading events on healing and intelligent, adaptive fixation devices to accelerate healing, and with other modelling approaches, lead to an enhanced understanding of the influence of the mechanical environment on bone healing.

• **Bisphosphonate therapy in osteonecrosis of the hip**  
  (Cooke C, Duncan E)  
  The aim of this on-going study is to determine the efficacy of zoledronic acid for reducing pain and disability in hip osteonecrosis and in reducing progression in femoral head collapse and the need for surgical intervention.

• **Bone Regeneration**  
  (Hutmacher, Schuetz, Choong, Dickinson, Woodruff, Epari, Steck)  
  This study investigates the effectiveness of a range of biofabricated tissue engineering constructs in combination with cells, graft material or growth factors for regeneration of bone defects. The development and application of in vivo monitoring and ex vivo analytical tools allows functional assessment of the treated limb and characterisation of the quality and quantity of the new formed bone.

• **Brief Intervention in mental health assessment services: single session work**  
  (Le Gros J)  
  This project aims to reduce re-presentations to Mental Health Assessment services by offering a brief therapeutic intervention in a timely manner. The model used will be based on the Single Session Work (SSW) service delivery model from The Bouverie Centre, La Trobe University, Victoria.
• Brighter: BBI608-336  
(O’Byrne K, Atkinson V, McGrath M, Joubert W)  
The aim of this project is to compare overall survival of patients with pre-treated, advanced gastric and gastro-esophageal junction adenocarcinoma treated with BBI608 plus weekly paclitaxel versus placebo plus weekly paclitaxel. A total of 680 patients will be randomised in sites across the world, including approximately 15 sites in Australia each planning to recruit 5–6 patients.

• CANVAS-R  
(Russell A)  
A pharmaceutical company lead trial. Randomized, multicenter, double-blind, parallel, placebo-controlled study of the effects of canagliflozin on renal endpoints in adult subjects with type 2 diabetes mellitus.

• Can we identify patients at risk of ongoing shoulder and neck problems after neck dissection surgery?  
(Gane E)  
A side effect of the surgery experienced by a significant number of patients is shoulder and neck pain and a restriction to their shoulder and neck movement. This study aims to identify risk factors for poor functional recovery of shoulder and neck problems after this surgery.

• Cardiology Admission Single Point Emergency Referral (CASPER) Study (Staib A, Sullivan C, Griffin B, La Bash H)  
In order to reduce block in CASPER facilitates direct ward admission of cardiology patients that is co-ordinated by single cardiology registrar receiving referrals. The study of CASPER’s effectiveness showed reduced ED LOS and improved National Access Emergency Target (NEAT) compliance.

• CARE-PACT  
(Burkett E)  
The study aims to develop and validate a standardised algorithm so that residential aged care facility (RACF) residents are identified more accurately in our healthcare system databases, describe the presentation trends and demographic profile of RACF residents presenting to ED, and assess the effectiveness of the CARE-PACT model of care in providing alternatives to ED presentations or hospital admissions.

• Cetuximab use in metastatic colorectal cancer at five large Queensland public hospitals: comparison to key clinical trials  

• CheckMate 026  
(O’Byrne K, McCaffrey E, McGrath M)  
This is an open-label, 2-arm, randomized, Phase 3 study in adult patients with chemotherapy-naive stage IV or recurrent non-small cell lung cancer with PD-L1+ tumour expression. This study aims to determine if the investigational agent nivolumab improves progression-free survival compared with investigator’s choice chemotherapy in patients with strongly PD-L1+ tumour expression in stage IV or recurrent NSCLC.

• Chronic Kidney Disease Centre for Research Excellence  

• CINC280X2102  
(O’Byrne K, McCaffrey E, McGrath M)  
The purpose of this study is to determine the range of therapeutic doses of INC280 that can be confirmed in future studies in patients with advanced solid tumors with demonstrable c-MET dysregulation.

• CKD-FIX - Controlled trial of slowing of Kidney Disease progression From the Inhibition of Xanthine oxidase  
(Johnson D, Badve S, Hawley C)  
This study is an investigator-initiated, multi-centre, randomised controlled trial testing the hypothesis that compared to placebo, uric acid-lowering therapy with the xanthine oxidase inhibitor, allopurinol, will significantly attenuate the decline of eGFR in patients with CKD stage 3 and 4 over 2 years.

• CLDE225X2116  
(Marlton P)  
A Phase Ib/II, Open-Label, Multi-Center, Dose-Finding Study to Assess the Safety and Efficacy of the Oral Combination of LDE225 and INC424 (Ruxolitinib) in Patients with Myelofibrosis.

• Clinical activity and safety of MSB0010718C in subjects with Merkel cell carcinoma  
(Atkinson V, Thomson D, Walpole E)  
This is a multicenter, international, single-arm, open-label, Phase II trial that will evaluate the efficacy and safety of MSB0010718C in subjects with metastatic MCC.

• Clozapine and Exenatide in the treatment of diabetes and obesity (CODEX)  
(Siskind D, Winckel K, Hollingworth S, Wheeler A)  
This will be a unblinded RCT with 4 arms aimed to evaluate if exenatide will help patients taking clozapine to lose weight and/or control their diabetes more effectively.
• Cognitive Remediation Therapy (CRT): is it a feasible and acceptable psychological treatment for borderline personality disorder (BPD)?
(Dark F)
This research seeks to profile the cognitive deficits associated with a diagnosis of Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD) and the effectiveness of a treatment program designed to improve thinking, planning, attention, and organisation. This study examines the benefit participating in the Mindgym program, and whether the program can improve function within social and community settings.

• Collaboration for Emergency Admission Research
(Sullivan CM, Staib A)
This is a large program grant from the DoH aimed to provide new-evidence based targets for accessing emergency care for Australian hospitals. This study is endorsed by the National Health Principles Committee and has advised the Australian Health Minister’s Advisory Committee to inform synthesis of new national targets.

• Collaborative for Emergency Admission Research
(CLEAR)
(Staib A, Sullivan C, Griffin B)
NEAT targets for discharge or admission in 4 hours are set to rise to 90% by 2015. Concern exists that this push could potentially cause adverse patient outcomes. The CLEAR group has developed a cloud-based ED-inpatient safety dashboard to address anxieties about clinical care being directed inappropriately by a time measure.

• Collection of plasma and tissue samples from two cohorts of breast cancer patients for future biomarker investigations
(Cuff K, Naderi A, Bennett I, Lakhani S, Saunders N)
This project aims to collect and store tissue and plasma samples from two cohorts of breast cancer patients for future biomarker investigations. The two groups of patients will be a) Those with early disease - Stage 0 (ductal carcinoma in situ) and Stage 1 and b) Those with more advanced disease - Stage 3 and 4.

• COMPASS
(Lo W)
To determine whether rivaroxaban and/or aspirin reduces the risk of the composite of major thrombotic events (myocardial infarction, stroke, cardiovascular death, and venous thromboembolism) and cardiovascular hospitalization in subjects with CAD or PAD. To determine whether pantoprazole reduces the risk of upper gastrointestinal bleeding, ulceration, and gastrointestinal obstruction or perforation in subjects with CAD or PAD receiving antithrombotic medications.

• Contralateral suppression in unilateral primary aldosteronism
(Stowasser M, Gordon R, Wolley M)
This study examined and confirmed the importance of demonstrating suppression of aldosterone production by the contralateral adrenal when attempting to differentiate unilateral (surgically curable) from bilateral forms of primary aldosteronism by adrenal venous sampling. Paper accepted for publication in J Clin Endocrinol Metab.

• Cook Embolisation Coils Study
(McEniery J, Manthey M, Hopcraft A)
Cook Embolisation Coils have been used successfully and relatively unchanged for over 30 years, but little published data is available. Gathering retrospective patient data will assist in determining clinical effectiveness of these coils at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

• Cost-effectiveness of a systems change intervention for smoking cessation in drug and alcohol treatment centres
(Bonevski B, Shakesshaft A, Tzelepis F, Walsberger S, Wilson A, Dunlop A, Hipper L)
The project aims to examine how effective and cost effective a system-change intervention is in reducing smoking rates among clients attending drug and alcohol treatment centres across Australia. This is a multi-centre; cluster randomised controlled study, across 30 AOD centres in NSW, QLD, ACT and SA. The Inala Alcohol and Drug Service has been allocated as a control treatment centre.

• CRAD001A2433: Study of concentration-controlled everolimus with reduced calcineurin inhibitor vs mycophenolate with standard calcineurin inhibitor in de novo renal transplantation
(Campbell S, Isbel N, Francis R, Leary D)
This study aims to test a newer combination of immunosuppressive medications for kidney transplant patients, comparing efficacy and safety with a more conventional combination of medicines.

• CREDENCE Trial
(Johnson D, King A)
This Phase 3 study is a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel group trial designed to enrol more than 3,700 patients with type 2 diabetes and diabetic nephropathy. The objective of the study is to examine whether canagliflozin can slow the progression of diabetic nephropathy, a form of renal impairment that is the most common cause of end-stage renal disease worldwide.
• Dabrafenib metastatic melanoma named patient programme retrospective chart review  
(Atkinson V)  
A named patient programme (NPP) or compassionate use programme was commenced in December 2010 for treatment of patients with malignant melanoma with dabrafenib upon request by physicians treating patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma. There is a lack of data on treatment patterns and clinical outcomes outside the highly controlled clinical trial setting. The aim of this research is to retrospectively collect and analyse data for these NPP patients.

• DARWIN 3: A study of GLPG0634 treatment in subjects with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis  
(Vecchio P, Benham H)  
The primary objective of the study is to evaluate the long-term safety and tolerability of GLPG0634 for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. The secondary objectives of the study are: To evaluate the long-term efficacy of GLPG0634 and to evaluate the long-term effects of GLPG0634 administration on participants’ disability, fatigue, and quality of life.

• Defining and optimal infection control model  
(Mitchell B)  
Reducing the incidence of healthcare associated infection in Australian hospitals is one of the priority programs for the Australian Commission for Safety & Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC). This project builds on internationally published work to address specific gaps in the Australian context to learn more about their structure, effectiveness or sustainability.

• DESCRIBE II  
(Atkinson V)  
A dabrafenib-trametinib combination therapy metastatic melanoma named patient program (NPP) was launched on 21 March 2013 upon request by physicians treating patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma. The aim of this research is to retrospectively collect and analyse data for these NPP patients to provide such data which may be beneficial to the medical community treating metastatic melanoma.

• Developing a Quality Framework for the Care of Older Patients in the Emergency Department  
(Burkett E, Gray L, Jones R, Martin-Khan, M)  
This project aims to develop a set of Quality Indicators (QIs) that are both relevant and feasible in the Australian emergency department setting. The QIs will allow comparison across centres and optimization of emergency care delivered to the growing elderly population.

• Development of the SAGIS  
(Koloski N, Kutyla M, Hansen T, Gaitan C, Holtmann G)  
The SAGIS is a clinical tool assessing the severity of 22 gastrointestinal symptoms as well as non-gastrointestinal symptoms. The patient also lists their two most important health concerns or problems. The clinician will also provide a clinical diagnosis on the top of the SAGIS. The SAGIS has been approved by the Princess Alexandra Hospital Forms Committee and is part of the patient’s routine clinical care. The SAGIS will be a useful tool for characterizing patients presenting to the Department of Gastroenterology at the Princess Alexandra Hospital for clinical and research purposes. This study aims to 1. To fully characterise patients attending the Department of Gastroenterology at the Princess Alexandra Hospital using the SAGIS and 2. To validate the SAGIS questionnaire tool. The SAGIS will be validated by factor analysis, discriminant validity, test retest reliability and feasibility.

• Differentiating incidental renal cysts from solid renal masses using dual energy computed tomography (DEC) scanning in patients undergoing abdominal CT scanning for all causes  
(Coucher J, Divjajeet R, Hopcraft A)  
This study aims to improve the accuracy and early detection of renal cell cancer using Dual Energy Computed Tomography (DECT) imaging at the Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH). Incidental renal cysts are very common. This study will help characterise whether these cysts are potentially malignant.

• Discharge Risk Screening Tool Trial  
(Arnott A, Hardwick J, Taranec S)  
To evaluate the benefit of standardising the early identification and referral process for complex discharges through the use of a risk screening tool at time of admission.

• Does a computerised swallowing, nutrition, and distress screening tool capture those patients and carers who need face-to-face intervention during (chemo)radiotherapy for head and neck cancer?  
The project involves the development and implementation of new electronic screening tools, designed to monitoring swallowing, nutrition, and distress for patients and their carers undergoing treatment for head and neck cancer. These tools will help to ensure patients and carers receive optimal and timely supportive care during treatment.
Drug eluting balloon angioplasty in the treatment of above knee arterial disease  
(Leschke P, Davis S, Johnstone S, Pearch B, Hopcraft A)  
This study aims to identify the clinical and radiological outcomes in patients who have had drug eluting balloon angioplasty for above knee arterial disease. Analysis of retrospective patient data will assist in determining the clinical effectiveness of these devices at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Dynamics of cytotoxic T lymphocyte responses to human cytomegalovirus and BK polyomavirus  
(Campbell S, Khanna R, Francis R)  
This study will characterise the T cell response to BKV and CMV in kidney transplant recipients, with the aim of developing novel monitoring tools to guide patient care.

ED Cardiac Monitoring  
(Staib A, Eley R)  
This study is an analysis of the use of cardiac monitoring in a tertiary adult hospital setting to better understand the conditions which require cardiac monitoring and the prevalence of bed block within the Emergency Department caused by a limited supply of cardiac monitored hospital beds.

Effects of immunosuppressive medication on cutaneous memory and regulatory T cells  
This study aims to investigate differences in cutaneous memory and regulatory T cell function in non-melanoma skin cancers, depending on treatment with different types of immunosuppressant medications.

Efficacy and safety of etrolizumab during induction and maintenance in patients with moderate to severe active ulcerative colitis who are refractory to or intolerant of TNF inhibitors  
(Holtmann G, Martin N, Burger D)  
This study aims to determine whether etrolizumab is a safe and effective treatment for ulcerative colitis in patients with moderately to severely active ulcerative colitis that have previously been treated with TNF inhibitors. Approximately 800 participants will take part in this study in approximately 200 sites worldwide.

Efficacy and safety of pasireotide s.c. alone or in combination with cabergoline in patients with Cushing’s disease  
(Inder W)  
This is a multicentre trial of pasireotide plus cabergoline for the medical management of Cushing’s disease. There are some small case series suggesting that a combination of these two medical therapies results in remission in Cushing’s disease where surgery has failed or is not indicated.

Efficacy of breast cancer screening in Queensland  
(Harden H, Dunn N, Moore J, Taylor K, Walpole E)  
This is a retrospective study to examine the impact of contemporary mammographic screening practices in Queensland. It will examine the reduction in mortality attributable to screening; the impact of mammographic screening on the incidence of early and late stage disease; and the impact of patterns of participation on the efficacy of mammographic screening.

Efficacy of smartphone applications in diagnosing and detecting melanoma  
(Soyer HP, Janda M, Ngoo A)  
This study is aimed at determining if the smartphone applications for skin screening on the market are actually capable of providing an accurate diagnosis when compared against the gold standard dermatological and histological diagnosis.

Endotoxin and inflammation in dialysis patients  
(Dheda S, Johnson D, Hawley CM)  
This study aims to evaluate the relationship between serum endotoxin levels and inflammatory indices in haemodialysis patients.

Engineering in Health  
(Epari, Schuetz)  
This program facilitates enhanced engagement with healthcare professionals and industry to empower students with knowledge, skills and confidence in order to connect medical engineers with health needs to drive MedTech innovation. Focusing primarily on simple solutions, or frugal design, applications aim to meet both developed and developing country needs.

ENHANCE Study  
(Gould P)  
The purpose of the ENHANCE Study is to see if including an evaluation of the presence of right ventricular apical (RVA) pacing induced ventricular dyssynchrony as a guiding parameter for dual chamber pacemaker (DDDR) / cardiac resynchronization therapy pacemaker (CRT-P) device implant is superior to the standard DDDR implant procedures in patients with heart block and normal left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF >45%).

Enhancing healthy lifestyle after breast cancer therapy with information technology  

ENZAMET Trial  
(Pryor D, Cuff K, Lehman M, McCaffrey E)  
This study will compare the effectiveness of enzalutamide versus the currently available anti-androgen drugs when used on a background of treatment with a LHRHA (or surgical removal of the testicles). The main aim of the study is to see which of these combinations is best at improving the survival of men in this situation.
• ENZARAD Trial
(Pryor D, Cuff K, Lehman M, McCaffrey E)
The study will compare the effectiveness of standard deprivation therapy and radiation therapy combined either with enzalutamide or with currently available anti-androgen drugs. The main aim of the study is to see which of a combinations of treatment is better for improving the survival of men in this situation.

• EPI PEI Study
(Holtmann G, Koloski N)
The proposed study aims to recruit 500 people across five centres in Australia who currently suffer with chronic unexplained symptoms of diarrhoea, or abdominal pain or they may currently have a diagnosis of diarrhoea predominant irritable bowel syndrome. The study aims to collect data on these patients, including the use of questionnaires, blood tests, stool tests and imaging techniques, to determine whether some of these patients suffer with pancreatic exocrine insufficiency or chronic pancreatitis.

• Evaluating a group mentoring programme for allied health professionals to build capacity in research and research translation
(Kuipers P, Bland R, Siskind D, Lau G, Elphinston R)
This innovative and collaborative translational research programme is building allied health clinician capacity in translational research by using a strongly collaborative mentoring approach, fostering experience in research translation and joint publication of findings. It provides mentoring in “practice based research” specifically scoping reviews, to assist allied health mental health clinicians to conduct research and determine relevant evidence to inform their clinical practice. Ten projects including 25 Allied Health practitioners are involved (14 of whom work for MSAMHS).

• Evaluating residential mental health rehabilitation outcomes across three Community Care Units (CCUs)
(Parker S, Dark F)
This study aims to monitor the inputs, processes and outcomes of the CCUs to inform decision making about how these services might be adapted in the future to better meet the needs of consumers within the limited resources available.

• Evaluating the “Person-Environment Profile” – a new tool for community rehabilitation practitioners and clients
(Amsters D, Schuurs S, Kendall M, Kuipers P)
The aim of this study is to test and refine a clinical instrument designed to enhance personal goal setting in rehabilitation contexts.

• Evaluation of accuracy of 3T MRI in evaluation of head and neck perineural invasion
(Gandhi M, Baulch J, Panizza B, Keller K)
This study aims to clarify for clinicians how accurate the 3.0 Tesla (3T) Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is in detecting perineural invasions preoperatively, following-on from previous research on the earlier 1.5T MRI. This will aid in the planning of appropriate care.

• Evaluation of multiparametric magnetic resonance imaging and positron emission tomography with a [68Ga] gallium-labelled PSMA ligand for the detection of multiple cancer foci in localized prostate cancer patients
(Wood S, Greenslade S, Lampe G, Rhee H, Sheperd B)
Assessment of new imaging technology PSMA PET and sensitivity and specificity in localization of prostate cancer compared to MRI and whole mount pathology in men undergoing radical prostatectomy.

• Evaluation of Pinnacle Auto-Planning software for optimising intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) treatment plans
This study aims to perform an evaluation of a prototype version of the Auto-Planning software developed by Phillips Medical Systems for the Pinnacle planning system. The new software’s performance will be compared against the software currently used to generate clinical IMRT plans as well as assessing its potential impact on clinical workflows.

• Evaluation of treatment program and assessment measures in treatment-seeking cannabis users
(Gullo M, Connor JP, Feehey GFX, Young RMcD)
Cannabis use is the most widely used illicit substance. Assessment approaches for problematic cannabis use are under developed. Few cannabis dependence studies examine factors which contribute to successful treatment outcomes. Both of these problems are addressed in this project.

• Evaluation of (68) GA-PSMA Ligand PET and multiparametric MRI against wholmount prostate in detecting localised prostate cancer
This study is investigating and staging cases of TRUS biopsy confirmed prostate cancer with preoperative mpMRI prostate and PSMA PET CT post operative whole-mount specimen histologic analysis.
Evidence based identification of aphasia using a rational clinical examination approach
(Rohde A, Farrell A, Godecke E, O’Halloran R, Worrall L)
This study aims to psychometrically evaluate an item bank of clinical tasks and questions used to identify post-stroke aphasia. Items will be evaluated for reliability (consistency of interpretation and scoring) and validity (ability to accurately identify aphasia). Tasks and questions with superior psychometric properties will be identified and combined to form a language measure.

Examining the incidence of post-operative intracranial hypertension secondary to sigmoid sinus venous occlusion in patients undergoing surgery for vestibular schwannoma via a translabyrinthine approach
(Bowman J, Wood M, Panizza B, Lomas A, Danesi G)
To identify patients who develop sigmoid sinus and/or internal jugular vein occlusion with or without symptoms of intracranial hypertension, secondary to thrombosis following surgery for vestibular schwannoma using the translabyrinthine approach.

Exploration of factors contributing to diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) in emergency department visits of hyperglycaemic patients
(Dimeski G, Balachandran S, Eley R)
The project primary aim is to compile and describe the demographic and clinical/pathological findings in adult population presenting to ED with blood glucose levels >25 mmol/L. The findings are then intended to be used as an educational tool for minimising and preventing development of severe DKA.

Feasibility and barriers to the implementation of indirect calorimetry into routine clinical care of patients with spinal cord injury
(Nevin A, Mary H, Atresh S, Kemp I, Simmons J, Vivanti A, Hickman J)
A prospective observational study aimed at assessing the feasibility of incorporating indirect calorimetry - a tool that assesses energy requirements – into standard care of patients undergoing spinal cord injury rehabilitation.

FIT Study
(Wallen M, Hickman I, Macdonald G)
The aim of the project is to investigate the safety, adherence and efficacy of a 12-week exercise training program and exercise maintenance in patients awaiting a liver transplantation.

FOLFIRINOX
(Joubert W, Atkinson V, McGrath M, Walpole E)
The aims of this project are to investigate the feasibility of delivering the 3-drug chemotherapy regimen FOLFIRINOX (oxaliplatin, 5FU and irinotecan) to patients with metastatic pancreas adenocarcinoma.

Frailty and post-operative outcomes in the elderly
A prospective study of predictors of poor outcomes in older patients undergoing moderate to major surgery with emphasis on frailty measures.

Gabapentin for taxane associated acute pain syndrome—a randomised, placebo-controlled, crossover trial - ‘The TAPS Trial’
(Houston K, Carrington C, Cuff K)
This is a multi-centre study led by Dr Kathleen Houston at Nambour Hospital. The aim is to determine the activity and safety of gabapentin for Taxane associated acute pain syndrome (TAPS) in women receiving adjuvant docetaxel for early breast cancer.

GI outpatient questionnaire
(Holtmann G, Koloski N)
This study aims to collect symptom, psychological and biological information, to facilitate research into the diagnosis and pathophysiology of functional gastrointestinal disorders now and in the future. It also will provide us with a cohort of GI (Gastrointestinal) patients if they agree to be contacted again for us to build a data bank for future research projects.

Goal planning in a continuum of care: Making it all fit
(Ungerer G, Kendall M, Harre D)
The aim of this study is to explore how goal planning works across inpatient and community settings where there is a continuum of care for spinal cord injury such as that offered in QSCIS.

GO28667 / MURANO
(Marlton P)
A Multicenter, Phase III, Open-Label, Randomized Study in Relapsed/Refractory Patients with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia to Evaluate the Benefit of GDC-0199 (ABT-199) plus Rituximab compared with Bendamustine plus Rituximab.

Headache Investigation Snapshot: A multicentre observational study
(Eley R)
This multi-centre study aims to understand the variability in the diagnostic approach of a possible subarachnoid haemorrhage-related headache. An understanding of the actions clinicians take when confronted with a diagnostic challenge will strengthen the foundations for the preparation, implementation and adherence to practice recommendations.
• Heart failure readmission risk prediction algorithm – a retrospective analysis  
  (Stanton T, Haluska BA)  
  Heart failure patients are frequently admitted to hospital which causes increased use of public health resources and distress to the patients and their families. This observational study seeks to retrospectively test a proposed heart failure readmission risk algorithm in order to identify heart failure patients at greatest risk of 90 day readmission.

• High flow nasal cannula (HFNC) usage in the Adult Emergency Department  
  (Hughes J, Doolabh A)  
  The objectives of this study are to describe the use of HFNC in the ED, including the patients’ comorbidities and demographics, and its benefits. Learning about HFNC treatment in the ED will aim to inform future processes and clinical management, as well as temporal distribution.

• High throughput screening of bioactive extracts for anti-inflammatory properties and the development of an in-situ nasal gelling drug delivery system for the treatment of chronic rhinosinusitis  
  (Panizza B, Wallwork B, Cabot P, Parekh H, Phan N)  
  To screen an array of bioactive extracts for anti-inflammatory properties using a high throughput screening method and in-vitro models of inflammation. To develop an in-situ nasal gelling drug delivery system that allows for prolonged contact time with the nasal mucosa and steady drug release and absorption.

• Home Dialysis Transition Program  
  (Van Eps C, Johnson D, Hawley C, Nadeau-Fredette A, Harding A, Jeffries J)  
  In this study, we aim to evaluate the effectiveness of the Home Dialysis Transition Program (HDTP). We will specifically assess changes in patients’ knowledge, skills and confidence to manage their own health. We hypothesize the HDTP will increase patients’ skills and confidence.

• How would type 1 diabetes ambulatory care be different if it was consumer driven?  
  (Hickman I, Cotugno J, Webb L, Stack A, Russell A, Ball L, Knight B, Harden H, Colquist S)  
  People with type 1 diabetes (T1DM) require unique health care which necessitates self-management to optimise health. This study aimed to investigate the experiences with diabetes health services in patients with T1DM and facilitate patient-centred care by describing priorities of a multi-disciplinary health service delivery from a consumer perspective.

• Identification of breath biomarkers from head and neck squamous cell carcinoma  
  (Lim J, Panizza B)  
  To determine specific volatile organic compounds present in breath samples of patients with oral cavity or oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma before and after tumor resection or before and after chemotherapy +/- radiotherapy using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry.

• Identifying barriers to completing research for radiology registrars in Queensland in the context of the new curriculum  
  (Shay F, Brauchli D, Coulthard A)  
  Completing research is a compulsory component of training to become a radiologist in Australia which can lead to significant stress in registrars with limited or no background in medical research. This project aims to discover the problems that registrars experience as well as their level of engagement and attitudes towards research during their training.

• IE over the last decade  
  (Aye C, Whitby M)  
  Infective endocarditis (IE) is a life-threatening disease with significant morbidity and mortality especially in elderly patients. There have been reports of changing trends in clinical characteristics of IE over the last decade in other countries. This study aims to identify any changes in clinical characteristics and outcomes of infective endocarditis over the last decade.

• Impact of change to long acting injectable antipsychotics on service utilisation in people with chronic schizophrenia being treated by Metro South Mental Health Services  
  (Taylor M, Kisely S, Robinson G)  
  This study aims to analyse retrospective data of schizophrenia patients engaged with Metro South mental health services between 2007 and 2013 who were prescribed long acting injectable (LAI) antipsychotics in the year 2011.

• Implementation and outcomes of CEWMI  
  (Fitzgerald C, McBride L, Morrison L)  
  The project aims to describe an innovative approach to managing the increasing demand for clinical placements from allied health university programs and the steps undertaken to build placement capacity to meet this demand. The reported outcomes can be used for future planning of clinical education for pre-entry student programs and guide future placement capacity building approaches.
• Improving recognition of heart failure using lung ultrasound
  (Isoardi K)
  Many European hospitals use bedside lung ultrasound to improve their recognition of heart failure; however the practice is uncommon in Australia. The method is cheap, rapid, safe, readily available, and causes trivial interference to current management. This project aims to improve patient care by putting evidence into practice.

• IMRT optimisation with Pinnacle Auto Planning
  The study aims to evaluate the Auto Planning prototype software for generating prostate intensity modulated radiation therapy (IMRT) treatment plans. This study will compare its performance against the software in the Pinnacle TPS that is currently used for generating IMRT plans as well as assessing the potential impact of Auto Planning on treatment planning clinical workflows.

• Individualising care in head and neck cancer using markers of cancer progression to guide drug target selection in a mouse model
  (Panizza B, Jenkins G, Richard D, Saunders N, Gabrielli B, Simpson F)
  To establish an animal model of human head and neck cancer, to use this model to explore the role of DNA repair molecules in head and neck cancer and in the response to anti-cancer therapy and to identify new drugs which target the molecules which inhibit normal DNA repair.

• Influence of price labelling on medication prescribing practice of anaesthetists in a tertiary hospital
  (Howard J, Kennedy G)
  The study aims to assess whether point-of-use price labelling alone can influence drug prescribing practices of anaesthetists in a tertiary hospital. We will compare ampoule usage over a six month period before and after the introduction of labelling divided by number of cases in the time period.

• International ED Screener Study
  (Gray L)
  The primary purpose of this study is to evaluate the interRAI ED Screener for predictive validity using international samples. Australia is part of this international collaboration to validate the ED screening tool. Predictive validity should be re-confirmed before widespread marketing by interRAI members.

• International IDNT survey
  (Vivanti A, Ferguson M, O’Sullivan T, Porter J, Lloyd L, Kellie S, Lim Y-P)
  The Nutrition Care Process Terminology is a standardised language supporting the nutrition care process and is now accepted by dietitians associations internationally as the standard approach to nutrition care. Longitudinal data collection has commenced concerning benefits, value, challenges, barriers, knowledge, and confidence in its use, guiding professional activities supporting implementation.

• INTUITION: International study on ipilimumab treatment utilization in real world clinical practice
  (Atkinson V)
  The main purpose of this study is to describe ipilimumab use and associated healthcare resource utilization in adults diagnosed with advanced cutaneous melanoma. The second purpose is to describe treatment patterns in routine clinical or real world conditions. In addition, the study will describe the effectiveness of treatments.

• Investigating medical students’ and junior doctors’ self-perceived abilities to teach their peers
  (Koff A)
  The aims of this project are to identify the current abilities of medical students and junior doctors as educators. The survey analysis will focus on correlations between age, gender, MBBS year/PGY status, and teaching abilities to identify trends in results, in particular looking for areas which have room for improvement.

• Investigation of pre-processing steps to improve automated methods of contouring cone beam CT (CBCT) for image-guided radiotherapy (IGRT) of the prostate
  (McBain M, Hargrave C, Mengersen K, Drovandi C, Deegan T, Poulsen M)
  This study builds on previous research that developed an automated contouring method for CBCT images in the context of IGRT for prostate patients. Additional algorithms and new processing infrastructures will be utilised to speed up the overall computation time required to create the CBCT contours.

• IRON NOF trial
  (Ward N, Cooke C, Sivalingam P)
  A multi-centre, prospective, double blind, randomised, placebo controlled trial of intravenous iron to reduce transfusion and improve post-operative haemoglobin in patients with fragility hip fracture.
• **ISOBARS Study**  
  (Schoonbeek S, Clark B, Cabilan CJ, Henderson AJ, Spencer L)  
The delivery of structured handovers reduces content variability, content omission, and improvements in communication accuracy and documentation. Bedside handovers facilitate the identification of risks at the bedside, and act on the risk timely. In response to evidence, this study aims to implement structure bedside handover in the emergency department.

• **Is the effectiveness of bevacizumab in metastatic colorectal cancer comparable to clinical trials used in reimbursement decisions? Results from five large Queensland public hospitals**  

• **iTool study (QLD)**  
  (Cuff K, McCaffrey E)  
  We have developed a web-based tool (iTool) to help cancer doctors estimate and explain scenarios for survival time to people with incurable cancer. The specific objectives of this project are to determine: the attitudes of patients, family members and other doctors and health professionals involved in the patients’ care to receiving survival information via the iTool and; the attitudes of oncologists to using the iTool. We will also assess accuracy of the survival estimates.

• **Ketone levels in brain injured patients study**  
  (Venkatesh B)  
  This is an observational study looking at ketone levels in brain injured patients.

• **LEADLESS II Study**  
  (Hill J, Kalman J, Sanders P, Kaye G)  
  This is a prospective, non-randomised, single-arm, international multi-centre, clinical safety and effectiveness study of a new device that is permanently placed into the heart. This device is a pacemaker and is fully self-contained, with its computerised generator, battery and sensors are all located in the one device. There is no metal box containing the generator or any leads. This device is called a Nanostim leadless pacemaker (LP).

• **Linking best practice workforce models to Emergency Department (ED) funding**  
  (Bell A, Burke J, Crilly J, Fitzgerald G, Toloo S, Williams G)  
  This study aims to link best practice ED workforce models to available activity-based funding (ABF), whilst contributing to the development of an improved national activity and outcome-based ED funding model. This research will provide the means whereby Emergency Department (ED) leaders may be able to link activity-based funding (ABF) models to a workforce framework.

• **Living a valued and meaningful life after brain injury: Using Acceptance and Commitment Therapy in community based rehabilitation**  
  (Goddard K, Wright S, Broughton M, Kendall M)  
  Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) involves taking effective action guided by life values and being fully present and engaged. This study aims to evaluate ACT for people with acquired brain injury.

• **LTS12551**  
  (Upham J, Armstrong J)  
  This is an extension study to the DRI12544 Study. The purpose of this phase IIb/III multinational multi-centre open-label extension study is to evaluate the long term safety and tolerability of dupilumab in patients with asthma who participated in previous dupilumab asthma clinical study (DRI12544).

• **mCRC mAb evaluation**  
  This study aims to describe the use of two high cost monoclonal antibodies (cetuximab and bevacizumab) in metastatic colorectal cancer, with patient characteristics and treatment characteristics such as chemotherapy treatment planned/administered, dose, dose intensity, total cycles/doses, reasons for dose delays/reduction/cessation, concomitant cytotoxic chemotherapy, previous and subsequent therapy used to stratify the data.

• **MDS azacitidine study**  
  The purpose of this study is primarily to investigate whether treatment with oral azacitidine reduces dependence on red blood cell transfusion in low-risk Myelodysplastic Syndrome. Secondarily the study will look at whether azacitidine improves haematologic response, overall survival, quality of life, and time to progression to Acute Myeloid Leukaemia.

• **Measurement of Exercise Tolerance for Surgery (METS) study six-minute walk test substudy**  
  (Sivalingam P, Hall A)  
  An international multicentre prospective cohort study of cardiopulmonary exercise testing for improving preoperative risk stratification for major non-cardiac surgery.
• **Medication compliance in stroke patients**  
  (Radhakrishnan R, Aitken P, Amin H, Coombes J)

  This study aims to improve communication about medications in stroke patients admitted to GARU. The patient will be provided an appropriate information leaflet and will be given opportunity to discuss their medications with the pharmacist prior to discharge. To evaluate the outcome a questionnaire will be administered to see how well the patients felt they knew and understood how to take their medications.

• **Mental health service delivery for adolescents: a comparative study**  
  (Pirkis J, Fenton S, Killackey E, Dark F, Patterson S, Stathis S)

  This is a mixed methods study which aims to explore the implications policy formulation has on service delivery and professional accountability in the UK and Australian settings. The aim of the study is to inform policy development and where appropriate use policy transfer to potentially directly impact the lives of people who access services by influencing future service design.

• **Meropenem versus Piperacillin-Tazobactam for definitive treatment of bloodstream infections due to ceftriaxone non-susceptible escherichia coli and klebsiella spp**  

  The purpose of this study is to randomly assign patients with E. coli or Klebsiella blood infection to either meropenem or piperacillin/tazobactam in order to test whether these antibiotics have similar effectiveness.

• **Metastatic Soft Tissue Sarcoma Study**  
  (Joubert W)

  The goal of this evaluation is to describe the natural history of patients with metastatic soft tissue sarcoma in Australian sarcoma centres. A retrospective analysis will help to provide data which may be beneficial to the medical community treating metastatic soft tissue sarcoma. This is an observational retrospective data collection project.

• **Metro South ‘Health of the Homelessness Project’**  
  (O’Neill K)

  An online survey will be used to gather information of the ways that health services are provided by Metro South Health staff to people who experience homelessness. Results of the survey will be used to inform the future delivery and organisation of services to this client group who often have complex health needs.

• **Micra Transcatheter Pacing Study**  
  (Hill J, Gould P)

  Medtronic Inc is sponsoring the Micra Transcatheter Pacing System study. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of the Micra pacemaker and to assess its long-term performance. Data collected in this study will be used to support market approval around the world.

• **Mid-Stream Urine (MSU) Study**  
  (Sinnott M, Eley R)

  Contamination of MSU samples is common in ED, perhaps due to inadequate or inefficient instructions to the patient. The MSU study aims to test the effectiveness of written vs. verbal instructions against the incidence of contamination, and patient comprehension.

• **Minocycline in Acute Spinal Cord Injury**  
  (Atresh S, Geraghty T, Urquhart S, Williams R, Campbell K, Schuetz M, Rick Hansen Institute)

  A Phase III Prospective, randomized, double-blind and placebo controlled multicentre trial to assess the efficacy of intravenous minocycline in improving neurological and functional outcome after acute traumatic non-penetrating SCI.

• **Minocycline Clinical Trial**  
  (Schuetz, Atresh, Urquhart, Campbell, Jacobson)

  Minocycline in Acute Spinal Cord Injury is a Phase III, prospective, randomised, double blind, placebo controlled multicentre four year trial. Patients are recruited and followed up at set intervals to assess outcome. Run in collaboration with the Rick Hansen Foundation, Canada and funded through Queensland’s Smart State ‘National and International Research Alliances Program’.

• **MK-3475 versus SOC in 1L subjects with PD-L1 Strong Metastatic NSCLC**  
  (O’Byrne K, Hui R)

  This is a multicenter, international, randomized, open label, controlled trial of intravenous MK-3475 monotherapy versus the choice of five different standard of care platinum based chemotherapies in subjects previously untreated for their stage IV, PD-L1 strong, nonsmall cell lung cancer. Approximately 300 subjects will be enrolled.

• **Modified conservative management with external rotation bracing versus early arthroscopic surgical intervention amongst young people with primary anterior shoulder dislocation: a randomised controlled trial**  
- Multicentre Australian risk algorithm to predict heart failure readmission  
  (Stanton T)
  This study seeks to prospectively study heart failure admissions to combine the retrospective knowledge derived from data linkage and the risk algorithm (above) to devise a new means of developing a heart failure disease-management program calibrated to risk assessment. To evaluate the cost-effectiveness of this intervention.

  An individualised multi-intervention approach to management of hypertonicity post stroke and TBI positively impact patient’s pain, ROM, and function as measured by the GAS.

- NEAT Study  
  (Mudge D, Sudak J, Harper J, Pavilion G)
  Novel Endovascular Access Trial - A prospective, international trial of the FLEX system for endovascular dialysis fistula creation.

- Neck fractures in the elderly: the Princess Alexandra Hospital experience from December 2011 to December 2013  
  (Galbo M, Peel N, Schuetz M, Varghese P)
  The aims of this study is to provide a descriptive retrospective analysis on elderly patients aged 65 years and over who were admitted to Princess Alexandra Hospital with the principal diagnosis of cervical spine fracture from when the Spinal Trauma database was created in December 2011 up to December 2013.

- New housing futures: Understanding the housing preferences of younger Australian adults with complex disabilities  
  (Wright C, Muenchberger H, Whitty J)
  An exploratory analysis of housing preferences from the perspective of consumers and their allies. The aim is to systematically identify housing characteristics conducive to health and important to consumers with brain injury, spinal cord injury, Multiple Sclerosis and Cerebral Palsy, their families and paid carers, to guide future residential design and development decisions.

- Nurse Practice Assessment of Patient Sleep in ICU (APSICU)  
  (Aitken L, Elliot R, Mitchell M)
  The purpose of this study is to investigate the feasibility of patients reporting their sleep quality and quantity using the Richards-Campbell Sleep Questionnaire (RCSQ) while in ICU. It will be important to determine if feasibility is different for intubated, ventilated patients compared to non-intubated patients.

- Nutrition and Dietetics MCC validation  
  (Steiber A, Hand R, Murphy W, Skipper A, Ferguson M, Rossi M)
  The purpose of this project is to determine reliable and valid characteristics for diagnosing malnutrition (including number of characteristics and cutoff values). This project aims to establish the validity of the clinical characteristics outlined by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics/ASPEN joint consensus statement in an acute care setting.

- Nutrition support in COPD  
  (Sharp S, Conway V, Collins P, Ferguson M, Hukins C, Stack A)
  The aim of this project is to evaluate the effectiveness of enhanced nutrition and dietetic care in improving clinical and patient-centred outcomes in COPD outpatients at nutritional risk. A sample of 100 outpatients with stable COPD identified at nutritional risk will be recruited across Metro South Health and Hospital Services.

- Overcoming language barriers in healthcare settings: towards safe and effective communication when patients or health practitioners use a second language  
  (Meuter R, Gallois C, Ryder A, Segalowitz N)
  This study aims to document language-discrepant communication and language congruent communication and produce a corpus of authentic patient-clinician communication to be analysed using both qualitative methods and computer-based automatic analyses of communication flow. This is a field study, based in four hospital sites in Metro South Health.

- Overtreatment of breast cancers in Queensland  
  (McCarthy A, Harden H, Zarate D, Walpole E)
• **Parenteral Nutrition Audit**  
*Pang S, Ali A, Lake C, Martin N, Kutyla M*  
Parenteral Nutrition (PN) refers to the infusion of an intravenous nutrition formula into the bloodstream and is necessary when it is not possible to meet a patient’s nutritional requirements via the enteral or oral route. The aim of this audit is to examine and describe PN and HPN delivery with respect to meeting nutritional adequacy, cost effectiveness and efficient transitioning from PN to oral intake.

• **Pathophysiology of functional dyspepsia**  
*Koloski N, Holtmann G*  
Functional dyspepsia affects a considerable proportion of Australians and results in significant personal and economic cost. There is as yet no cure for this condition. New insights into the pathophysiology of functional dyspepsia have found that activation of the immune system may be important. To understand this further we aim to study the immune system, upper gut function (sensory & motor function) and symptoms in healthy controls and patients with functional dyspepsia. In addition recent evidence suggests that the intestinal microbiome may play a critical role in inflammation of the stomach but to date this has not been properly investigated in people with functional dyspepsia. This study will greatly help us to understand the underlying causes of functional dyspepsia which may help pave the way for the future cure of the disease.

• **Pathways from genotype and environment to melanoma**  
*Hayward N, Barbour A, Schmidt C, Smithers BM*  
The primary aim is to update survival and clinical information to relate the disease course to characteristics of melanoma at first diagnosis (e.g. level, thickness, site), as well as to genetic (e.g. p16, MCI1 polymorphisms) and environmental (e.g. childhood sun exposure) risk factor information.

• **Perceptions of telephone-delivered weight loss services**  
*Whelan M, Goode AD, Hickman IJ, Eakin EG, Reeves MM*  
Providing effective weight management services to the growing number of hospital patients who are overweight or obese necessitates long-term service provision. The aim of this study is to examine among key health care decision-makers the awareness and suitability of telephone-delivered lifestyle programs for referral of hospital outpatients for weight management.

• **Phase I/II open-label clinical trial of autologous EBV-specific T cell therapy as consolidative treatment following chemotherapy for metastatic EBV-associated nasopharyngeal carcinoma**  
*Khanna R, Panizza B, Porceddu S, McGrath M, Kwong D, Nicholls J, Tsang J*  
Aim: Evaluate the safety and efficacy of a combined treatment based on chemotherapy in combination with autologous Epstein–Barr virus (EBV)-specific T cell therapy for metastatic nasopharyngeal carcinoma (NPC). To explore the immunological biomarkers of a clinical response (including functional T cell memory) or resistance to autologous EBV-specific T cell therapy.

• **PHI113633**  
The aim of this study is to evaluate the dose-response relationship of GSK1278863 over the first 4 weeks of treatment and evaluate the safety and efficacy of GSK1278863 over 24 weeks to maintain hemoglobin (Hgb) level in haemodialysis-dependent (HDD) patients with anaemia associated with chronic kidney disease (CKD) who are switched from a stable dose of recombinant human erythropoietin (rEPO).

• **Pilot study of deprescribing in a cohort of older hospitalised patients**  
*Chung E*  
A prospective study of the effects of the application of a deprescribing protocol on the numbers of regularly prescribed medications at discharge of patients who were receiving 8 or more chronic medications on admission.

• **PLUS 1 Trial**  
*Chung E*  
To confirm the efficacy of PRX302 in reducing lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS) in patients with benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) and confirm the safety in this patient population. This is a Phase III study of the efficacy and safety of a intraprostatic injection of PRX302 using transrectal ultrasound (TRUS) in reducing LUTS in patients with BPH.

• **Point Prevalence Program**  
*Joyce C*  
The Point Prevalence Program is a unique collaborative program of coordinated observational research across Australian and New Zealand adult and paediatric intensive care units, and was established in 2009 by the ANZICS Clinical Trials Group in partnership with The George Institute. The program aims to facilitate research characterising ICU patient populations and aspects of current clinical practice and management.
PO-003909 / Pomalidomide Access Project

(Mollee P)

“Real world” Review of Efficacy and Safety of Pomalidomide in Australian Patients with Relapsed Refractory Myeloma.

Predicting outcomes in older adults admitted to ICU


Conducted in collaboration with colleagues at the Gold Coast University Hospital the aim of this study is to determine the feasibility of data linkage from multiple databases and to compare the differences in predictors of death and complications for critically ill adults aged above and below 65 years.

Predictors of treatment outcome in alcohol dependence

(Gullo M, Connor JP, Feeney GFX, Young RMcD)

This project aims to identify modifiable patient characteristics that are associated with more favourable treatment responses. It draws on a large clinical database of patients previous treated at the Alcohol and Drug Assessment Unit (ADAU). Findings will be incorporated into psychological and pharmacological treatment approaches for alcohol dependence.

Pre-post determination of effect of oncogeriatric assessment and intervention on chemotherapy outcomes in solid cancer patients aged 70 years and over


The aim of this study is to establish the capacity of the PAH Model of Oncogeriatric Care to optimise chemotherapy outcomes in older patients with solid tumours. We will compare chemotherapy outcome data relating to two cohorts—one prior to the implementation of the Model (2011-2012), the second cohort following implementation of the Model (2013-2014).

Prevalence of the pregnane X gene polymorphism NR1I2 8055T in renal transplant recipients with significant BK viraemia and/or BK nephropathy

(Kennard A, Isbel N, Barracough K, O'Shea S)

This study will seek to validate a previous finding that this polymorphism is associated with increased risk of BK viraemia in renal transplant recipients.

QB46C-H01 - A phase I/II dose-escalation study of intratumoural injection of EBC-46 in patients with refractory cutaneous solid tumours and/or cutaneous eroding mucosal tumours

(Panizza B, et al)

To evaluate the tolerability of EBC-46 (a rainforest derived, novel, highly potent, short-chain diterpene ester) in patients, and assessing plasma pharmacokinetics and tumour response - an open-label, non-randomized, dose-escalation study.

QUALIFY Study

(Korczyk, D)

Registry of heart failure patients to collect follow-up care over a 3 year period.

Queensland airways registry

(McNeill I, Eley R)

Better procedural knowledge is required for safe and effective intubation. A study in NSW prompted significant changes of the practice, and increased educational focus on junior doctors. This study will build on that evidence, and has an objective of design and implementation of new practice strategies to improve patient care.

Radiotherapy alone versus chemoradiation in adjuvant treatment of high-intermediate and high risk endometrial cancer: a retrospective, multi-institution analysis

(Sim E, Daly T)

High-intermediate and high risk endometrial cancer is adjuvantly treated with either radiotherapy alone or chemoradiation. We will retrospectively review the records of patients with high-intermediate to high risk endometrial cancer to compare patient characteristics and outcomes in these patients.

Referrals study

(Lawrence S, Spencer L)

This project aimed to identify the desirable and undesirable features in current referral practices including essential components of a best referral, and to determine strategies to improve practice. Findings showed that improving communication skills will improve patient outcomes, enhance clinician satisfaction, and reduce patient harm associated with delayed transitions through the ED.

Renal vein renin ratios and renovascular hypertension

(Stowasser M, Gordon R, Goupil R, Wolley M)

This study is to assess the utility of renal venous renin (RVR) studies, performed under optimal, highly standardized conditions, in the selection of patients with renal artery stenosis for angioplasty. A positive stimulated (by captopril or enalapril) RVR ratio was independently predictive of a beneficial BP response to angioplasty.

Retrospective analysis that seeks to provide evidence around the efficiency of the ortho-geriatric model of care

(Cooke C, Lynch G, Massey D, Shaban R)

The purpose of this research study is to document the development and introduction of an ortho geriatric model of care for the management of patients presenting with fragility hip fracture in the orthopaedic unit at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.
• Retrospective study of stable haemodialysis patients switched from darbepoetin Alfa to epoetin Alfa biosimilar
  (Mudge D, Gray N, Healy H, Hawley C, Ratanjee S)
  This study is a retrospective chart review designed to capture data on haemodialysis patients switched from darbepoetin alfa to biosimilar epoetin beta, to allow assessment of real-life switching.

• Returning to regional, rural and remote communities following spinal cord injury: an ecological investigation to inform policy and service delivery
  (Kendall M, Hinchy K, Booth S)
  This study aims to explore the issues that individuals with spinal cord injury, their families and community service providers face when they return to live in regional, rural or remote settings after receiving transitional rehabilitation in an urban setting.

• Review of bisphosphonate-related atypical femoral fractures
  (Ling J, Bell K, Cooke C, Inder W, Kennedy D)
  Bisphosphonates are a commonly used class of medication to treat osteoporosis, but prolonged use may be associated with fractures of the thigh bone (femur) known as atypical fractures. The aim of this study is to review patients with femoral fracture to determine how common bisphosphonate-related atypical fractures are, how often they are recognised and how they are treated

• Risk of febrile neutropenia with TC and TCH Protocols
  (Gilbar P, McCaffrey E)
  Multi-centre retrospective study of patients treated with TC and TCH protocols. The study will be conducted at four Cancer Centres using the CHARM (Oncology Information Management System) database. These centres are situated at Toowoomba, Princess Alexandra, Gold Coast and Nambour hospitals.

• Safety scores and sharps injuries to staff at the Princess Alexandra Hospital
  (Sinnott M, Eley R, Hughes J, Spencer L)
  This research project is designed to demonstrate the feasibility of a novel approach to fast tracking change in clinical practice, specifically incorporating Safety Scores with staff sharps injuries, into the formal hospital accreditation process and departmental quality processes with the aim to improve staff safety and patient safety.

• Sapphire
  (Colosimo M, Cuff K, McCaffrey E)
  This study is designed to assess the safety, tolerability, and efficacy of a combination therapy of pertuzumab given intravenously, trastuzumab given subcutaneously and taxane based chemotherapy (docetaxel, paclitaxel, or nab-paclitaxel) of the investigator’s choice as first-line therapy in patients with HER2-positive, which promotes the growth of cancer cells metastatic breast cancer.

• SHADE
  (Mudge D, King A)
  Retrospective study of stable haemodialysis patients switched from darbepoetin alfa to epoetin alfa biosimilar.

• Short-course XRT for prostate cancer
  (Gogna K, Bettington C, Lehman M, Hickey B, Holt T)
  This study aims to prospectively evaluate the palliative benefit of a split course of pelvic radiotherapy in patients with prostate cancer whose disease is no longer responding to hormone therapy. The primary aim of the study will be to assess the effect of split-course pelvic radiotherapy on bowel and bladder related quality of life using a validated quality of life tool.

• SIROCCO: Study of benralizumab (MEDI563) added to high dose inhaled corticosteroid plus long acting β2 agonist in patients with uncontrolled asthma
  (Upham J)
  This is a multicentre, randomised, doubleblind, parallel group, placebo controlled Phase III efficacy and safety study to investigate the effect of two dosing regimens of Benralizumab in treating patients with uncontrolled asthma.

• Skin cancer in CLL
  (Mapp S)
  We want to better understand why patients with CLL are more likely to develop skin cancers and why their skin cancers are harder to treat. We would look at patients who have been treated for both CLL and skin cancer at Princess Alexandra Hospital and try to determine what patient factors increase the likelihood of skin cancer.

• Sodium intake and fluid control study
  (Campbell K, Rossi M)
  This is a prospective, historical-control study undertaken in collaboration with the Dietetics Practice Based Research Network, Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (USA). This study will determine the impact of tailored nutrition education on fluid gain between dialysis and knowledge of sodium containing foods and motivation to reduce intake of these foods.
• **SOT CMV Vaccine Study**  
  (Campbell S, Isbel N, Francis R, King A)  
  This study aims to test a DNA vaccine for the prevention of CMV infection in kidney transplant recipients at high risk for CMV.

• **Speech pathology involvement in post-acute outreach services for people with spinal cord injury living in the community: A needs analysis**  
  (Ward E, Jarman L, Cornwell P, Amsters D)  
  The aim of this study was to quantify and qualify the speech and communication function of individuals with SCI living in the community and to explore the impact of these deficits on levels of communication activity and participation.

• **SPICE: Sedation Practice in Intensive Care Evaluation**  
  (Venkatesh B, Walsham J)  
  The primary aim of The SPICE study is to determine whether Early Goal-Directed Sedation, compared to standard care sedation, reduces 90-day mortality in critically ill patients who are expected to require mechanical ventilation for longer than 24 hours.

• **Stainless steel versus titanium multi-axial locking plates for fixation of distal radius fractures: a randomised trial**  
  (Ross M, Cutbush K, Frederiksen S, Couzens G, Peters S)

• **Study evaluating the efficacy and safety of abp 215 compared with bevacizumab in subjects with advanced non-small cell lung cancer**  
  (McCaffrey E, McGrath M)  
  This is a randomized, double-blind, active-controlled study in adult patients with non-small cell lung cancer receiving first-line chemotherapy with carboplatin and paclitaxel. The primary objective for this study is to compare the efficacy of the investigational agent ABP 215 with bevacizumab.

• **Study evaluating the efficacy and safety of Eltrombopag (Revolade) in patients with early refractory Immune thrombocytopenia within 6 months of diagnosis**  
  (Bird R)  
  Personal experience provided by doctors who have used this medication indicate that as well as being effective in treating patients with chronic severe ITP, it might also be effective when treating patients in the earlier stages of ITP when initial steroid therapy is no longer adequately working.

• **Study evaluating the safety and tolerability of GDC-0853 in patients with relapsed or refractory b-cell non-hodgkin’s lymphoma and chronic lymphocytic leukaemia**  
  (Marlton P)  
  The primary objectives of this study are to evaluate the safety and tolerability of GDC-0853 administered orally to patients with NHL or CLL and to determine the maximum tolerated dose and characterize the dose-limiting toxicities of GDC-0853 when administered orally to patients with relapsed or refractory NHL or CLL.

• **Study in relapsed/refractory patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia to evaluate the benefit of GDC-0199 (ABT-199) plus rituximab compared with bendamustine plus rituximab**  
  (Marlton P)  
  The purpose of this study is to test the effects, good and bad, of the combination of GDC-0199 with rituximab versus a standard treatment regimen, bendamustine plus rituximab, on participants with relapsed or refractory CLL to find out which combination is most effective.

• **Study of BB1608 and best supportive care versus placebo and best supportive care in patients with pretreated advanced colorectal carcinoma**  
  (Cuff K, Joubert W)  
  The purpose of this study is to investigate if a new drug, BB1608 in combination with best supportive care is an effective treatment for people with cancer of the colon or rectum (colorectal cancer), who have progressed after treatment with standard chemotherapy, compared to best supportive care alone.

• **Study of mpd13280a in patients with pd-l1-positive locally advanced or metastatic non small cell lung cancer**  
  (O’Byrne K, McCaffrey E, McGrath M)  
  The purpose of this study is to look at the effects, good or bad, of MPDL3280A in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). Follow-up for survival will continue.

• **Study of oral LDK378 versus standard chemotherapy in previously untreated adult patients with ALK rearranged (ALK-positive), stage IIIB or IV, non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer**  
  (O’Byrne K, John T, McCaffrey E, McGrath M)  
  The primary objective is to compare the antitumor activity of LDK378 versus reference chemotherapy, as measured by progression free survival determined by a Blinded Independent Review Committee (BIRC). The key secondary objective is to compare overall survival in patients treated with LDK378 versus reference chemotherapy.
• Study of pf-06463922 (an alk/ros1 tyrosine kinase inhibitor) in patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer harboring specific molecular alterations
  (O’Byrne K, McCaffrey E, McGrath M)
  Non-small cell lung cancer that is anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK)-positive or c-ROS oncogene-1 (ROS1)-positive means that certain genes have been altered, and these gene alterations are associated with the participant’s cancer. The purpose of this research study is to learn about the effects of and to find the best dose of the study drug, PF-06463922.

• Study of Quizartinib (AC220) monotherapy vs salvage chemotherapy in subjects with FLT3-ITD positive AML refractory to or relapsed after first-line treatment +/- Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant Consolidation (AC220-007)
  The main objective of the study is to determine whether quizartinib monotherapy prolongs overall survival compared to salvage chemotherapy.

• Study to assess the safety and efficacy of the oral combination of LDE225 and INC424 (Ruxolitinib) in patients with myelofibrosis
  (Marlton P)
  The purpose of this phase Ib/II clinical trial is to: a) evaluate the safety of the co-administration of LDE225 and INC424 in myelofibrosis patients and establish a maximum tolerated dose and/or Recommended Phase II dose of the combination and b) to assess the efficacy of the co-administration of LDE225 and INC424 on spleen volume reduction.

• Study to evaluate single intravenous dose of Tocilizumab for the treatment for allergen-induced asthma
  (Ferreira M, Upham J)
  This is a double-blind, placebo-controlled trial to evaluate the efficacy of a drug (tocilizumab) that blocks the interleukin-6 receptor for the treatment of allergen-induced asthma.

• Study to investigate the long-term safety and efficacy of sodium zirconium cyclosilicate in subjects with hyperkalaemia
  (Mudge D, Badve S, Campbell S, Fahim M, Francis R, Hawley C, Isbel N, Johnson D, VanEps C)
  The aim of the project is to generate up to 12 months of safety and tolerability data for Sodium Zirconium Cyclosilicate (2S) an oral sorbent, in subjects with hyperkalemia. Hyperkalemia develops when there is excessive production (oral intake, tissue breakdown) or insufficient elimination of potassium in the body. The study is a multi centre, multi-dose, open label, long term, maintenance study.

• T4DM - NSW and Vic Ethics Submission (CRGH)
  (Inder W)
  This is an NHMRC-funded multicentre randomised controlled trial of testosterone vs placebo, plus lifestyle intervention in patients with glucose intolerance or early type 2 diabetes. PAH is the only Queensland site, and this was the subject of a Channel 9 news item in January 2015.

• TAPAS Study: A-9B-52030-265
  (Inder W)
  This is a multi-centre observational study regarding the use of the somatostatin analog lanreotide autogel for the treatment of acromegaly. In particular we are examining whether the growth hormone and IGF-1 response to the first injection at 4 weeks is predictive of longer term response.

• T cell therapy for CMV disease
  (Campbell S, Khanna R, Francis R, Isbel N)
  This study aims to test a novel therapeutic strategy for patients with severe or difficult to treat CMV infection after solid organ transplantation. The patient’s own T lymphocytes are expanded in the laboratory and infused back into the patient to fight the infection.

• Tecemotide versus placebo in subjects with completed concurrent chemo-radiotherapy for unresectable stage III non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)
  (O’Byrne K, McCaffrey E, McGrath M)
  A multi-centre, randomised, double-blind placebo-controlled study in patients with unresectable stage III NSCLC who have demonstrated either stable disease or objective response following primary concurrent chemo-radiotherapy.

• Testing strategies to improve breathlessness and related symptoms in people with cancer
  Breathlessness (or dyspnoea) is a distressing symptom experienced by cancer patients. This study aims to pilot test the feasibility and effectiveness of a multicomponent non-pharmacological intervention in improving cancer patients’ ability to manage breathlessness and symptoms commonly associated with breathlessness.
- **TESTING Study**  
  (Johnson D, Sudak J, Hawley C)  
  This multi-centre, multi-national randomised controlled trial aims to evaluate the effects of steroid therapy versus standard blood pressure treatment on kidney failure progression in patients with chronic kidney disease due to IgA nephropathy.

- **The BALANCED Anaesthesia Study**  
  (Sivalingam P, Wilkes T)  
  International multicentre prospective, randomised clinical trial of two levels of anaesthetic depth on patient outcome after major surgery.

- **The development of a clinical decision-making framework for image-guided radiotherapy (IGRT)**  
  (Hargrave C, Poulson M, Deegan T, Moores M, Harden F, Mengersen K)  
  This study aims to determine an image feature alignment score for IGRT, using survey data to establish consensus of practice and retrospective clinical data. The score is being developed for a QUT PhD project investigating the application of a Bayesian Network to model clinical IGRT decision-making processes.

- **The efficacy of telehealth for delivery and sustainability of community rehabilitation programs for adults with Acquired Brain Injury in Queensland**  
  (Turner B, Kennedy A, Kendall M, Smith A)  
  The study aims to examine the efficacy of home-based telehealth technology in delivering the 6-week STEPS Skills Program to adults with ABI and their families in rural and remote communities and to examine the efficacy of home based telehealth technology for the ongoing training of the STEPS peer-professional workforce.

- **The Effectiveness of radiotherapists delineating ear anatomy**  
  (Truswell P, Burmeister B, Foote M, Harden F, Owen R)  
  This study aims to address accuracy challenges related to contouring hearing structures on a radiotherapy treatment planning scan. A detailed audiology organ atlas will be developed and validated in a historical cohort study. This study is an extension of a larger project aimed at determining the impact of cisplatin-based chemoradiation on sensorineural hearing loss in patients with head and neck cancer.

- **The FAVOURED Trial**  
  (Mudge D, Coburn A, Hawley C)  
  A randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, factorial-design trial to assess the effect of aspirin and fish oil (omega-3 fatty acids) in the prevention of early thrombosis in arterio-venous fistulae in patients with Stage IV or V chronic kidney disease requiring haemodialysis. (Australasian Kidney Trials Network)

- **The Fibrin Pad CV Phase III Study**  
  (Lo W, Ura M)  
  The purpose of this study is to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of a haemostatic product (used to stop bleeding) called EVARRESTTM Fibrin Sealant Patch during surgery.

- **The Frailty Index in Chronic Kidney Disease Study (FI-CKD)**  
  (Hubbard R, Chowdhury R)  
  Older people in hospital are at high risk of adverse outcomes, commonly referred to as frailty. These problems can be coded as deficits, summed and divided by the total number of potential problems to derive a frailty index (FI) score. This project focuses on the measurement of FI in patients with chronic kidney disease.

- **The Men’s Wellness Program: A structured health promotion program for men treated for prostate cancer**  
  (McCarthy A)

- **The PEXIVAS Trial**  
  (Mudge D, Leary D)  
  Plasma exchange and glucocorticoid dosing in the treatment of anti-neutrophil cytoplasm antibody associated vasculitic: an international randomised controlled trial. (Australasian Kidney Trials Network)

- **The RELIEF Trial: REstrictive versus LIbEral Fluid therapy in major abdominal surgery**  
  (Sivalingam P, Moser B)  
  Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists Trials Group (ANZCA TG), and the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society Clinical Trials Group (ANZICS CTG)

- **The role of dendritic cells in rheumatoid arthritis**  
  (Thomas R, Pahau H)  
  The purpose of this study is to understand how cells of the immune system in the blood get activated, how they control the immune system and what they do once activated. The project involves studying immune cells of the blood in patients with rheumatoid arthritis (RA), healthy controls and first degree relatives of patients with RA.

- **Thrombospondin-1 – a potential biomarker of glucocorticoid action**  
  (Inder W, Prins J, Whitehead J, Barclay J)  
  This investigator-initiated study is exploring the utility of a matricellular protein called thrombospondin-1 (TSP-1) as a biomarker of glucocorticoid action. Preliminary data shows this protein to be glucocorticoid responsive. Subject of an NHMRC project grant application for commencement in 2015.
• **TIGRIS Study**  
  (Garrahy, P)  
  Registry of acute coronary syndrome patients to collect follow-up care over a 3 year period.

• **Tissue microarray analysis of oropharyngeal SCC tumour specimens**  
  (Panizza B, Hawarden B)  
  Aim: To detect biomarkers of genomic instability in tumour specimens and correlate with clinical outcomes for patients diagnosed with oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma. Examine the response of biomarkers of genomic instability in tumour specimens to different treatment modalities for oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma.

• **TPM3**  
  (Cameron H, Barbour A, Hayward N)  
  The purpose of the study is to screen metastatic melanoma biopsies for known drug-targetable genetic mutations, to determine if metastatic melanoma biopsies have activating mutations potentially amenable to non-standard TGA-approved chemotherapeutic agents, and to validate candidate melanoma driver genes in vitro and/or in vivo.

• **TRANSFUSE**  
  (Kruger P)  
  TRANSFUSE is a multicentre double blind interventional trial looking at the impact of transfusing freshest available versus standard of care blood on mortality at 90 days.

• **TRA117260 / SPRITE**  
  (Bird R)  
  A Multicentre, Single Arm, Open-Label Study Evaluating the Efficacy and Safety of Eltrombopag (Revolade™) in Patients with Early Refractory Immune Thrombocytopenia within 6 months of Diagnosis.

• **Treatment of ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS)**  
  (Harden H, Dunn N, Moore J, Walpole E)  
  This is a retrospective population-based study of women who were diagnosed with non-invasive breast cancers known as ductal carcinoma in-situ (DCIS). This study aims to determine whether these women were over-treated by examining their patterns of treatment relative to their age at diagnosis and their cancer’s potential to become invasive as measured by its histological grade.

• **Understanding patients’ perceptions and experiences of eating and mealtimes during hospitalisation**  
  (Hope K, Ferguson M, Agarwal E)  
  Inadequate food intake during hospitalisation has been associated with increased risk of in-hospital mortality. This qualitative study aimed to investigate hospital patients’ perspectives of food intake and mealtimes; and explore factors that affect food intake in patients who have poor intake during hospitalisation.

• **Understanding the family members’ changing needs and experiences of driving disruption following a moderate to severe acquired brain injury**  
  (Liang P, Fleming J, Gustafsson L, Liddle J, Griffin J)  
  This PhD project uses a mixed methods approach to investigate the impact on family members of caring for a person with acquired brain injury who does not have medical clearance to drive, with the aim of developing appropriate supports to address unmet needs.

• **Understanding Trust Formation and Development in Telemedicine**  
  (Green T, Gillespie N, Hartley N, Smith A)  
  This research understands how service providers experience physical separation from patients via computer-mediated communication technologies. Across a variety of clinical specialties using telemedicine in public and private practice, interviews with clinicians and ethnographic observations of telehealth clinics were conducted across paediatric and adult healthcare, to examine how clinicians establish trust virtually with patients.

• **Undiagnosed Pancreatic Exocrine Insufficiency and Chronic Pancreatitis in Functional GI patients with chronic diarrhoea, abdominal pain or IBSD**  
  (Holtmann G, Koloski NA)  
  The study aims to determine the prevalence and risk factors associated with pancreatic exocrine insufficiency or chronic pancreatitis in 500 patients presenting with chronic unexplained symptoms of diarrhoea and/or abdominal pain across several centres in Australia utilising questionnaire data, stool and blood tests and imaging techniques.

• **Use of glycated haemoglobin (HbA1c) for diagnosis of type 2 diabetes in patients presenting with acute myocardial infarction**  
  (Ng A)  
  In the present study, we plan to determine the correlation between HbA1c and the size of the heart attack. A positive association between HbA1c and infarct size may potentially change the clinical management of patients (e.g. more intensive up-titration of medications and rehabilitation).
• Use of surgical and radiology checklists in Australian hospitals: uptake, barriers and enablers
  The aims of the study are to measure the proportion of surgical and interventional radiology procedures for which the checklist was used and ascertain whether actual checklist use in practice complies with policy. To investigate the experiences of checklist implementation in a sample of hospitals where the checklists have been implemented.

• Using an existing de-identified data set to predict alcohol dependence treatment outcome
  (Connor JP, Feeney GFX, Gullo MJ, Young RMcD)
  Improving knowledge of which factors contribute to improved treatment outcomes in addiction treatment, will improve targeted therapeutic approaches. This project applies powerful, non-linear modelling techniques to more accurately evaluate the complex factors contributing to treatment response.

• Using social networks analysis and community asset mapping
  (Kendall M, Amsters D, Nance J, Kuipers P, Schuurs S)
  This study aims to explore the utility of two methodologies, namely Social Networks Analysis (SNA) and Community Asset Mapping (CAM) as tools to assist community rehabilitation, particularly in rural or regional locations.

• Utilisation and impact of environmental control units on quality of life of people with tetraplegia
  (Myburg M, Allan E, Schuurs S, Amsters D)
  The aims of this study were to determine the degree of utilisation of environmental control units amongst a sample of people with tetraplegia, determine impacts upon quality of life, and, to identify barriers and limitations to use which may result in underutilisation of the devices.

• Utilisation of nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) with a hospital pharmacist initiated smoking-cessation intervention- A randomized controlled trial
  (Gupta D, Upham J, Winckel K, Burrows J, Ross J)

• Vector-model-based case retrieval approach for improving and expediting optimization in intensity modulated radiotherapy
  (Liu SF, Chan L, Lehman M)
  Previously IMRT/VMAT cases were used to establish the vector model’s reference database. The planning time can be shortened without loss of plan quality if the planner pre-populates planning parameters by selecting a similar case from a database of previously planned cases. The selection is based on geometric similarities.

• VIBE Study
  (Stowasser M, Cowley D, Wolley M)
  This study is examining the safety and efficacy of a novel device intended to lower blood pressure in patients with hypertension by transmitting vibroacoustic energy to the carotid baroreceptors via the clavicles.

• Why do people keep hurting their back?
  (Hodges P, O’Leary S)
  Persistence and recurrence of low back pain (LBP) presentations are generally agreed to have biological, psychological and social components. Most argue that psychological and social factors are the best predictors of longterm outcome. It is our contention that biological factors contribute to persistence/recurrence of LBP, and these factors interact with psychological and social factors.

• ZS-004E
  (Mudge D, Leary D)
  A phase 3 multicentre, multi-phase, multi-dose, prospective, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled maintenance study to investigate the safety and efficacy of ZS (microporous, fractionated, protonated zirconium silicate), an oral sorbent, in subjects with hyperkalemia.

• ZS-005
  (Mudge D, Leary D)
  A phase 3 multi-centre, multi-phase, multi-dose open label maintenance study to investigate the safety and efficacy of ZS (sodium zirconium cyclosilicate), an oral sorbent, in subjects with hyperkalaemia.

• ZS in hyperkalaemia
  (Mudge D)
  The aim of this project is to demonstrate that ZS is safe and effective in treating patients with a high level of potassium (K+) in their blood.

• 3D RIO
  (Bridge P, Fielding A, Pullar A, Rowntree P)
  For radiation therapy to be successfully targeted to tumour cells without damaging sensitive normal tissue, it is necessary to determine the optimal treatment plan. This project aims to develop and evaluate software to improve the method used to delineate radiotherapy target structures by using 3D visualisation techniques.
Journal Articles


• Armfield NR, Edirippulige SK, Bradford N, Smith AC. Telemedicine—is the cart being put before the horse? The Medical journal of Australia. 2014 May 19;200(9):530-3. Epub 2014/05/20.


• Baines J, Sim L. The variation of HVL with focal spot to chamber distance as a function of beam quality for the Pantak Therapax 150 X-ray unit and the implications on dose to water determination using the iPEMB code of practice. Australasian physical & engineering sciences in medicine / supported by the Australasian College of Physical Scientists in Medicine and the Australasian Association of Physical Sciences in Medicine. 2014 Sep;37(3):559-66. Epub 2014/08/19.


Bennett NC, Hooper JD, Johnson DW, Gobe GC. Expression profiles and functional associations of endogenous androgen receptor and caveolin-1 in prostate cancer cell lines. The Prostate. 2014 May;74(5):478-87. Epub 2014/01/01.


• Carrington CV, Lo A, Marler-Baxter B. The Evaluation of Clinical Pharmacy Services in An Ambulatory Cancer Day Care Unit. 2014.


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05 Clinical Research, Publications, Major Grants & People


• Flannery AH, Kruger PS. POINT: should patients receiving statins prior to ICU admission be continued on statin therapy? Yes. Chest. 2014 Dec;146(6):1431-3. Epub 2014/12/03.


• Haluska B, Stanton T, Holliday J, Mclellan S, Marwick T, editors. A family history of premature cardiovascular disease is independently associated with increased carotid intima-media thickness. European Heart Journal; 2014.


• Harrop DL, Wang WY, Ng AC. Pathophysiology and imaging techniques of diabetic heart disease.


• Mudge DW, Webster AC. Erythropoiesis-stimulating agents for anaemia in chronic kidney disease: Are they all the same? The Cochrane database of systematic reviews. 2014;12:ED000093. Epub 2015/01/01.


• Sandhu G, Korell J, Mapp S, Carrington C. Punching Above the Weight-High-Dose Methotrexate Chemotherapy in Extremes of Body Size. 2014.


• Schmidt JF, Ownsworth T, Lannin N. Maintenance of treatment effects of an occupation-based intervention with video feedback for adults with TBI. NeuroRehabilitation. In Press.


• Winckel K, Percival M. In defence of Metformin. Australian Pharmacist. 2014;33(2).


Youlden DR, Youl PH, Soyer HP, Aitken JF, Baade PD. Distribution of subsequent primary invasive melanomas following a first primary invasive or in situ melanoma Queensland, Australia, 1982-2010. JAMA dermatology. 2014 May;150(5):526-34. Epub 2014/08/06.


Books & Book Chapters


Conference abstracts


• McPhail SM. 2014. Obesity and comorbid risk factors for cardiovascular disease among physically inactive patients with musculoskeletal disorders: A targeted intervention for this priority patient group is warranted. World Congress of Cardiology, Melbourne. 4-7 May 2014. Global Heart 9(1):e303

• McPhail SM, Kuys S, Varghese P. 2014. Functional independence following subacute inpatient rehabilitation was not affected by age among older patients recovering from cardiac-related hospital admissions. World Congress of Cardiology, Melbourne. 4-7 May 2014. Global Heart 9(1):e160


• Ng KL, Wood ST, Ding JC, Jayasuriya TS, Vesey DA, Gobe GC, Morais C. 2014. Decreasing apoptosis repressor with caspase recruitment domain (ARC) is associated with disease progression and drug resistance of renal cell carcinoma. USANZ 67th Annual Scientific Meeting: Brisbane, Australia. March 2014. BJU Int 2014 113(S4): A104


• Rai D, Pratap J, Coucher J. 2014. Differentiating renal masses as cystic or solid using dual energy computed tomography (DECT) scanning. Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists ASM. 4-7 September 2014. Journal of Medical Imaging and Radiation Oncology 58(S1):300


• Shay F, Walsh M. 2014. Interventional sclerotherapy in paediatric patients from effectiveness of treatments, sclerosing agents, complications and lymphangioma types: A 5-year evaluation. Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists ASM. 4-7 September 2014. Journal of Medical Imaging and Radiation Oncology 58(S1):181


Major Grants

All Grants By group Over $50k. Sorted from MOST to LEAST in each category: AMOUNTS AWARDED IN 2014

- **Princess Alexandra Hospital Research Support Scheme (PARSS)**
  - **$500,000**
    - PA Research Foundation, Dermatology Research

- **$150,000**
  - PA Research Support Scheme, Novel pharmacological treatments for obesity and diabetes for people with schizophrenia managed on clozapine (Siskind D, Russell A, Kisely S, Winckel K)

- **$150,000**
  - PA Research Support Scheme, Novel pharmacological treatments for obesity and diabetes for people with schizophrenia managed on clozapine (Siskind D, Russell A, Kisely S, Winckel K)

- **$144,000**
  - Postgraduate Scholarship, Clinical and genetic aspects of distal renal tubular regulation of sodium balance and blood pressure (Wolley M)

- **$129,000**
  - Postgraduate Scholarship, Impact and effectiveness of communication partner training delivered face-to-face and via telehealth in people with aphasia (Cameron A)

- **$129,000**
  - Postgraduate Scholarship, Social inclusion and mental health service provision (Hickey P)

- **$108,000**
  - Postgraduate Scholarship, Characterization of SMARCD3 as a novel breast cancer gene (Tropee R)

- **$75,000**

- **$75,000**
  - PA Research Support Scheme, Effect of fixation stability on the healing of large bone defects in response to lower doses of BMP-2 (Glatt V, Schuetz M)

- **$75,000**
  - Project Grant, Developing in vivo and in vitro models for targeted therapies in oesophageal adenocarcinoma (Barbour A)

- **$75,000**
  - PAH Clinical Research Fellowship, Optimising intratumoral treatment of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma (HNSSC) mouse models with a novel drug, EBC-46 (Barnett C)

- **$75,000**
  - Near-Miss NHMRC Grant, Cellular and molecular pathways of development of IgE responses in human patients with allergic disease (Davies J)

- **$75,000**
  - PAH Clinical Research Fellowship, Tissue Microarray analysis of Oropharyngeal Squamous Cell Carcinoma tumour specimens (Hawarden B)

- **$75,000**
  - Near-Miss NHMRC Grant, Pathophysiology of functional dyspepsia: Integration of upper gut function, inflammation and a systems biology approach (Holtman G)

- **$75,000**
  - Project Grant, Pre-post determination of effect of oncogeriatric assessment and intervention on chemotherapy outcomes in solid cancer patients aged 70 years and over (McCarthy A)

- **$75,000**
  - Project Grant, TEEMH PAH: Translating Evidence and Expertise in Mental Health Practice across Allied Health professions (Kuipers P)

- **$75,000**
  - Project Grant, Pre-post determination of effect of oncogeriatric assessment and intervention on chemotherapy outcomes in solid cancer patients aged 70 years and over (Yates P)

- **$75,000**
  - Breast Cancer Grant, The SASH1 tumour suppressor as a breast cancer biomarker and treatment outcome predictor (O’Byrne K)

- **$75,000**
  - Near-Miss NHMRC Grant, Improving the detection and diagnosis of primary aldosteronism (Stowasser M)

- **$75,000**
  - PAH Clinical Research Fellowship, Pharmacological activation of human brown adipose tissue activity by selective beta-2 agonist: potential therapy for obesity (Thuzar M)

- **$75,000**
  - Project Grant, Metagenomics Analysis of the Pathogen Profile (MAPPS) in Critically Ill Patients with Septic Shock (Venkatesh B)

- **$75,000**
  - PAH Clinical Research Fellowship,
Assessment of muscle mass, hepatic function and outcomes in patients awaiting liver transplantation (Woodward A)

$75,000
PA Research Foundation, Using single-cell transcriptomics to define T-cell tolerance in EBV+ lymphoma (Steptoe R, Gandhi M)

**ARC/ARC DISCOVERY**


$489,000
ARC/ARC Discovery, Work coordination and resilience (Aitken L)

$470,000
ARC Linkage Grant, An integrated mathematical approach to synchronise and optimise hospital operations (Sinnott M, Kozan E, Tian Y, Cook D, Birgan S, Dux C)

$400,000
ARC Discovery Grant, Interruptions in workflow in intensive care (Sanderson P, Aitken L, Venkatesh B)

$320,000
ARC Linkage Project, An integrated mathematical approach to synchronise and optimise hospital operations - Project with QUT and PAH ICU and ED (Kozan E, Sinnott M, Tian Y, Cook DA, Birgan SP, Dux C)

**CANCER COUNCIL QUEENSLAND**

$600,000
Cancer Australia funding, ANZMTG 0.2.12 – A randomised controlled multicentre trial of imiquimod vs radiotherapy for LM when staged excision with 5mm margins is not possible, is refused, or fails (RADICAL). (Guitera P, Kelly J, Fogarty G, Hong A, Foote M, Soyer HP, Stretch J, Craythorne E, Shannon K, Ruben J)

$220,000
Cancer Council Queensland, Human pigmentation pathway in UV-protection and mechanisms of melanoma risk (Sturm RA, Duffy DL)

$200,000
Cancer Council Queensland Melanoma Grant, Queensland Melanoma Project

$99,981
Cancer Council Queensland, Non-industry clinical trial, CVAD in cancer study.

$87,400
Cancer Council Queensland Cancer Clinical Trial Data Management Grant, (Queensland Melanoma Project)

**NATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (NHMRC)**

$2,652,448
NHMRC Project Grant, Coronary Artery calcium score: Use to Guide management of Hereditary Coronary Artery Disease (CAUGHT-CAD) (Marwick T, Stanton T).

$2,498,845
NHMRC Centres of Research Excellence (CRE), Closing the gap in Indigenous Lung Health (Chang, Mulholland, Brown, O’Grady, Grimwood, Morris, Leach, Upham, Torzillo)

$2,498,171
NHMRC National Clinical Centre of Research Excellence in Severe Asthma (Gibson, Marks, McDonald, Wark, King, Thompson, Reddel, Upham, Smith, James)

$2,496,981
NHMRC CRE, Chronic Kidney Disease Centre for Research

$2,465,841
NHMRC, PROBE-NET: The progression of Barrett’s Esophagus to Cancer Network (Upper GI and Soft Tissue)

$2,295,625
NHMRC Project Grant, Pregnancy and Neonatal Diabetes Outcomes in Remote Australia (PANDORA) Cohort (Maple – Brown L)

$1,974,558
NHMRC, A randomised phase III trial of preoperative chemoradiotherapy vs preoperative chemotherapy for resectable gastric cancer (Upper GI and Soft Tissue)

$1,266,560
NHMRC Project Grant, Understanding the development of autoimmunity in response to citrullinated peptide antigen presentation to T cells in rheumatoid arthritis (Thomas R, Reid H, El-Gabalawy H)

$957,987
NHMRC, Whole Genome Analyses of oesophageal adenocarcinoma (Upper GI and Soft Tissue)

$948,048
$857,769

$834,269.50

$814,994
NHMRC Project Grant, Genotype associations with naevus patterns (Soyer HP, Sterm R, Duffy D, Schaider H)

$814,980
NHMRC Research Fellowship, Understanding the basis of autoimmunity in rheumatoid arthritis and type 1 diabetes to underpin the implementation of antigen-specific therapies (Thomas R)

$804,737

$791,991.42
NHMRC, DOCTOR: DOcetaxel with or without radiation Therapy for resectable oesophageal adenocarcinoma based on early PET Response to induction chemotherapy (Upper GI and Soft Tissue)

$719,480
NHMRC Project Grant, Pathophysiology of functional dyspepsia: Integration of upper gut function, inflammation and a systems biology approach (Holtmann G, Al – Shanahan E)

$703,540
NHMRC Development Grant, Novel prostate cancer target for diagnosis, imaging, detection of recurrence and response to therapy (Nelson C, Russell PJ, Walsh B, Campbell D)

$650,892
NHMRC Project Grant, Novel interplay of hormones in regulating fat metabolism (Birzniec, Ho, Barrett)

$632,000
NHMRC Project Grant, Discovering new drugs to facilitate blood stem cell transplantation in cancer patients (Levesque JP, Perkins)

$594,492
NHMRC Project Grant, Defining the role of Microphthalmia-associated Transcription Factor (MITF) in melanoma heterogeneity by real-time cell cycle imaging (Haass N, Gabrielli BG, Schaider H)

$586,226
NHMRC Project Grant, Impact of aberrant branchpoint selection in Myelodysplasia and Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia (Mercer T, Gill D)

$581,116
NHMRC Project Grant, Modulating inflammatory and fibrogenic pathways in kidney disease using a novel antagonist of protease-activated receptor-2 (Vesey D, Gobe G, Lohman RJ, Suen J, Nikolic-Paterson D)

$579,492
NHMRC Project Grant, Investigation of the molecular basis of human nevogenesis and melanoma initiation (Sturm RA, Smith AG, Walker G)

$573,186
NHMRC Project Grant, Innovative patient education for preventing falls after hospital discharge (Hill AM, Haines TP, Etherton-Beer C, McPhail S, Morris M, Flicker L, Bulsara M)

$561,398
NHMRC Project Grant, Efficacy of prospective memory rehabilitation plus metacognitive skills training for adults with traumatic brain injury: a randomised controlled trial (Fleming J, Ownsworth T, Shum D, Griffin J, Kendall M)

$411,768
NHMRC Career Development Fellowship, Communication technologies for supporting patients with multiple morbidities accessing hospital services (McPhail, SM)

$391,987
NHMRC, Personalising care in operable pancreas cancer (Upper GI and Soft Tissue)

$263,133
NHMRC Project Grant, A novel approach to streamlining the diagnosis of primary aldosteronism (Stowasser M, Gordon R)

• QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT AND QUEENSLAND HEALTH

$319,000
Queensland Health, An integrated mathematical approach to synchronise and optimise hospital operations - Project with QUT and PAH ICU and ED (Kozan E, Sinnott M, Tian Y, Cook DA, Birgan SP, Dux C)

$250,000
Private Practice Trust Fund, The ALLG Tissue Bank (Marlton P)

$160,249
State Government and Queensland University of Technology Grant, Podiatrists prescribing – Better health outcomes (phase 1 & 2) (Nissen, L Borthwick, A Reed, L, Mitchell, C Fleming, ML McPhail, S Lazzarini, P)

$100,000

$100,000
Queensland Department of Health, Alcohol and other drug NGO
services review project: Phase I (Whiteford, Harris, Fieldsoe, Diminic, Leitch, Siskind)

$86,000
Queensland Government & Queensland Health, Evaluation of Integrated Chronic Disease Nurse Practitioner Model of Care (Bonner A)

$55,000
Queensland Health Minor Research Infrastructure Funding, (Upper GI and Soft Tissue)

• OTHER

$6,163,000
Australian Government Department of Health, Establishment of Australian Prostate Cancer Research Centre – Queensland (Nelson CC, Vela I)

$4,550,000
Philanthropic support for the Chair of Dermatology and for research into skin cancer.

$4,250,000
Movember Revolutionary Team Award 1, (Nelson CC, Vela I)

$2,340,000

$2,050,000
Epiderm, Dermatology Research

$1,162,932

$1,000,000
Merchant Charitable Foundation for Dermatology Research

$600,000
Cancer Australia Priority Driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme, A randomised controlled multicentre trial of imiquimod versus radiotherapy for lentigo maligna (LM) when staged surgical excision with 5mm margins is not possible, is refused, or fails (RADICAL) (Guiela P, Kelly J, Fogarty G, Hong A, Foote M, Soyer P, Stretch J, Craythorne E, Shannon K, Ruben J)

$450,000
QEMRF Research Fellowship Grant, The antidotes and treatments that are commonly used by medical staff when looking after patients who are affected by drug toxicity (Page C)

$300,000
Competitive Grant, New Technology Funding and Evaluation Program (NTFEP) to establish Trans-Oral Robotic Surgery (TORS) (Otologyngology – Head and Neck Surgery/Skull Base Unit)

$250,000
QEMRF Program Grant, Adrenaline delivery through ventilation of aerosolised nanoparticles in Cardiac Arrest (ADVANCE Study) (Staib, A)

$234,348
SERTF, Clinical use of next generation sequencing (NGS) for the detection of somatic mutations in acute myeloid leukemia (Marlton P)

$224,556
Diamond Jubilee Partnership Ltd Grant, Introducing tele-diabetes services into rural Indigenous communities (Smith A, Caffery L)

$167,744
Janssen, Bortezomib home injection study (Haematology Department)

$150,000
Leukaemia Foundation of Australia, The ALLG Tissue Bank (Marlton P)

$115,300
AbbVie Pty Ltd. An observational, multicentre disease registry to evaluate clinical practice trends and outcomes in adult patients with Hidradenitis Suppurativa (Protocol H13-147) (Soyer HP, McMeniman E, Ong N)

$114,178
Alzheimer’s Australia South Australia, Panel on Acute Care for Dementia (Gray L, Martin-Khan M, Travers, C)

$102,537
Celgene, Pomalidomide outcomes in myeloma (Haematology Department)

$100,000
AdMet Trial – grant in aid Tolmar Australia, PROSTVAC trial (Nelson CC, Wood S, Vela I, Rhee H)

$91,000
QCOG Data Management Grant, (Radiation Oncology, Mater Centre)

$86,580
Leukaemia Foundation Grant in Aid, Impact of SF3B1 mutations to gene splicing in Myelodysplasia and
Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia (Mercer T, Gill D)

$82,500
Dementia Collaborative Research Centre, The Public Health Benefits / Risks of Timely Diagnosis - Exploratory Studies (Martin-Khan M, Pachana N, Mitchell G, Lie D)

$75,000
National Heart Foundation Vanguard Grant, Clinical pathway for cardiotoxic risk (Clark RA, McCarthy A)

$66,828
James Lawrie Head and Neck Cancer Grant, Improving the impact on swallowing and voice production for patients with lymphoedema as a result of head or neck cancer treatment (Wratten C, Vertigan A, Ward EC, Cartmill B, Jeans C, Hanlon M)

$66,000
SERC, Impact of deficient antigen presentation on the tumour microenvironment in DLBCL (Pathology Queensland)

$64,000
Clinical Senate, To undertake a pilot implementation and evaluation of advance care planning in 3 tertiary hospitals (PCH, PAH and GCUH) (Department of Internal Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology)

$62,196
Diamond Jubilee Partnership Ltd IDEAS Van Grant, Establishing the feasibility of a telehealth network for Indigenous patients with diabetes (Smith A, Caffery L)

$60,000

$53,300
Metro South Health Research Grant, A proof of concept trial of a mobile phone based monitoring platform for transition to insulin therapy as part of diabetes management (Norton C, Hansen D, Russell A, Gray L)

$52,012
HP Research Grant, Development, implementation and evaluation of a Queensland Health telepractice model for the clinical assessment of adult dysphagia. (Burns C, Ward EC, Saxon R, Cowie B, Gray A)
Research Staff

- **Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service**
  Ray Quinn, Manager
  Associate Professor Melissa Kendall

- **Alcohol and Drug Assessment Unit**
  This small clinical unit conducts clinical research directly related to patient care and has no dedicated research staff.

- **Anaesthetic Department**
  Dr Peter Moran, Director of Anaesthesia
  Dr Pal Sivalingam, Director of Research
  Dr Bruce Burrow, Deputy Director
  Catherine Jowett

- **Australian Prostate Cancer Research Centre - Queensland**
  Professor Colleen Nelson, Executive Director
  Distinguished Professor Judith Clements
  Dr Jiuyan An
  Dr Jyotsna Batra
  Dr Nathalie Bock
  Dr Karen Chambers
  Professor Lisa Chopin
  Dr Rohan Davis
  Dr Michael Doran
  Dr Kumar Gogna
  Dr Sonja Greenslade
  Dr Jennifer Gunter
  Dr Peter Heathcote
  Professor Adrian Herington

- **Breast and Endocrine Surgery Unit**
  Associate Professor Ian Bennett, Chairman
  Dr Neil Wetzig, Chairman
  Dr Chuan Tan
  Dr Petar Vujovic
  Dr David Wilkinson

- **Cancer Nursing Research Group**
  Associate Professor Alexandra McCarthy, Chair of Cancer Nursing
  Leigh Davis
  Kerri Gillespie
  Wolfgang Marx
  Laisa Teleni

- **Cardiology Department**
  Dr Paul Garrahy, Director of Cardiology
  Dr John Hill, Director of Cardiac Pacing and Electrophysiology
  Dr Paul Gould
  Dr Gerald Kaye
  Dr Dariusz Korczyk
  Dr Arnold Ng

Dr Brett Hollier
Professor Dietmar Hutmacher
Dr Varinder Jeet
Dr Penny Jeffery
Dr Lidija Jovanovic
Associate Professor Justin Keogh
Dr Thomas Kryza
Dr John Lai
Dr Guy Lampe
Dr Margot Lehman
Dr Melanie Lehman
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Ji Liu
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Dr Shane Stegeman
Carson Stephens
Dr Sally-Anne Stephenson
Dr Katrina Sweeney
Dr Gregor Tevz
Dr Brian Tse
Dr Raja Vasireddy

Dr Ian Vela
Dr Amol Waghholikar
Dr Carina Walpole
Dr Chenwei Wang
Associate Professor Elizabeth Williams
Dr Simon Wood
Professor Patsy Yates
Dr Mei-Chun Yeh

Dr Ian Vela
Dr Amol Waghholikar
Dr Carina Walpole
Dr Chenwei Wang
Associate Professor Elizabeth Williams
Dr Simon Wood
Professor Patsy Yates
Dr Mei-Chun Yeh
• **Cardiovascular Imaging Research Group**
  
  Associate Professor Tony Stanton, Academic Director  
  Dr Brian Haluska  
  Julie Holliday  
  Leanne Jeffriess  
  Rodel Leano  
  Sarah McLennan  
  
  Dr Richard Baer  
  Venita Bali  
  Jennifer Best  
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  Dr Michael Burke  
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  Dr Catherine Cheung  
  Dr Yeyongjie Cho  
  Dr Eric Chou  
  Dr Carolyn Clark  
  Amanda Coburn  
  Bettina Douglas  
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  Dr Jeremy Frazier  
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  Dr Omar Kaisar  
  Dr Troy Kay  
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  Dr Nyasha Mukandi  
  Eryn Murray  
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  Dr Dharmenad Palamuthusingam  
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  Peta-Anne Paul-Brent  
  Dr James Petrie  
  Donna Reidlinger  
  Laura Robison  
  Anish Scaria  
  Dr David Small  
  Dr Sarah Stevenson  
  Joanna Sudak  
  Javier Urbina  
  Andrea Valks  
  Dr Liza Vergara  
  Dr David Vesey  
  Dr Jennifer Wong  
  Dr Lei Zhang  

• **Centre for Functioning and Health Research**
  
  Professor Elizabeth (Liz) Ward, Director  
  Dr Bena Cartmill  
  Dr Emmah Doig  
  Dr Emma Finch  
  Associate Professor Jenny Fleming  
  Associate Professor Pim Kuipers  
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  Dr Richard Baer  
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  Dr Michael Burke  
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  Dr Sarah Stevenson  
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  Javier Urbina  
  Andrea Valks  
  Dr Liza Vergara  
  Dr David Vesey  
  Dr Jennifer Wong  
  Dr Lei Zhang  

• **Centre for Kidney Disease Research**
  
  Professor David Johnson, Co-Director of Centre for Kidney Disease Research  
  Associate Professor Glenda Gobe, Co-Director of Centre for Kidney Disease Research  
  Associate Professor Scott Campbell, Deputy Director of Nephrology  
  Associate Professor Carmel Hawley, Assistant Director of Haemodialysis  
  Associate Professor Nikky Isbel, Assistant Director of Ambulatory Renal Services  
  Associate Professor David Mudge, Assistant Director of Redlands Renal Service  
  Dr Ken-Soon Tan, Assistant Director of Logan Renal Service  
  Dr Carolyn van Eps, Assistant Director of Ipswich Renal Service  
  Karin Ahearn  
  Dr Sunil Badve  
  
  Dr Richard Baer  
  Venita Bali  
  Jennifer Best  
  Dr John Burke  
  Dr Michael Burke  
  Dr Katrina Campbell  
  Dr Catherine Cheung  
  Dr Yeyongjie Cho  
  Dr Eric Chou  
  Dr Carolyn Clark  
  Amanda Coburn  
  Bettina Douglas  
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  Dr Jeremy Frazier  
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  Rachael Hale  
  Dr Gareth Hart  
  Jean Helyar  
  Lauren Jaffrey  
  Dr Elizabeth Jarvis  
  Dr Omar Kaisar  
  Dr Troy Kay  
  Dr Alice Kennard  
  Ann King  
  Diana Leary  
  Dr Steven McTaggart  
  Dr Christudas Morais  
  Alicia Morrish  
  Dr Nyasha Mukandi  
  Eryn Murray  
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  Dr James Petrie  
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  Laura Robison  
  Anish Scaria  
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  Dr Sarah Stevenson  
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  Javier Urbina  
  Andrea Valks  
  Dr Liza Vergara  
  Dr David Vesey  
  Dr Jennifer Wong  
  Dr Lei Zhang  

• **Centre for Online Health**
  
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  Erene Edera  
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  Javier Urbina  
  Andrea Valks  
  Dr Liza Vergara  
  Dr David Vesey  
  Dr Jennifer Wong  
  Dr Lei Zhang  

• **Centre for Research in Geriatric Medicine**
  
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  Ms Bonnie Pimm  
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  Aaron Snoswell
  Dr Jean-Marie Tan
  Dr Lisa Tom
  Shoko Tomihara
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  Cathy Yuan

• Diabetes and Endocrinology Department
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  Tracy Grierson
  Professor Ken Ho
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  Dr James Collier, Co-Director
  Dr Andrew Staib, Deputy Director
  CJ Cabilian
  Dr Robert Eley
  James Hughes
  Chantelle Judge
  Lisette Knight
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  Emeritus Professor Richard Gordon, Co-Director
  Dr Ashraf Ahmed
  Diane Cowley
  Dr Remi Goupil
  Dr Martin Wolley
  Aihua Wu
  Dr Shengxin Xu

• Gastroenterology & Hepatology Department
  Professor Gerald Holtmann, Director
  Marianne Black
  Dr Daniel Burger
  Dr Paul Clark
  Associate Professor Linda Fletcher
  Cheryl Gaitan
  Teressa Hansen
  Dr Luke Hourigan
  Dr Katharine Irvine
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  Dr Natasha Koloski
  Associate Professor Graeme Macdonald
  Professor Mike McGuickin
  Professor Mark Morrison
  Professor Elizabeth Powell
  Dr Ashok Raj
  Amy Reynolds
  Dr Erin Shanahan
  Dr Katherine Stuart
  Dr Caroline Tallis

• Haematology Department
  Professor Devinder Gill, Director
  Dr Robert Bird
  Melinda Burgess
  Professor Maher Gandhi
  Dr Colm Keane
  Dr Sally Mapp
  Associate Professor Paula Mariton
  Dr Tony Mills
  Dr Peter Molloe
  Professor Andrew Perkins
  Dr Peter Wood
• Intensive Care Unit
  Associate Professor Chris Joyce, Director
  Associate Professor Peter Kruger, Assistant Director
  Professor Bala Venkatesh, Director of Research
  Professor Leanne Aitken, Chair in Critical Care Nursing
  Chelsea Davis
  Jason Meyer
  Emma Saylor
  Krista Wetzig

• Internal Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology
  Associate Professor Ian Scott, Director
  Melodie Downey
  Dr Alex Lau
  Dr Darshan Shah
  Dr Gaurav Singh
  Michelle Whinning

• Respiratory and Sleep Medicine and the Lung and Allergy Research Centre
  Professor John Upham, Director
  Melanie Carroll
  Dr Alice Chen
  Tina Collins
  Dr Janet Davies
  Megan Landgraf
  Victoria Lomas
  Lisa Murray
  Michelle O’Brien-Towers
  Dr Hayley Scott
  Dr Camilla Xi

• Mental Health Services
  Associate Professor David Crompton OAM, Executive Director
  Associate Professor Gail Robinson, Director of Medical Services
  Angela Bryant
  Josie Dietrich
  Professor Steve Kiskey

• Neurosurgery
  Dr Bruce Hall
  Dr Joseph Garcia-Redmond

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  Dr Amanda Henderson, Director
  Professor Leanne Aitken
  Vanessa Brunelli
  Liz Burmeister
  Carol Jeffrey
  Dr Jennifer Jones
  Associate Professor Marion Mitchell
  Sophie Wade
  Dr Rachel Walker

• Nutrition and Dietetics Department
  Annabelle Stack, Acting Director
  Dr Ingrid Hickman, Director of Research Nutrition and Dietetics
  Associate Professor Katrina Campbell
  Dr Peter Collins
  Dr Maree Ferguson
  Professor Liz Isenring

• Occupational Therapy Department
  Mary Whitehead, Director
  Ruth Cox, Acting Director
  Dr Emmah Doig
  Dr Sally Eames
  Associate Professor Jennifer Fleming
  Dr Amanda Purcell

• Orthopaedic Unit
  Dr Cameron Cooke, Director
  Dr Mark Dekkers, Deputy Director
  Dr Doug King, Deputy Director
  Dr Nicola Ward, Deputy Director

• Otolaryngology Department – Head and Neck Surgery and the Queensland Skull Base Unit / Queensland Head and Neck Cancer Centre
  Associate Professor Ben Panizza, Chairman and Director
  Dana Middleton
  Rhiannon Walters
  Dr Andrew Wetzig

• Pathology Queensland - PAH
  Dr Nigel Brown, Director
  Dr Guy Lampe, Director, Anatomical Pathology
  Dr Robert Bird, Director, Haematology
  Dr Kee Cheung
  Dr Goce Dimeski
  Dr Peter Mollee
  Russell Saal
• **Pharmacy Department**
  - Adjunct Associate Professor Lynette Loy, Director
  - Dr Christine Carrington
  - Judith Coombes
  - Andrew Hale
  - David McDougall
  - Daniel McKavanagh
  - Geeta Sandhu
  - Yolanda Scuderi
  - Sean Unwin
  - Karl Winckel
  - David Wojewoda

• **Physiotherapy Department**
  - Cherie Heam, Acting Director
  - Dr Adam Semciw

• **Queensland Melanoma Project**
  - Professor Mark Smithers, Director
  - Jennifer Addison
  - Dr Christopher Allan
  - Dr Victoria Atkinson
  - Associate Professor Andrew Barbour
  - Dr Gerard Bayley
  - Professor Bryan Burmeister
  - Dr Matthew Foote
  - Dr Kelly Loffler
  - Alison Martin
  - Dr David Pryor
  - Dr Andrew Pullar
  - Henry Tang
  - Janine Thomas
  - Dr Damian Thomson
  - Dr Michael Wagels
  - Dr Euan Wapole
  - Dr Sam Yang

• **Queensland Spinal Cord Injuries Services**
  - Dr Sridhar Atresh, Director
  - Dr Poch Malte, Deputy Director
  - Delena Amsters
  - Dr Timothy Geraghty
  - Ben Hackwood
  - Irene Kemp
  - Associate Professor Melissa Kendall
  - Dr Karleigh Kwapil
  - Elizabeth McDonald
  - Kiley Pershouse
  - Glenda Price
  - Joshua Simmons
  - Sarita Schuurs
  - Tracey Tattam
  - Greg Ungerer
  - Dr Susan Urquhart

• **Radiology Department Division of Diagnostic Radiology**
  - Dr Susanne Jeavons, Director
  - Dr John Harper, Deputy Director
  - Dr Justin Baulch
  - Ericka Beattie
  - Cathy Biles
  - Dr Melanie Bond
  - Dr Jennifer Chang
  - Dr Aileen Cormican
  - Dr John Coucher
  - Suzanne Crown
  - Dr Sam Davis
  - Dr Stephen Drew
  - Dr John Earwaker
  - Dr Mitesh Gandhi
  - Andrew Graham
  - Dr Sonja Greenslade
  - Anthony Hopcraft
  - Dr Katrina Hopcraft
  - Dr Charlie Hsu
  - Dr Sally Johnstone
  - Dr Sam Kyle
  - Dr Phillip Law
  - Dr David Leggett
  - Dr Paul Leschke
  - Tale Liv
  - Dr Thomas Lloyd
  - Dr Gregory Lock
  - Dr Emily Mackenzie
  - Dr Nicole Maggacis
  - Dr Jane McEniery
  - Dr Louise McEwan
  - Dr Lora Medoro
  - Dr Stephen Mego
  - Professor Ken Miles
  - Andrew Murphy
  - Michael Neep
  - Dr Stanley Ngai
  - Dr Ben Ong
  - Dr Gilbert Pavilion
  - Dr Ben Pearch
  - Monica Piskor
  - Jit Pratap
  - Dr Divyajeet Rai
  - Dr Kendall Redmond
  - Dr Nivene Saad
  - Daniel Schick
  - Dr Eric Sclavos
  - Dr Jennifer Sommerville
  - Tom Steffens
  - Dr Nikolas Stewart
  - Angela Thomson
  - Andrew Volp
  - Dr Trevor Watkins
  - Dr Chris Yu
• **Radiation Oncology Mater Centre**  
Dr Brigid Hickey, Acting Director  
Kacy Baumann  
Adrienne See  
Narelle Wallace

• **Rheumatology Department**  
Dr Phillip Vecchio, Director  
*UQDI*  
Professor Ranjeny Thomas  
Dr Helen Benham  
Amelie Casgrain  
Karen Herd  
Elizabeth Klinken  
Soi Cheng Law  
Hanno Nel  
Dr Brendan O’Sullivan  
Dr Mamdouh Sedhom  
Jennie Tyler

• **Speech Pathology Department**  
Wendy McCallum, Director  
Dr Bena Cartmill  
Dr Emma Finch  
Dr Jennifer Lethlean

• **Therapeutics Research Centre**  
Professor Michael S Roberts, Director  
Dr Jeffrey Grice, Deputy Director  
Dr Xin Liu  
Dr Gregory Medley  
Dr Youssuf Mohammed  
Dr Ahmed Mostafa  
Dr Washington Y Sanchez  
Dr Camilla Thompson  
Dr Yian Zhu

• **Trauma Service / Trauma Research Group**  
Professor Michael Schuetz, Director  
Dr Devakar Epari  
Dr Vaida Glatt  
Patrick Hiltpold  
Esther Jacobson  
Dr Lloyd Reeve-Johnson  
Dr Beat Schmutz  
Dr Markus Windolf

• **The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute**  
Professor Matthew Brown, Director  
Dr Helen Benham  
Professor Maher Gandhi  
Dr Colm Keane  
Associate Professor Kiarash Khosrotehrani  
Professor Ranjeny Thomas

• **Upper Gastro-intestinal and Soft Tissue Unit**  
Professor Mark Smithers, Director  
Jennifer Addison  
Dr Victoria Atkinson  
Associate Professor Andrew Barbour  
Professor Bryan Burmeister  
Professor David Gotley  
Dr Jennifer Harvey  
Dr Warren Joubert  
Dr Kelly Loffler  
Dr Gang Tao Mai  
Dr Orla McCormack  
Dr Margaret McGrath  
Dr David Pryor  
Henry Tang  
Janine Thomas  
Dr Iain Thomson

• **Urology Department**  
Dr Simon Wood, Director  
Dr Michael Ng  
Dr Irena Oleinikova  
Dr Handoo Rhee  
Dr Ian Vela  
Ian Wilson
Postgraduate Students

• Doctor of Medicine
  Mudge, David

• Postgraduate Students - PHD Completions in 2014
  Benham, Helen
  Bock, Nathalie
  Bradford, Natalie
  Chachay, Veronique
  Chan, Raymond
  Chang, Rachel Yoongyung
  Deegan, Timothy
  Fagan, Kevin
  Fallon, Majella
  Fatehi, Farhad
  Hale, Andrew
  Harrington, Rosamund
  Jack, Leanne
  Kendall, Bradley
  Mahmood, Adnan
  Mahmood, Adrian Hussein
  Malekani, Javad
  Mapp, Sally
  Markwell, Timothy
  McIntyre, Deborah
  McMahon, Emma
  Nund, Rebecca
  Pizzutto, Susan
  Rachele, Jerome
  Ramnath, Divya
  Schmidt, Julia
  Sedhom, Mamdouh
  Shah, Alok
  Siskind, Dan
  Small, David
  Strand, Haakan Nils
  Symons, Martyn
  Thibadeau, Laure
  Thompson, Camilla
  Went, Steve
  White, Michelle
  Wunnapuk, Klintein
  Wurzel, Danielle

• Postgraduate Students - PhD Commencements in 2014
  Ahmed, Farzana
  Balaam, Sarah
  Baldwin, Jeremy
  Batten, Heather
  Coates, Jason
  Dahmer-Heath, Mareike
  Dark, Frances
  Davies, Sarah
  Dheda, Shyam
  Emran, Abdulla
  Gane, Elise
  George, Robin Ambalathingal
  Gupta, Deepesh
  Haridass, Isha
  Hickey, Paul
  Hughes, James
  Hugo, Cherie
  Janaththani, Panchadsaram
  Jones, Ellen
  Kho, Joanna
  Maugham, Michelle
  Murray, Liisa
  Ng, Kenneth
  O'Rourke, Kacey
  Page, Colin
  Parker, Stephen
  Pather, Sha

• Postgraduate Students - PhD in progress in 2014
  Abd, Eman
  Al Dossary, Sharifah
  Al-Obaid, Abdulaziz
  Amarathunga, Jayani
  Amsters, Delena
  Anderson, Kirsten
  Badeve, Sunil
  Bagraith, Karl
  Barani Lonbani, Zoreh
  Beadle, Elizabeth
  Bennett, Michelle
  Bergstrom, Liza
  Blackburn, Pippa
  Bowers, Robert
  Brown, Elizabeth
  Brunelli, Vanessa
  Burke, Michael
  Burkett, Ellen
  Burmeister, Liz
  Prescott, Sarah
  Ratther, Ellica
  Revez, Joanna
  Rhee, Handoo
  Stone, Leanne
  Teleni, Laisa
  Thuzar, Moe
  Upadhaya, Ash
  Vaschina, Michael
  Wall, Laurelie
  Walsh, Hayley
  Wang, Haolu
  Wickramasinghe, Sumudu
  Woodward, Aidan
Burns, Clare
Cairns, Alice
Cameron, Ashley
Capra, Carina
Castillo, Isabel
Chandrasekaran, Navin
Chikani, Viral
Cho, Yeungjee
Clayton, Nicola
Coombes, Judith
Crompton, David
Crowe, Elizabeth
Fahim, Magid
Fane, Mitchell
Follent, Anna
Fountain, Stephanie
Fox, Jennifer
Francis, Amanda
Fu, Sherry
Fuhrmann-Luck, Ruth
Gadd, Victoria
Gilbert, Alice
Green, Teegan
Hames, Sam
Hargrave, Catriona
Hiremagalur, Balaji
Holzapfel, Boris
Huan, Yuan (Andy)
Hwang, Rita
Keane, Colm
Kleinschmidt, Sharon
Krishnan, Anand
Krishnasamy, Rathika
Law, Bonnie
Law, Soi
Levrier, Claire
Liang, Phyllis
Liang, Xiaowen
Lin, Li
Lisle, Jessica
Mallett, Andrew
Marx, Wolfgang
Mattin, Sarah
McDougall, David
Mohd Radzi, Shairah
Mosaad, Eman
Neep, Michael
Ng, Michael
Nickels, Marc
Park, Stacie
Patterson, Freyr
Pflugfelder, Annette
Pouidel, Arun
Pryor, Lee
Raj, Ashok
Robinson, Katherine
Rossi, Megan
Sandhu, Geeta
Sarkar, Phoebe
Schnitker, Linda
Shorter, Phoebe
Sjovall, Johanna
Srinivasan, Sri
Strudwick, Kirsten
Stylianou, Nataly
Suharto, Suharto
Suleria, Hafiz Ansur Rasul
Tang, Kai Dun
Tapsall, Doreen
Tavakoli Akbarzadeh, Aramesh
Thamm, Carla Cherie
Thomas, Georgia
Thomas, Patrick
Torby, Elizabeth
Tufekci, Pelin
Turkington, Leisa
Wallen, Matthew
Warren, Tim
Watter, Kerrin
Weston, Kassia
Whelan, Megan
Wheller, Laura
White, Hayden
Wolf, Marx
Wolley, Martin
Yin, Kelvin

- Postgraduate Students - Masters Completion in 2014
  Allsopp, Tristan
  Beech, Nicholas
  Brosnan, Jessica
  Davis, Emma
  Deepali, Gupta
  Fox, Carly
  Gupta, Deepali
  Hoang, Lan Van
  Koval, Lidia
  Moutrie, Vaughan
  Ossenberg, Christine
  Salama, Rosemary
  Shah, Esha
  Thomy, Lebogang
  Van Rompaey, Jason
  White, Emma
  Yow, Kong Soon
• Postgraduate Students - Masters Commencements in 2014
  Anderson, Samantha
  Arneil, Melissa
  Barnhart, Molly
  Cabilan, Cara
  Cameron, Heidi
  Costin, Elizabeth
  Cox, Claire
  El Atem, Nathan
  Gordon, Emily
  Grey, Joanne
  Hall, Kate
  Hawarden, Brian
  Keller, Hilary
  Lando, Joel
  Lin, Hui-Shan (Stella)
  Mathew, Saira
  Nickels, Marc
  Phan, Nga
  Read, Tavis
  Singh, Arvinderbir
  Tavakoli Akbarzadeh, Aramesh

• Postgraduate Students – Masters in Progress in 2014
  Baker, Matthew
  Barnett, Catherine
  Caldwell, Samantha
  Carney, Kylie
  Carson, Vanessa
  Chawla, Sharad
  Comota, Ivy
  Cox, Allannah
  Dolecka, Urszula
  Fitzgerald, Rhys
  Frahana, Matin
  Gaffney, Daniel
  Gardiner, Damian
  Gesch, Janelle
  Gollan, Emilie
  Goupil, Remi
  Hay, Jennine
  Hughes, Samantha
  Ibrahim, Salma
  Jenkins, Glenn
  Klinken, Elizabeth
  Lewandowski, Andrew
  Lowndes, Rosemary
  McLennan, Sarah
  Meek, John
  Murray, Eryn
  Nessen, Simone
  Parker, Rebecca
  Read, Jazlyn
  Roberts, Damien
  Sinnya, Sudipta
  Skinner, Thomas
  Taylor, Olivia
  Trong, Hue
  Wade, Elaine
  West, Darren
  Wu, Lan
  Zammit, Andrew
Top Row (L-R): Dr Megan Probyn, Maria Wojciechowski, Jan Singleton, Sonia Hancock, Rhianna Hardie, Brenda Rosser, Carine Hoye

Bottom Row (L-R): Kay Hawley, Professor Ken Ho, Areti Gavrilidis, Kathy Harvey