Centres for Health Research

Annual Review 2001

Princess Alexandra Hospital
Health Service District
Contents

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT ........................................................................................................ 1
RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE ...................................................................................... 2
PRINCESS ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION .......................................................... 3
DIVISION OF CLINICAL SUPPORT incorporating Allied Health Services, Pharmacy & Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service .................................................. 5
  Audiology Department ........................................................................................................ 7
  Occupational Therapy ....................................................................................................... 8
  Nutrition and Operational Support Services ................................................................ 11
  Physiotherapy .................................................................................................................. 14
  Social Work ..................................................................................................................... 17
  Speech Pathology ............................................................................................................ 19
  Pharmacy Department .................................................................................................... 20
  Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service .................................................................... 23
NURSING SERVICES ........................................................................................................ 25
  Nursing Education Research Unit .................................................................................... 27
  Intensive Care Unit ......................................................................................................... 28
DIVISION OF SURGERY .................................................................................................. 29
  Anaesthetic ...................................................................................................................... 31
  Breast, Endocrine, Thoracic Unit .................................................................................... 32
  Cardiothoracic Surgery ................................................................................................... 34
  Colorectal Unit ................................................................................................................ 35
  Ear, Nose and Throat ....................................................................................................... 37
  Queensland Liver Transplant Service ............................................................................ 39
  Orthopaedic Department ............................................................................................... 42
UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY ..................................... 45
  Aortic Valve Research Group .......................................................................................... 47
  Upper GI Unit and Queensland Melanoma Project ........................................................ 48
  Liver Research Group ..................................................................................................... 50
  Surgical Oncology Laboratory ....................................................................................... 53
  Ophthalmology ............................................................................................................... 54
  Urology & Renal Transplantation Unit ........................................................................... 55
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division/Unit</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol &amp; Drug Assessment Unit</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Immunology &amp; Allergy Department</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Pharmacology</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dermatology Department</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes and Endocrinology Department</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gastroenterology and Hepatology</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical and Laboratory Haematology</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geriatric Unit (GARU)</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infection Management Services</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Internal Medicine</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Oncology</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Nephrology</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rheumatology Unit</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queensland Spinal Cord Injuries Service (QSCIS)</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinal Outreach Team (SPOT)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Rehabilitation Program</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARDIOVASCULAR IMAGING</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEROLOGIC RESEARCH LABORATORY</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HYPERTENSION UNIT</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>METABOLIC RESEARCH UNIT</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THERAPEUTICS RESEARCH UNIT</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENTRE FOR IMMUNOLOGY AND CANCER RESEARCH</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CENTRE FOR PRIMARY HEALTH CARE</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUEENSLAND HEALTH PATHOLOGY SERVICES</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology Department</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2001 was a momentous year for the Hospital with the move to the new building. While the Research Building was not ready for occupancy by the end of the year it was approaching completion and was occupied early in 2002.

During the year the laboratories for Herron Pharmaceuticals were completed and opened by the Queensland Premier Hon. Peter Beattie. This was an important event with a commercial organisation bringing its research activities to the Hospital campus. At the same time the new offices for Professor Roberts’ Therapeutics Research Group were commissioned. These had been fitted out with generous support from Herron and from the Lions Medical Research Foundation. Negotiations to involve other commercial organisations with research activities on campus were also initiated.

There was a further strong performance in terms of competitive funds obtained. However, there is still a relatively small number of groups seeking funds from the major national funding bodies and new strategies to address this are being devised. A pleasing aspect has been the steady increase in postgraduate student numbers over the past few years and the greater number of groups attracting postgraduate students.

The number of published papers and research presentations was again very pleasing and the Hospital was well represented at the inaugural Queensland Health Research Day.

Nursing Research was given a boost with the appointment of Dr Sarah Winch as the head of nursing research. In addition to her nursing qualifications, Sarah has a PhD in sociology and has begun a series of innovative research collaborations. The Allied Health Group has been very active in exploring options for enhancing Allied Health Research that are likely to be productive over the next year or two.

I believe we can be very confident but not complacent that the future for research on the campus is bright and that the next few years will see a significant enhancement of research across the spectrum, from basic biomedical research through clinical research to health services research involving all professional disciplines.

I would like to thank all those who contribute to making the research effort possible and acknowledge in particular the efforts of the Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation under the Chairmanship of Mr Leo Williams AO in raising funds to support the research and the members of the Human Research Ethics Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr Derek Dickey and the Animal Research Ethics Committee under the Chairmanship of Professor Michael Roberts for their crucial contributions.

Professor Donald Cameron AO
Chair, Centres for Health Research
Princess Alexandra Hospital
Function
The Research Ethics Committee is constituted and functions according to the National Health and Medical Research Council’s guidelines as published in the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans.

It is required to review all research projects involving humans before commencement, then if there are significant modifications, and again, at least annually. Any serious adverse events from investigational drugs are also reviewed. Review by the Committee is to ensure especially that volunteers are not subject to undue risk, and that subjects are fully aware of any risks and benefits. The Committee also ensures that studies are compliant with relevant legislation.

Activity
Reviewed:
One hundred and seventy (170) new submissions, 50 of these commercially sponsored.
Approximately 10 modifications to protocols each month.
Approximately 150 serious adverse drug related events reviewed per month.
There are more than 400 studies active at present which generate over 400 annual reviews.

Compliance
The Committee’s composition and activities are reviewed annually by the Australian Health Ethics Committee, a Committee of the NHMRC, and if found to be non-compliant, further activity cannot proceed until the problem is resolved.

Chair
Dr D Dickey MBBS, FRACP

Members
Dr D Looke MBBS, FRACP, FRCPA, M Med Sc., Medical Graduate with Research Experience
Dr J Carney MBBS, FRACS, Medical Graduate with Research Experience
Dr R Zubeshaw MBBS Medical Graduate General Practitioner
Ms JA Coombes B Pharm, MSc Pharmacy Graduate
Ms S Winch RN, BA. Hons.1 (Qld) Nursing Graduate
Mr D Cole B.Eng (Elect) Layman
Mrs H Brennan B.Ed Laywoman
Rev I Mundy BA, BTh Minister of Religion
Mr P Theobald LLB Lawyer
Mr P Murphy LLB, Dip Legal Practice Lawyer
Dr K Ferguson MBBS Secretary

Apart from the Chairman and Secretary, all members act in an honorary capacity
The Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation has continued its outstanding support for wide ranging research being conducted on the Hospital campus.

The Foundation granted in excess of $600,000 for 34 individual research projects in its last round of offers.

This year saw an added emphasis on research into two main areas, cancer and diabetes.

The work of the Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research headed by Professor Ian Frazer received funds to allow six researchers to continue developing and perfecting a vaccine for cervical cancer.

A team of seven scientists working in the area of diabetes also received funds.

This team is principally working on a unique database of DNA collected from indigenous Australians, which is helping to unlock some of the mysteries of adult onset diabetes. These scientists are also working on the recognised links between obesity and diabetes.

Other research areas to receive funds included arthritis, dermatology, hepatitis C, kidney disease, leukaemia, Paget’s Disease, transplantation and vaccination.

The Foundation has also continued its policy of encouraging young researchers to commence work that will help establish their scientific reputations.

This policy has seen many of the Hospital’s outstanding scientists go on to receive national and international recognition thanks to starting grants from the Foundation.

The opening of the new multi-million Centres for Research as part of the new Hospital campus present a great opportunity for the Foundation to raise even more funds for medical research.

The housing of some of the hospital’s scientists in arguably Australia’s most modern research facility will allow the Foundation to showcase this scientific work much effectively to potential donors and supporters.

Members of the Foundation Board appointed by the Governor in Council are drawn from the business and medical communities. They are as follows:-

**Chair**
*Leo G. Williams* AO, RFD, BA, LLB
Consultant, Freehills - Solicitors.

**Deputy Chair**
*Anthony N. Ford*
ASIA Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority

**Members**

*Kenneth Donald* MBBS, PhD, FRCPA, MRAC Path., FRACMA, FRACS.
Professor and Head of the Department of Social and Preventative Medicine, University of Queensland.

*Rod Henshaw* Managing Director, Rod Henshaw and Associates.

*Lyn Hamill* B.Pharm (Vic), MBA, Chair Princess Alexandra District Health Council, Princess Alexandra Hospital.

*G. Roderick McLeod* AO, RFD, ED, MBBS, FRCS (Ed.), FRCS (Eng.), FRACS. Chair, Division of Surgery, Princess Alexandra Hospital.

*Mark Waters* MBBS, Dip.RACOG, FRACGP, FRACMA, FACHSE, MHA. District Manager, Princess Alexandra Hospital and District Health Service.

*David Theile* AO, MBBS (Hon.) (Qld), MS (Qld), FRACS, FRCS (Eng.), FANZCA (Hon.), FAMS (Hon.). Senior Visiting Surgeon, Princess Alexandra Hospital.

*David Usasz* ACA, AHKSA, ASCPA, B Com. (UQ). Partner, Pricewaterhouse Coopers - Charted Accountants.

*Donald P. Cameron* AO, MD, FRACP. Chair, Research Division, Princess Alexandra Hospital.

*Michael T Wille* BA (Hons). Bowling Green University, Yale University. Company Director.

*Simon Lockyer* BSc (Griffith Uni) Communication Director, McCann Erickson Advertising.
Richard Bowly  Dip. Advertising (Melb)  
Associate Fellow Australian Marketing  
Institute, Chair Cradeview Pty Ltd,  
Toowoomba, Director, Queensland  
Hotels Association, Director The  
Southern Hotel Toowoomba

Secretary  
Anne Maree Buttner  B Appld Sc (OT),  
Grad. Dip. Management.  Director  
Corporate Services, Princess Alexandra  
Hospital and District Health Service.

Honorary Solicitor  
Michael Back  BA (Hons.) LLB (Hons.).  
Partner, Freehills – Solicitors

Foundation Staff  
Gary Evans  Chief Executive Officer, BA  
(UQ)  
Lloyd Hancock  Executive Director  
Administration, BSc (UQ)  
Jennie Bickerton  Marketing Manager  
Barbara Blake  Administration Assistant

Research Committee
Chair: Kenneth Donald  MBBS, PhD,  
FRCPA, MRAC Path., FRACMA,  
FRACS.  Professor and Head of the  
Department of Social and Preventative  
Medicine, University of Queensland.

Donald P. Cameron  AO, MD, FRACP.  
Chair, Research Division, Princess  
Alexandra Hospital.

Ian Frazer  MD, FRCP (Ed.), FRCPA.  
Professor of Medicine and Director,  
Centre for Immunology and Cancer  
Research, Princess Alexandra Hospital.

David C. Gotley  MD, FRACS. Professor  
of Surgery, University of Queensland.

Thomas Marwick  MBBS, PhD, FACC,  
FESC, FRACP.  Professor of Medicine,  
University of Queensland.

Nicholas Bellamy  MB ChB, MD, Msc,  
FRCP(Glas.), FRCP(C), FACP,  
FAFRM, FRAC.  Director, Centre of  
National Research on Disability and  
Rehabilitation Medicine (CONROD)  
Department of Medicine, University of  
Queensland.
DIVISION OF CLINICAL SUPPORT
incorporating Allied Health Services, Pharmacy & Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service
Audiology Department

**Staff**

**Senior Staff**
Evelyn Towers, Director

**Research Staff**
Dr David Brown-Rothwell, Lecturer in Audiology, (PAH/UQ)

**Current Research Activities**

*An investigation of the relationship between central auditory function and functional communication following traumatic brain injury*

This is a continuation of a series of studies investigating the damage to the peripheral and central auditory system from traumatic brain injury. The current study is investigating the implications of focal versus diffuse injury to the auditory system in terms of communication. The targeting and timing of interventions to optimise rehabilitative outcomes is being explored.

*An investigation of Otoacoustic Emissions Measurements as an Index of Ototoxicity in Cisplatin Chemotherapy: A Comparison of Different Doses and Schedules*

The purpose of this study is to identify the incidence of cisplatinum induced hearing loss for different doses and schedules and to test the sensitivity and predictability of audiometric measures.

*An investigation of the Value of Electroneuronography as an Outcome Measure of Facial Nerve Function following Acoustic neuroma Surgery*

Planning has commenced for a study to investigate the value of electroneuronography (evoked electromyography) in the evaluation of facial nerve function following removal of acoustic tumours by comparing the pre- and post-operative measurements with the clinical observations.

**Publications**


**Lectures and Presentations**

David Brown-Rothwell


**Postgraduate Students**

**Master of Audiological Studies**
Shalom Chang+
Darryn Dietzel+
Camilla Hudson *
Grace Lin

**Awards to Staff Members**

Evelyn Towers received a Highly Commended “Best New Captioning Initiative” Award in the Teletext Captioning Awards for the Patient Education Videos produced at Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH).

**Public Service Relevant to Research**

David Brown-Rothwell
Chair, Princess Alexandra Hospital Allied Health Research Committee.

Member, Princess Alexandra Hospital Allied Health Research Centre Steering Committee

---

1 New students indicated with a * and completed with a +
Occupational Therapy

Staff

SENIOR STAFF
Julie Connell, Director
Dr Jenny Fleming (UQ/PAH), Conjoint Lecturer
Elizabeth Caldwell, Rehabilitation
Janelle Griffin, Rehabilitation
Glenda Price, Spinal Injuries Unit
Mary Little, Acute Services
Joanne O’Sullivan, Acute Services

OTHER STAFF
Celeste Glasgow
Rachael McQueen
Emmah Doig
Laura Desha
Nicole Williams
Nadine Roche
Kirrily Campbell
Anna Weimers

Current Research Activities

CLINICAL TRIALS
Case series evaluating an early motion protocol for Zone V and VI extensor tendon injuries. O’Sullivan J.

Rehabilitation of prospective memory problems in individuals with traumatic brain injury. Shum D, (Griffith University), Fleming J (UQ/PAH), Strong J (UQ), Connell J, White J (GU), McQueen R, Lightbody S (UQ).

Evaluation of a memory rehabilitation group for adults with acquired brain injury living in the community. Boyd K (UQ Honours student), Fleming J, McQueen R.

OTHER RESEARCH
The readability and comprehensibility of Occupational Therapy written materials for elderly people. Griffin J.

Long duration spinal cord injury – Pershouse K (SPOT), Amsters D (SPOT), Price D.

Measurement of joint stiffness in the hand: reliability and validity of torque angle curve – Glasgow C.

Objective and Behavioural Assessment of the Emergence from Post Traumatic Amnesia (PTA). Doig E, Williams N, Weimers A., Fleming J.


Comparison of functional status of Parkinson’s Disease sufferers: Those who have had neurosurgery and those who have not. Jenny Fleming (UQ/PAH), Dierdre Cooke (Mater Hospital), Elizabeth Caldwell (PAH), Kerryn Moules (UQ Honours student).


Assessment of community integration in acquired brain injury: Comparison of the the Sydney Psychosocial Reintegration Scale (SPRS) and the Community Integration Questionnaire (CIQ). Kuipers P (ABIOS), Kendall M (SPOT), Fleming J, Tate R (Sydney University).


Funding
$10,000 from UQ New Staff Research Start-up Fund for the study titled “Occupational therapy activity programs for the development of self-awareness in acquired brain injury ” awarded to J.Fleming.

$1,000 from the Brain Research Fund to K.Clayton, J.Fleming, J.Copley for “Development of a behavioural assessment of tactile processing ability in children with cerebral palsy”.

$4,300 from the PAH Research Foundation to E. Doig, N. Williams, A. Weimers, J. Fleming for “Objective and Behavioural Assessment of the Emergence from Post Traumatic Amnesia (PTA)”.

$7,400 from the PAH Research Foundation to C.Glasgow for “Measurement of joint stiffness in the hand: reliability and validity of torque angle curves”.

Publications


Articles


Abstracts


Lectures and Presentations
J O’Sullivan. Guest lecturer to 3rd year occupational therapy students at The University of Queensland on “Occupational Therapy Management of Orthopaedic Conditions”.

J Griffin. Series of lectures (2) and tutorials (6) on acquired brain injury to 2nd year occupational therapy students at The University of Queensland.

G Price. Guest Lecturer to 2nd year occupational therapy students at the University of Queensland on “Occupational Therapy Assessment and Management in Acute Spinal Cord Injury”.

J Connell. Guest Lecturer to 3rd year occupational therapy students at the University of Queensland on “The Profession of Occupational Therapy in Acute & Rehabilitation Health Care Setting”.

J Fleming. Invited presentation to Brain Injury Network on “Self-awareness in Individuals with Acquired Brain Injury”.

Postgraduate students
J Griffin, Master of Occupational Therapy, The University of Queensland (part-time).

J O’Sullivan, Master of Applied Science specialising in Hand and Upper Limb Rehabilitation, Curtin University University +

C Glasgow, Master of Applied Science specialising in Hand and Upper Limb Rehabilitation, Curtin University +

Awards to Staff Members
Laura Desha
University Medal for academic achievement in degree course.

Public Service Relevant to Research
Jenny Fleming
Member, Editorial Board and Publications Committee of the journal Brain Impairment.
Nutrition and Operational Support Services

Staff

**SENIOR STAFF**
- Glenn Nitchie, Director
- Susan Ash, Deputy Director
- Angela Vivanti, Research & Development Dietitian
- Nora Ramos, Senior Dietitian Nutritionist

**RESEARCH STAFF**
- Winsome Abbott
- Wendy Davidson
- Ingrid Hickman
- Marina Koutsoukas
- Angela Vivanti

Current Research Activities

**COMPLETED CLINICAL TRIALS**
Assessment of nutrition intervention for patients with unresectable pancreatic cancer in a fish oil supplement trial – does it make a difference: W Davidson, S Ash, S Capra.

**CONTINUING CLINICAL TRIALS**
The role of obesity and nutrition in fatty liver disease (I Hickman).

Dark adaptation in vitamin A deficient patients awaiting liver transplant (W Abbott).

Landmark trial – Modification of arthrogenic risk factors in renal and dialysis patients (N Isbel, D Johnson, T Marwick, W Chang).

Assessment and treatment of dehydration in older people (M Roberts, P Varghese, K Harvey, A Vivanti, L Ward, S Ash, J Stokes).

Funding

$10,000 - Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation. Comparison of a lifestyle and behaviour management program on weight loss and other behavioural indicators, with standard dietetic treatment in the management of overweight and obesity over 12 months (Ash S, Vivanti A, Dover T, Leong C, Bauer J, Capra S, O’Moore-Sullivan T).

$5,000 - Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation. Investigation of the role of obesity and nutrition in Chronic hepatitis C and fatty liver disease (Hickman I).

NH&MR Public Health PhD Scholarship for 3 years. (Hickman I).

Publications


**ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION**


**ABSTRACTS PUBLISHED**


**Lectures and Presentations**

**LECTURES**

S. Ash S, W. Davidson

W. Davidson
Bachelor of Health Science (Nutrition and Dietetics), Queensland University of Technology (Invited).

Clinical Dietetics (Gastrointestinal Diseases x 2 Nutritional Support x 1).

Nutrition and Wound Management.
Presentations in September and November to Hospital, Nursing Home and Community Nursing staff. (Invited).

W. Abbott
Bachelor of Health Science (Nutrition and Dietetics), Queensland University of Technology; Clinical Dietetics (Nutrition in Liver disease). (Invited).

W. Chang
Bachelor of Health Science (Nutrition and Dietetics), Queensland University of Technology; Clinical Dietetics (Nutrition in Renal disease): Predialysis Education Seminar (February 2001); Nurses Renal Inservice (Feb 2001). (Invited).

L. Smith
Womens’ Health Queensland Wide – 3 presentations (diet and menopause). (Invited).

A. Vivanti
Bachelor of Health Science (Nutrition and Dietetics), Queensland University of Technology: Food Service Management - (3 lectures Management and Organisational structures); Enhancement of quality with bistro meal service; Princess Alexandra Hospital Quality Forum (Vivanti A, Ash S, Braiuka N, Nitchie G). (Invited).

I. Hickman
Brisbane Interhospital Liver Group “How to persuade your patients to lose weight” (Invited).
Royal Brisbane Hospital/Qld Institute of Medical Research Forum, May 2001 (Invited).

PA Week May 2001 - Therapies in Chronic Disease - Weight reduction improves disease inpatients with chronic hepatitis C.

**PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS**


Hickman I (October 2001). Weight loss improves fatty liver. Asian Pacific Digestive Week Conference, Sydney.


Postgraduate Students
Wendy Davidson, MAppSc, Queensland University of Technology (QUT)
Ingrid Hickman, Converted MMedSc to PhD, University of Queensland (UQ)
Winsome Abbott, Converted D Hlth Sc (Deakin) to PhD, UQ
Angela Vivanti, DHlthSc *, QUT

Public Service Relevant to Research
S. Ash
NH&MRC grant assessor (x 3)
Assessor PhD Candidature (UQ x 1, QUT x 2)
Dietitians Ass. of Australia Dietetic Standards & Accreditation Advisory Committee
PAHHS Research Committee
Referee, Australian Journal of Nutrition and Dietetics

A. Vivanti
PAHHS Allied Health Research Committee
On Referee Register Australian Journal of Nutrition and Dietetics
Dietitians Association Board Committee Portfolio:
  Journal and Scientific Publications
  Conference Advisory Committee
Physiotherapy

Staff

SENIOR STAFF:
Kathy Grudzinskas, Director
Linda Marsh, Assistant Director
Suzanne Kuys, GARU
Maryann Schubert, BIRU
Brett Baxter, Orthopaedics

Sharon Chatterton, Medical/Surgical
Pat Wood, Outpatients
Beth Baird, Spinal Injuries Unit

RESEARCH STAFF
Dr Sandy Brauer (Physiotherapist PAH / UQ)

Current Research Activities

CLINICAL TRIALS
A RCT of a school-based physiotherapy program to improve motor control in children with and without developmental co-ordination disorder (DCD). Assoc Prof Yvonne Burns (UQ Physio), Dr Sandy Brauer, Johnston L (Physiotherapist, Mater).

OTHER RESEARCH
Queensland Rehabilitation Physiotherapy Seniors Network project to investigate outcomes of stroke patients admitted for rehabilitation. Kuys S, Dr Brauer S.
Gait, balance and neuropsychological profile of depressed elderly patients pre and post electroconvulsive therapy. Investigators: Varghese P (Director GARU), Brauer S Broome A (psychologist - PAH), Taylor S (physiotherapist - PAH), Burt J (Psychology - UQ).
Reliability and validity of the Modified Elderly Mobility Scale. Kuys S, Mann G.
Normative levels of performance of high level balance activities in young adults. Stone C, Hayes D.
Shoulder pain and dysfunction in acute quadriplegia: A prospective study. Salisbury S.

Outcomes of patients discharged home from the Acute Stroke unit of the PA Hospital. Cahill L, Kuys S.
Outcomes of surgical patients treated by physiotherapy staff of the PA Hospital. Chatterton S.
Use of the Elderly Mobility Scale by Physiotherapists in the Acute Stroke Unit. Hayes D, Dobbin E.
National Allied Health Benchmarking Committee (NAHBC) project for evaluation of service delivery for THR patients. NAHBC committee, Baxter B.
A patient satisfaction survey of orthopaedic clients of PA physiotherapy. Baxter B.
A survey of specific outcomes measures of physiotherapy OPD clients with pain in the regions of the lumbar spine, shoulder, elbow and hand. Wood P.
A patient satisfaction survey of outpatient and hydrotherapy clients of PA physiotherapy. Wood P.
A motor control study of the role of psoas major in local and global stability. Assoc Prof P Hodges (UQ), Brauer S, Sims K (UQ).
Tertiary phase intervention to improve gait and balance post TBI. Low Choy N (UQ Physio), Brauer S.
Motor control deficits in balance in children with and without developmental co-ordination disorder (DCD). Johnston L (Physiotherapist, Mater), Assoc Prof Yvonne Burns (UQ), Brauer S.
Funding


$8,230 - School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Project Grant. Low Choy, Brauer. Tertiary phase intervention to improve gait and balance post TBI.


Publications


Lectures and presentations
CONFERENCES/MEETINGS
Brauer SG, Woollacott M, Shumway, Cook A. Balance Impaired elderly have different step characteristics to healthy elderly. International Society for Postural and Gait Research Symposium, Maastricht, Netherlands, June 2001.


Salisbury S. The relationship between shoulder pain and range of motion in acute tetraplegia. IMSOP.


PROFESSIONAL
Maryann Schubert, Australian Physiotherapy Association, Neurology Level 1 course.

Postgraduate Students
Tony Johnston, Masters of Occ H & S (QUT)
Suzanne Kuys, Graduate Diploma of Public Health (UQ) +
Brooke Noble, Diploma of Business Studies (QUT)
Susan Salisbury, Masters of Physiotherapy (Research) (UQ)
Maryann Schubert, Masters of Physiotherapy (Neurology) (UQ) +
Peter Tonks, Post Grad Cert of Hydrotherapy (LaTrobe University, Melb) +
Awards to Staff Members
Sandy Brauer, 2001 School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Excellence in Research Award – New Investigator.
Sandy Taylor, Allied Health Research Scholarship 2001, PAH.
Brooke Noble, Private Practice Scholarship, 2001, PAH.
Nicola Briese, University Medal 2001, UQ.
Pat Wood, Highest overall GPA in Grad Cert of Management (QH).

Public Service Relevant to Research
Sandy Brauer
Editorial Board, Physiotherapy Research International.
Member, Research Committee, Australian Physiotherapy Association.

Linelle Redkin
Chair, Qld Chapter, National Neurology Group, Australian Physiotherapy Association.
Dominique Hayes
Treasurer, Qld Chapter, National Neurology Group, Australian Physiotherapy Association.

Quality Improvement Activities for 2001
Geriatric Assessment Rehabilitation Unit (GARU)
Developed GARU classes including photo resource manual for UL group, 2 high level balance groups, 4 low-mid level balance groups - run weekly for in and out patients.
Produced amputee education video for staff and for sale.
Developed community resource manual.
Contributed to development of activity groups for patients in Day Hospital.
Ongoing collection of data for fractured neck of femur study.
Collecting data for stroke benchmarking project.

Preparation for falls clinic - literature survey, assessment developed including most reliable predictors of falls.

Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit
Pool safety following TBI – advice to families.
AHPEP education package – 4 modules. Work in progress.
Collection of normative data for higher level skills and balance parameters.

Spinal Injury Unit
Guide for weekend staff.
Ward discharge planning checklist (whole unit).
Physiotherapy TRP checklist.
Cushion inventory.
Equipment submission templates.
Readmission summary form.
Student orientation program - plan to develop education packages.

Orthopaedics
Established independent learning packages for physiotherapy students on fractured neck of femur and acetabular fractures.
Revision of clinical pathways for total hip replacement, total knee replacement and anterior cervical fusion. (Brett Baxter).
Currently setting up x-ray package for new staff and students.

Medical/Surgical
Pre-operative home-based pulmonary rehabilitation pilot study commenced.
Statistics collected for attendances for Cardiac Rehabilitation Phase 2.
Transition to new hospital.

Outpatients
Management of waiting lists - greatly reduced.
Physiotherapy outpatient department information leaflet.
Outcome measures - backs, shoulders, knees.
Social Work

Staff

Senior Staff
Sue Cumming, Director
Margo Newman, Social Work Aged Care
Patricia Fronek, Social Work Rehabilitation and Disability
Sherryl Searles, Social Work Acute Care Services
Dr Margaret Shapiro, Director Postgraduate Research Studies, School of Social Work and Social Policy, UQ
Dr Cheryl Tils, Lecturer, School of Social Work and Social Policy, UQ
Dr Patricia Dorsett, Research Officer, School of Social Work and Social Policy, UQ

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

Other Research
Staff Knowledge, Comfort and Attitudes towards Sexuality within a Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Service – Spinal Injuries Unit and Transitional Rehabilitation Program.

Access to Transport for Patients attending Dialysis Treatment/Training.

Participation in “The Impact of Implementing an Outcome Directed Practice Model on Client Outcomes Project” a 3 year joint research initiative between the School of Social Work and Social Policy at The University of Queensland, the Social Work Departments of the Princess Alexandra, The Prince Charles and Mater Public Hospitals in Brisbane, and the Australian Association of Social Workers (Qld Branch). The project is designed to (1) develop an outcome focussed model of social work practice (2) train social workers in the use of the model (3) review current outcome measures for social work and develop new measures as required (4) test the new model against current models of practice to determine whether patient outcomes are improved.

Managing Assets in Older Age – Department of Social Work, PAH and the School of Social Work and Social Policy University of Queensland – Stage 1 and Stage 2.

Participation in combined hospitals research project Patients Waiting Placement for Residential Care.

Participation in research project Exploring Ethical Issues for Hospital Social Work Practice in Aged Care. Royal Brisbane Hospital, School of Social Work and Social Policy University of Queensland.

PAH Geriatric and Rehabilitation Unit Survey on Patient Satisfaction regarding the move during renovations from Bunya to Ward 5A and follow-up survey when ward moves back to Bunya.

Funding
Staff Knowledge, Comfort and Attitudes towards Sexuality within a Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Service - Queensland Spinal Cord Injury Service – $31,100 (for entire project).

Access to Transport for Patients attending Dialysis Treatment/Training:
$3,000 Division of Clinical Support Services
$2,000 Department of Nephrology
$1,500 School of Social Work and Social Policy
Total $6,500 for 2001-2002

ARC SPIRT Grant – $79,342 in 2001 for “The impact of implementing an outcome directed practice model on client outcomes project”.

Lectures and Presentations


Shapiro M. Re-directing models of Social Work towards an Outcome Focus – paper presented at Queensland Health and Medical Scientific Meeting, December 2001.


Postgraduate Students
Sue Cumming, Master of Public Administration+
Janet Howells, Master of Social Work (Research) *
Brooke Kooymans, Master of Social Work (Course work) *
Pat Dorsett awarded her PhD for thesis “Spinal Cord Injury – How Do People Cope”.

Public Service Relevant To Research

Membership of Reference Committee for the Research Project “Managing Assets in Older Age”, School of Social Work and Social Policy, University of Queensland.
Speech Pathology

Staff

Senior Staff
Wendy McCallum (B.Sp.Thy), Director
Louise Cahill (B.Sp.Thy), Lecturer in Speech Pathology (SP) (Research), joint position with UQ
Annie Johnson (B.Sp.Thy), A/Senior SP
Paula Addis (B.Sp.Thy), SP
Maura Bock (B.SP.Thy), A/Senior SP
Kelli Hancock (B.Sp.Thy), SP
Jenny Lethlean (B.Sp.Thy, PhD), Speech Pathologist, Clinical Senior Lecturer

Other Staff
Jenni Boxall (B.Sp.Thy), SP
Marissa Parkin (B.Sp.Path Hons), SP
Joanne Matthew (B. Sp. Path), SP
Sarah Holmes (B. Sp. Path Hons), New graduate
Penelope Stabler (B. Sp. Path), SP
Leanne Smith (B. Sp.Path), SP
Petrea Cornwell (B. Sp.Path Hons), Research Assistant

Current Research Activities / Funding

Funding: PAH Research and Development Foundation - $7,500.


Funding: Johnson & Johnson - $674, PAH Private Practice Trust Fund - $650, PAH Geriatric Unit Trust Fund - $500.

The impact of cervical spinal injury on communication: A physiological, acoustic and perceptual analysis. N Macbean, E Ward , L Cahill, T Geraghty, C Hukins, B Murdoch, M Bock, K. Hancock..

Funding: School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Rehabilitation Research Grant Scheme - $15,000.


Funding: PAH Foundation - $17,000.


Funding: Through Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, University of Queensland, ARC grant.


The role of subcortical neural mechanisms and frontal lobe disconnection in language. B.Whelan, B.Murdoch, P.Silburn, B.Hall.

An electropalatographic investigation of articulation in the dysarthrias and apraxia of speech. M.McAuliffe, E.Ward, B.Murdoch, K.Clark.

Functional speech and swallowing outcomes following differential management of laryngeal cancer. E.Ward, L.Cahill, M.Bock, K.Hancock, W.Coman, B.Murdoch.

Presentations
Hancock K. Voice rehabilitation following laryngectomy (invited platform presentation). Centenary Surgical Oncology Meeting, Brisbane, August 2001.

Public Service Relevant to Research
L. Cahill
Reviewer for journal of Speech Pathology Australia (Advances in Speech Language Pathology).
Pharmacy Department

Staff
Gwynneth Petrie, Director
Christine Maclean, Assistant Director
Ian Coombes, Assistant Director
Robyn Hurley, Clinical Trials Pharmacist
Susan Cobcroft, Pharmacist in Charge of the Sterile Production Centre
Susan Cobcroft, Robyn Hurley, Christine Carrington, James Radford – Oncology / Haematology Unit (OHU)
Judith Coombes, Senior Pharmacist Education, Conjoint Lecturer School of Pharmacy, UQ
James Radford, Jennie McKay, Senior Pharmacist Drug Utilisation Evaluation (DUE)
Adnan Gaugar, Project Officer DUE
Jo Sturtevant, Clinical Pharmacist, Renal
Daniella Sanders, Cardiac Consortium Research Pharmacist

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
The clinical trials pharmacist, the sterile manufacturing pharmacists and staff, the OHU pharmacists, and other pharmacists have continued to provide support to investigators involved in clinical trials. During 2001 this has involved about 100 trials. Over 18 of these trials have had aseptic and safe handling production provided by the Sterile Production Centre.

Sevelamer Hydrochloride used in combination with conventional phosphate binders improves calcium phosphate balance. In collaboration with the Nephrology Department, Jo Sturtevant, Carmel Hawley, Nikky Isbel, Robyn Kirwan.

Other Research
The main research activities of the pharmacy department have been in the form of practice research. The Brisbane Cardiac Consortium has funded the position of one Clinical Pharmacist Full time. The DUE pharmacist has continued to coordinate the Drug Utilisation Evaluation studies. Practice research has also included analysis of incident reports involving medications.

Brisbane Cardiac Consortium while the pharmacy department is not amongst the principal investigators Daniella Saunders based in the pharmacy department is a research pharmacist.

Assessment of Pre-registration Pharmacist’s clinical competence using the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) as an evaluation tool.

Joint project of Pharmacy Departments at Royal Brisbane Hospital, Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Princess Alexandra Hospital and School of Pharmacy, University of Queensland.

Judith Coombes Treasure McGuire and Karen Harrhy - third pilot 21/11/01.

Drug Use Evaluation (DUE)
Multi-centre Ipratropium audit. White L, Mcgovern T, Radford J, Gauhar A.
Multi-centre Proton Pump Inhibitor Audit. Quan J, Gauhar A, Radford J.
Multi-centre DUE of antibiotic treatment of lower respiratory tract infection in emergency departments. Radford J, Gauhar A.
DUE of Heparin infusion. Matthew Seymour, Ian Coombes.
Re-audit of Low Molecular Weight Heparin in Total knee and Total Hip Replacement. Radford J, Gauhar A.
Audit of COX-2 inhibitors. Landsberg P, Radford J.
**Funding**
Daniella Saunders based in the pharmacy department is a research pharmacist for the consortium and her position is fully funded by the study (Full time PO3 pharmacist).

**Multi-Centre Dues**
$800 - Queensland DUE group. Multi-centre Ipratropium audit.
$775 - New South Wales Therapeutic Assessment Group. Multi-centre Proton Pump Inhibitor Audit.
$1,000 - Victorian DUE group. Multi-centre DUE of antibiotic treatment of lower respiratory tract infection in emergency departments.

$6,400 over 3 years awarded by the Society Hospital Pharmacists of Australia Grant. Assessment of Pre-registration Pharmacist’s clinical competence using the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) as an evaluation tool. Joint project of Pharmacy Departments at Royal Brisbane Hospital, Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Princess Alexandra Hospital and School of Pharmacy, University of Queensland.

Judith Coombes Treasure McGuire and Karen Harrhy- third pilot 21/11/01.

**Publications**


**Lectures and Presentations**


Spence-Thomas M, Coombes J, Stumm R, Greenhill J, Hay J. Managing constipation in elderly orthopaedic patients using either pear juice or a high fibre supplement. PA week.

Coombes I, Mitchell C, Perisic K. Improving safety by sorting out the systems. A multidisciplinary approach to medication safety. PA week.
**Postgraduate Students**

James Radford, Masters of Clinical Pharmacy, School of Pharmacy, UQ.
Kieren Behan, First Year of Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy School of Pharmacy, UQ.
Trudy McGovern, Graduate Diploma of Business Administration, UQ.

**Awards to Staff Members**


**Public Service Relevant to Research**

Gwyneth Petrie  
Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) Deputy Chairman- Board of Censors, The Board of Censors runs the Fellowship Course, which includes a research component, for the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia.
Member of review panel for SHPA clinical pharmacy awards.
Member of Queensland Health Hospital Pharmacy Advisory Committee-Objectives include; Create an environment that supports pharmacists active engagement in teaching and research leading to publication and recognition with a view to supporting evidence based practice.
Christine Maclean  
Federal Council Member, SHPA.
Ian Coombes  
Chair, SHPA (Queensland Branch).
Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service

Staff
Mr Raymund Quinn, Manager
Dr Pim Kuipers, Research & Development Officer
Allied Health Staff
Administrative Support

Current Research Activities
a. Developing Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) through Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA). A rural research pilot. (Kuipers P, Kendall, E).
b. Analysis of the content and themes of the rehabilitation goals of people with acquired brain injury in a community based service. (Kuipers P, Carlson G, Foster M).
d. Developing a service evaluation strategy for community based ABI rehabilitation (ABIOS).
e. Comparison of outcome measures for community based ABI rehabilitation (Kuipers P, Kendall M, Fleming J, Tate R).
g. Foundational research on rural and remote service pilot.
h. Foundational research on behavioural support service pilot.

Funding
b. $8,000 - Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation.
c. $206,405 over 3 years 2000 - 2002 plus ‘in kind’ - Australian Research Council (ARC-SPiRT).
f. $20,000 - Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation.

Publications


ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION

ABSTRACTS WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED


Public Service Relevant to Research
Dr P Kuipers
Member, PAH Allied Health Research Committee.

Centre for Health Research Annual Review 2001
Nursing Education Research Unit

Staff
Dr Sarah Winch, Nursing Director Research, R.N., B.A., Hons 1., PhD. (Q).
Ms Kerri Holzhauser, Nurse Researcher, R.N., B. Health Sc. (Nursing), CATN, MRCNA.

Current Research Activities
Testing community care interventions in Dementia Care.
Professor H Bartlett, Ms C Cartwright, Dr S Winch, Ms K Hayes and the Queensland Council of Carers. The aim of this team is to develop and test specific, individual support interventions for patients, carers, GPs and community nurses in the area of dementia care.

Promoting Research Utilisation an Intervention Study. Professor D Creedy, Associate Professor W Chaboyer and Dr S Winch are investigating how to promote research utilisation amongst nurses in the acute care setting.

The Consumer as part of the Multi-disciplinary discharge team. Dr F Boyle, Ms A Mutch, Dr S Winch. The aim of this study is to develop a multi-disciplinary, multi-setting model of discharge planning that addresses consumer identified needs and draws on community resources to enhance patient outcomes.

Improving the retention of hospital-based registered and enrolled nurses working shiftwork. Dr A Pisarski, Professor C Gallois, Dr B Watson, Professor P Bohle, Dr S Winch, Associate Professor J Vickerstaff. The aim of this project is to apply a theoretical framework to the hospital based nursing sector to improve health, wellbeing, job satisfaction and team performance and decrease work/non-work conflict and voluntary turnover of registered and enrolled nurses working shiftwork in Australia.

Politics & Ethics: Spousal Carers in Qld 1888-1998. Dr S Winch and Ms G Lupton. This research explores the emergence, construction and government of the contemporary spousal carer of the aged person as a politicised, ethical subject in Queensland, Australia using a Foucauldian perspective.

Lectures and Presentations
Dr Sarah Winch


Ms Kerri Holzhauser
The Magnet Hospital Concept. Department of Health & Aging Canberra April 2001 (Invited).


Post Graduate Students
Ms Kerri Holzhauser, enrolled in Doctor of Business Administration (DBA).

Public Service Relevant to Research
Dr Sarah Winch
Princess Alexandra Hospital Ethics Committee. National Institute of Clinical Studies nursing reference group member.

Ms Kerri Holzhauser
Peer Review Panel for the Australian Emergency Nursing Journal.
Intensive Care Unit

Staff

NURSING
Sean Birgan, Nurse Practice Coordinator (NCP)
Nicky West, A/NPC
Sharon Wetzig, A/SDE
Anthony Limpus, Clinical Research Coordinator

VISITING SCHOLARS (ACADEMIC NURSING RESEARCH STAFF)
Wendy Chaboyer RN PhD (Associate Professor, Griffith University)
Chris Purcell RN PhD (Lecturer, Griffith University)

Current Research Activities
A program of research examining the use of graduated compression stocking is currently active and commenced in May 2001.

Funding
Graduated compression stocking program.
$500 - Australian College of Critical Care Nurses Education and Research Fund. “The use of Graduated Compression Stockings in Australian Intensive Care Units – A Clinical Audit”.
$9,300 - Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation. “A randomised trial to determine the effect of graduated compression stocking length and body position on femoral venous blood flow velocity.”

Publications

Lectures and Presentations
Leishman V. Nitric Oxide Ventilation
Kruger P. Current management strategies in ARDS
Ziegenfuss M. Chest x-ray interpretation
Wetzig S. Case Study Presentation.

Postgraduate Students
Support of external nursing PhD candidates.
Marion Mitchell (QUT): Family outcomes following client transfer from an intensive care unit: an educational intervention.

Graduate Certificate
Anne Poczykowska (QUT)+
Cheryl Power (QUT)+
Gillian Ray-Barruel (QUT)+
Jennifer Robertson (QUT)+
Leanne Jack (QUT)+
Libby Druce (QUT)+
Robyn Edmonds (QUT)+
Brett O’Gorman *
Chris Inglis*
Leanne Jack*
Danielle Griffiths*
Katrina Valks*
Suzanne Marie Predl*
Andrea Wilson*

Graduate Diploma
Jenny Anlezark*
Robyn Mayne*

Masters
Carolyn Griffiths (QUT)+
Tony Wilson (Griffith Uni)+
Cheryl Buschel *

Postgraduate Students
Support of external nursing PhD candidates.
Marion Mitchell (QUT): Family outcomes following client transfer from an intensive care unit: an educational intervention.

Graduate Certificate
Anne Poczykowska (QUT)+
Cheryl Power (QUT)+
Gillian Ray-Barruel (QUT)+
Jennifer Robertson (QUT)+
Leanne Jack (QUT)+
Libby Druce (QUT)+
Robyn Edmonds (QUT)+
Brett O’Gorman *
Chris Inglis*
Leanne Jack*
Danielle Griffiths*
Katrina Valks*
Suzanne Marie Predl*
Andrea Wilson*

Graduate Diploma
Jenny Anlezark*
Robyn Mayne*

Masters
Carolyn Griffiths (QUT)+
Tony Wilson (Griffith Uni)+
Cheryl Buschel *
Anaesthetic

Staff
Dr Peter Moran, Director
Dr Robert Bond
Dr Bruce Burrow
Dr Bart McKenzie
Dr Iain Salkield
Dr Kersi Taraporewalla
Dr Marianne Hack
Dr Darryl Washbourne
Dr Norris Green
Dr Janene Solomos
Dr Harry van de Meene

Publications


Breast, Endocrine, Thoracic Unit

Staff
Associate Professor Ian Bennett
Dr Neil R Wetzig
Dr David Wilkinson
Dr Lionel Hartley

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
RACS SNAC Trial (Sentinel Node versus Axillary Clearance) a multi centre randomised controlled trial. Principal Investigator.
The BIG 1 Trail (Tamoxifen vs Letrozole Trial).

Funding
$59,000 MBF.

Publications


Published Abstracts

Lectures and Presentations
A/Professor Ian Bennett


Dr Wetzig
“Update on the RACS SNAC Trial”: ANZ Breast Cancer Trial Group Scientific Meeting July 2001 (Invited Speaker).

“Update on the RACS SNAC Trial”: Australasian Society of Breast Disease Scientific Meeting September 2001 (Invited Speaker).

“Update on the RACS SNAC Trial”: COSA November 2001 (Invited Speaker).


“Axillary Dissection: How I Do It” Centenary Surgical Oncology Meeting August 2001.
“Sentinel Node Biopsy; Surgical Technique
Centenary Surgical Oncology Meeting August 2001.

“Does Surgeons Workload matter to Outcome”: Centenary Surgical Oncology Meeting August 2001.

Dr Wilkinson

PAH Centenary Surgical Oncology Meeting. “FNA Cytology and Frozen Section in the Diagnosis of Thyroid Cancer”. August 2001.

Public Service Relevant to Research
Dr Wetzig
Co Chair RACS SNAC Trial Management Committee.

Immediate Past Chairman Section of Breast Surgery RACS (Completed role of Chairman May 2001).

RACS Representative National Advisory Committee BreastScreen.

RACS Representative BreastScreen Queensland Quality Management Committee.
Cardiothoracic Surgery

Staff
Dr Julie Mundy, Director
Dr Terrence Mau
Dr Christopher Smith
Dr Kevin Matar

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
The Expedition Trial – A double-blind placebo-controlled, multinational trial to investigate the effect of IV treatment with the NA+/K+ exchange inhibitor cariporide (HOE642) on all-cause mortality and non-fatal myocardial infarction in patients at risk of myocardial necrosis during and after coronary artery bypass graft (CABG) surgery.

Publications


Lectures and Presentations


Public Service Relevant to Research
Dr Mundy
Grant application reviewer for NHMRC.
Colorectal Unit

Staff
Dr Jon Cohen
Dr David E Theile
Dr Brian Miller
Dr David Schache
Jodi Cooper, NPC
Cathy Bent, CSC
Rachel Pereira, CSC

Current Research Activities
“Pre-operative radiation therapy for rectal cancer”.
“Incidence and outcome of volvulus at PAH”.
“Stapled haemorrhoidectomy in cord-injured males – The PAH experience”.
“Severe Crohn’s disease: When should medical management cease?”
“Comparison of stapled and handsewn anastomoses for right hemicolectomy at PAH”.

Funding
$5,000 Ethicon J & J; Colorectal Project.
$5,000 Tyco; Colorectal Project.

Publications

ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION
Blake S. Clinical Pathways: A Public Health Nurses View (Chaper in a book to be compiled by Mark Siddins and Don Hindle).

Lectures and Presentations
Jon R. Cohen

David E. Theile

Brian J. Miller
RACS Annual Scientific Congress, Canberra. May 2001. Paper entitled: “Young Patients with Colorectal Cancer: How Do They Fare?”
David J Schache

Centenary Surgical Oncology Conference, PAH, Brisbane: August 2001. Paper entitled: “Princess Alexandra Hospital experience with endorectal ultrasound”.

Jodi L. Cooper


Debbie Kent / Lisa Halcoop
Ear, Nose and Throat

Staff
Professor William B Coman
Dr Ben Panizza
Dr Chris Perry
Dr Tim Cooney
Dr Vivek Shridhar
Dr David Chin
Dr Ben Wallwork
Dr Chris Que Hee
Dr Peter Silburn
Prof Anders Cervin

Current Research Activities / Funding
Clinical trials / Other research
Clinical relevance of invasion and metastatic markers in HNSCC using cDNA microarrays profiling. (Chin D, Boyle G, Parsons P, Coman WB).
Funding: Garnett-Passe & Rodney Williams Memorial Foundation Project Grant, Amount: $30,300 (first year).

Funding: This project was financed under University Research Grant funds from the University of Queensland.

Retinoid for the prevention of head and neck cancer (Perry C, Cooney, T, Coman W).

Objective measure of smell (Mackay-Sim A, Perry C, Coman W).

Acoustic neuroma gene array project (Shridhar V, Pickles J, Panizza B, Coman W).


The anti-inflammatory effect of macrolide antibiotics (Wallwork B, Cervin A, Coman W, Feron F, Mackay-Sim A).

Implanting nasal cells in the spinal cord (Perry C, Geraghty T).

Schizophrenia biopsy (McGrath J, Perry C).

Stem cells from the nose for treatment of Parkinson’s disease (Silburn P, Perry C).

Perineural spread of cutaneous head and neck SCC (Panizza B, Burns H, Brown I)
  ~ Epidemiology
  ~ Histology analysis
  ~ MR Neurography
  ~ Immunohistochemistry gene chip analysis

Allergic fungal Sphenoiditis (Slee N, Panizza B).

Hearing preservation in acoustic neuroma surgery (Brown-Rothwell D, Panizza B).

Publications


ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION


Lectures and Presentations
Professor WB Coman
Surgical approach to oral cavity & oropharyngeal tumours.

Pathophysiology and treatment option of the hypopharyngeal malignancy, why is this so special?


Dr Chris Que Hee
Laser treatment of early laryngeal cancer. (Que Hee CG, Coman WB).


Ben Wallwork
The anti-inflammatory effect of macrolide antibiotics for the Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research (CICR) at Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Postgraduate Students
Dr Ben Wallwork, Masters Degree GU, concluding work on thesis titled “The anti-inflammatory effect of macrolide antibiotics in chronic sinusitis”.
Queensland Liver Transplant Service

Staff
A/Professor Stephen Lynch
Professor Russell Strong
Professor Jonathan Fawcett
Dr Anthony Griffin
Dr Darryl Wall
Dr Julie Jonsson
Dr Paul Taylor
Dr Paul Salm
Glenda Balderson

Current Research Activities

CLINICAL TRIALS
A multicenter, randomized, open-label, parallel group study to compare Neoral® with C-2h monitoring to tacrolimus with trough monitoring in de novo liver transplant recipients.

“A Randomised, Double-Blind, Comparative study of the efficacy and safety of intravenous and oral Mycophenolate Mofetil and Azathioprine, each in combination with Cyclosporine (Neoral®) and corticosteroids in liver transplant recipients”.

An open-Label Study of the Safety and Efficacy of Adefovir Dipivoxil for the Treatment of Liver Disease Due to Lamivudine-Resistant Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) in Liver Transplant Patients.

Effect of atorvastatin on the pharmacokinetics of cyclosporin and tacrolimus in liver transplant patients.

Investigators: Dr. Peter Pillans, Mr. Paul Taylor, Dr. Paul Kubler, Mr. Paul Salm, A/Prof. Stephen Lynch.

Ischaemia-Reperfusion Injury of the Liver. (J Fawcett and N Saxton). Two strands of work. One is to explore the role of hepatocyte and endothelial apoptosis in a murine model of ischaemia-reperfusion injury, induced by temporary vascular inflow occlusion. This work was prompted by a review of post-reperfusion biopsies in liver transplant patients where apoptosis is a prominent feature. We have found that Cyclosporin A pre-treatment reduces apoptosis by 75% and there is an associated reduction in neutrophil uptake into liver parenchyma. The effect of Cyclosporin A may not be solely mediated by prevention of the mitochondrial transition permeability phenomenon – there is also a marked reduction in Fas mRNA in the liver as well. This work has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Hepatology.

The second approach is to develop strategies to deliver SuperOxide Dismutase (SOD) to tissues affected by ischaemia-reperfusion. We are currently making recombinant proteins to fuse SOD to IgA since IgA molecules are specifically taken up by the liver. We have also generated recombinant SOD tagged with the HIV tat motif because this targets intact proteins for direct uptake into cells, especially hepatocytes.

The application of RadioFrequency Ablation (RFA) in the treatment of liver tumours (J Fawcett, S Lynch, D Wall, R Strong). Liver resection has become more sophisticated over the last two decades. At our centre, for instance, the median transfusion requirement for hemi-hepatectomy is now zero units. Nonetheless, there are many instances in which tumours are inoperable even with complex strategies, such as total vascular exclusion, vascular resection / reconstruction, ex situ surgery and even transplantation. Non-invasive modalities of tumour treatment such as RadioFrequency Ablation (RFA) may have a role in the treatment of liver tumours in such situations. It is not clear, though, whether patients with inoperable tumours treated by RFA will achieve a substantial therapeutic benefit. We have commenced a prospective assessment of RFA in patients with inoperable colorectal liver metastasis to determine whether therapeautic effect is observed. Likewise, we are studying the treatment of HCC in cirrhotic patients, whose tumours fall outside the Mazzaferro criteria, and are not offered transplant by our...
Finally, those patients who with HCC and endstage liver disease who are candidates for liver transplantation, may nonetheless wait for significant periods of time until a donor becomes available. We want to commence a study across Australia and New Zealand to look at whether RFA is an effective treatment for the tumours in this group of people awaiting transplant.

**Funding**


$213,000 over 3 years Royal Children’s Hospital Foundation, Brisbane. Fawcett J (1998 - 2001). The IgA transport pathway as a diagnostic tool and a Superoxide Dismutase delivery system in liver transplantation.

**Publications**


Strong RW. Liver resection – Traveller there is no path, a path is made by walking. South African Journal of Surgery. (In press).


**Lectures and Presentations**

A/Prof SV Lynch

“Calcineurin Inhibitors are not Required Long Term After Liver Transplant”. San Diego, December 2001. 2nd International Meeting on Immunosuppression.

Prof J Fawcett


Prof Russell Strong


Bile Duct Malignancies - what is the way forward? Liver Trauma – Current management Bile duct injuries – The surgical challenge Bile duct anatomy

Visiting Scholar, Pembroke College, Cambridge, UK, April – July 2001

Guest Faculty, Liver Update 2001, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, July, 2001

Workshop – Live Demonstration of Hepatobiliary Surgery Plenary Lecture – Hepatobiliary Sepsis Treatment of HCC – Surgical resection versus liver transplantation Debate – Biliary strictures – Resection versus stenting Surgical management of biliary stones
Centenary Surgical Oncology Meeting, Brisbane, August, 2001
Hepatoblastoma
Cystic tumours of the liver
Cholangiocarcinoma – The PAH experience
Workshop – Live
Mervyn Neely Memorial Lecture – “There are lumps in it”

Brisbane Interdisciplinary Liver Group (BILG), October, 2001
Transplantation for PSC
Guest Lecturer, Japanese Biliary Association Meeting, Tokyo, October, 2001
Transplantation for biliary tract disease

The Ray Hollings Lecture, Sydney, October, 2001

Awards to Staff Members
A/Prof. SV Lynch
1997–current, Fellow of Queensland Institute of Medical Research.

November 2001 “Pro Sanitate” Medal bestowed by Republic of Hungary, Minister of Health for outstanding achievement in Liver Transplantation.

Prof. R Strong
AC – Companion of the Order of Australia
Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh
Visiting Scholar, Pembroke College, Cambridge, UK

The 2001 Prize of the Société Internationale de Chirurgie

Public Service Relevant to Research
A/Prof. SV Lynch
1993 – Current, Editorial Board of “Transplantation”.

1995 February, Member, International Scientific Board of ART, (Association for Research in Transplantation) Italy.

1995 – Current, Co-editor of Hepato Gastroenterology.

1996 – Current, Editorial Advisory Board of “Transplantation Reviews”.

1998 – Current, Chairman, Sasakawa (Nippon Foundation) Memorial Fund Committee Royal Children's Hospital Foundation.

1998 – Current, Member Medical Advisory Board of Biliary Atresia and Liver Transplantation (BALT) a section of Children's Liver Alliance, New York USA.

1998 – Current, Member Editorial Board “Graft”.

1998 – Current, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Section of Transplant Surgery – Deputy Chairman.

Member Subcommittees – Training and Accreditation, Organ Donation.

2000 – Current, Section Editor for Transplantation of the ANZ Journal of Surgery.

2001 – Current, Member of International Council Asian Transplantation Society.


Prof. J Fawcett
Peer review for project grant applications.
Peer Review for journals – Transplantation, Liver Transplantation, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Surgery.

Research Committee, GE Society of Australia.

Prof. R Strong
The Paediatric Liver Transplantation (editorial board).
Journal of Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery (editorial board).
Section Editor (Liver) HPB.
Orthopaedic Department

Staff
Dr Steven Andrews
Dr Mark Dekkers
Dr Geoff Askin
Dr Greg Couzens
Dr Ian Dickinson
Dr Phillip Duke from 3/6
Dr Paul Licina
Dr Lawrie Malisano

Current Research Activities
Dr S Andrews

Dr I Dickinson
Review of Desmoid Tumours (with Ivan Astori).
Synovial Sarcoma (with John Gallagher). Final preparation for publication, podium presentation at SICOT 2002.
Pelvic Chondrosarcoma, preparation for publication, for presentation at Queensland Branch meeting Townsville May 2001 (with Sarah Keogh).
Allograft and Fibular Graft, preparation for publication, poster presentation SICOT 2002 (with Dr Paul Belt Plastic Surgery Registrar).
Giant Cell Tumour, a study of 62 cases, preparation for publication, podium presentation SICOT 2002 (with Bernard Tamba-Lebbie and Mark Richardson).
Myxoid Tumours, preparation for publication, poster presentation SICOT August 2002 (with Des Soares).
Adamantoma (with Ken Cutbush).

Dr M Ross, Dr G Couzens
Couzens G. Assessment of Dynamic Scapholunate Instability using the Flexed Lateral X-ray.

Dr David Morgan
Dr John Morris
Dr John North
Dr Mark Robinson from 3/6
Dr Mark Ross
Dr Peter Steadman
Dr Richard Williams

Dr R Williams
Williams R, Dick J. Designing a classification system to assess osseous integration of femoral shaft allograft in post vertebrectomy patients using CT.

Dr R Verheul (Fellow), Dr D Morgan
Results of a new uncemented femoral component (in progress).
The effects of gamma irradiation on the biomechanical properties of morsellised cancellous allograft bone.
The effects of gamma irradiation on the osteoinductive capacity of morsellised cancellous allograft bone.
The design of an operative instrument for quantifying femoral canal cement pressurisation in THR.

Dr G Askin
Cutbush K, Askin G. AGF versus autograft in posterolateral lumbar spine fusion.
Askin, G and Fagan A. CT measurement of scoliosis correction in 3D.

Dr P Licina
Establishment of AO Spine Centre.
Audit processes and review.

Dr P Duke
Cadaveric study of rotator cuff repair with cuff tacks versus osseous tunnel suturing.
Dr P Steadman
Margins in sarcoma – exploiting the therapeutic options – Masters Program University of Queensland, combined centre study Princess Alexandra Hospital and Wesley Hospital Brisbane.
KI67 in chondrosarcoma proliferation (with Dr Sarah Keogh) Princess Alexandra Hospital.
Night stick fracture of the ulna – a randomised study of therapeutic options (with Dr John Gallagher).

Publications
Morgan DAF. Revision Hip Arthroplasty. In textbook of Orthopaedics and Trauma Oxford University Press.
Ross M. Hemiarthroplasty in PIP joint using polycarbon hemiarthroplasty. Follow up of complex distal radial fractures using Trimed internal fixation system and grafted with Norian.

Lectures and Presentations
Dr I Dickinson
Synovial Sarcoma, Queensland Branch meeting Townsville, May 2001 (with Dr John Gallagher).
Dr P Steadman
Convenor and Chairman The Wesley Hospital Instructional Course in Bone Tumours (Orthopaedic Oncology Society of Australasia Meeting) 2001.
Convenor (Orthopaedic Oncology Society of Australasia ) Registrars training course 2001. The Wesley Hospital Instructional Course in Bone Tumours.
Surgical Margins in Sarcoma – Instructional Course Lecture APOA Meeting Adelaide 2001 (Invited speaker).
The Use of MRI in the Wrist in WorkCover Patients. Annual Scientific meeting of Australian Orthopaedic Association (Qld).
Aortic Valve Research Group

Staff
Dr Marjorie Green
M/s Cheryl Filippich (to 30/4/01)
M/s Simone Becker (to 31/12/00)

In Collaboration with:
Dr Patrick Hogan, Director, Department of Immunology
Dr Mark O’Brien, Senior Cardiac Surgeon, Director of the Queensland Heart Valve Bank, Prince Charles Hospital
M/s Lisa Sparks, Senior Scientist, Queensland Heart Valve Bank

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
Testing of the Synergraft pig aortic heart valve.
This type of fresh pig heart valve is considered to be acellular by the manufacturer rendering it less immunogenic and therefore leading to less structural damage over time. A group of patients at The Prince Charles Hospital have had a synergraft valve implanted. Our research team have been following the patient’s immunological response to the valve. The first patients were implanted in August 1999 and are just coming up to their two-year follow-up. These patients are being compared to patients who had conventional pig heart valves implanted, those had human valves implanted and those who had mechanical valves implanted.

The laboratory follow up is performed at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in the University of Queensland Department of Surgery and the Department of Immunology. Clinical follow-up is performed at the Prince Charles Hospital, Cardiac Surgery Department.

Other Research
Research in to the causes of structural damage to allografted aortic heart valves using a rat model.
There are two schools of thought regarding what causes structural damage to implanted aortic heart valves, which can work successfully for 15 to 20 years but then fail. The first school think that this damage occurs through an early immune response, which is slow to become clinically apparent, the second are inclined to believe that the immune response is irrelevant and the damage is caused by stress and trauma. There is no doubt that both immune and mechanical events take place. Our research is focussing on investigating which events are important. This work is being undertaken using a rat model.

Funding
2. Institute of Cardiovascular Research 1 year (2001) $63,000: Causes of structural damage to allografted aortic heart valves using a rat model.
Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation 1 year (2001) $10,000: Causes of structural damage to allografted aortic heart valves using a rat model.

Lectures and Presentations
Aortic valve allografts and the immune response. 2nd Annual Scientific and Business Meeting of the Australasian Tissue Banking Forum, ANU, Canberra April 2001 (Invited).
Rat aortic valve allograft histology and graft specific immune responses in immune suppressed recipients. First Biennial Meeting of The Society for Heart Valve Disease, London, UK (June 2001).
Upper GI Unit and Queensland Melanoma Project

**STAFF**
Assoc Professor BM Smithers  
Professor DC Gotley  
Dr S Jones  
Dr I Martin  
Dr GR McLeod (Nov 2001)  
J Thomas – Research Nurse

**Collaboration**
Dr B Burmeister, Radiation Oncologist, QRI  
Dr J Harvey, Radiation Oncologist, QRI  
Dr E Walpole, PAH Medical Oncology  
Dr D Thomson, PAH Medical Oncology

**Current Research Activities / Funding**

**Upper GI:**
Randomised phase II study of preop chemo versus perop chemoradiation for operable oesophageal carcinoma. No specific funding. Data Manager/Research Nurse via QRI.

Quality of life assessment following intervention for Oesophageal Cancer. Funding of Data Manager/Research Nurse via DCG and BMS private practice.

Long term results following laparoscopic repair para-oesophageal hernia. Funding from the Wesley Research Institute.

Epidemiology of Oesophageal Cancer.  
Chief Investigator: David Whiteman (QIMR).  
Associate Investigators: Prof Adele Green, Assoc Prof M Smithers, Prof. D Gotley.


**Melanoma Project:**
Clinical trial of Autologous Melanoma Vaccine in Patients with Stage IV melanoma.  
Investigators: Dr R Thomas, Assoc Prof M Smithers, Dr E Walpole. NH&MRC 2000 – 2002 $103,000 per annum.

Phase III trial of Autologous vaccine for resected stage III patients.  
Investigators: Prof. M O'Rourke, K Ellem, C Schmidt, M Smithers, B O'Loughlin.

**Publications:**

**Upper GI**


**Melanoma**


**Lectures and presentations:**

M. Smithers  
Update on the Surgery for Melanoma Gold Coast Oncology collaborative Group (Invited).


Diagnosis and Management of Malignant Melanoma. 44th Annual Meeting RACGP (Qld Faculty), Gold Coast, Australia (Invited).

Oesophageal Cancer – Adjuvant Therapy Annual Scientific Congress, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Canberra (Invited).

Management of Cutaneous Melanoma Mater Hospital Collaborative Oncology Group, Brisbane (Invited).
Management of Pancreatic Injury Military and Civilian Trauma, Brisbane (Invited).

Management of Cutaneous Melanoma. Redcliffe Hospital Clinical Meeting (Invited).

The present status of adjuvant therapy for Oesophageal Cancer. Australasian Gastrointestinal Trials Group, Annual Scientific Congress, Sunshine Coast, Queensland. (Invited).

The role of a multidisciplinary clinic in the management of upper GI malignancy Surgery for bulky groin secondaries of melanoma. A surgeons perspective of the role of adjuvant therapy for Melanoma. Centenary Surgical Oncology Meeting, Brisbane, Australia (Invited).


D. Gotley
Results of oesophagectomy for carcinoma.
Centenary Surgical Oncology Meeting, Brisbane. (Invited).


I. Martin
The role of laparoscopy for gastric carcinoma.
Centenary Surgical Oncology Meeting, Brisbane (Invited).

Public Service relevant to research:

DC. Gotley
President, Surgical Research Society of Australia and New Zealand

NH&MRC, Review Panel

Australia and New Zealand Journal of Surgery – Editorial Board

British Journal of Surgery – Editorial Board

BM. Smithers
R.A.C.S. -Chairman, Regional Subcommittee in General Surgery Member, National Board of General Surgery Scientific

Queensland Institute of Medical Research - Member of Governing Council

Australasian Gastrointestinal Trials Group - Member, Management and Scientific advisory committee
Liver Research Group

Staff

Senior Staff
Dr Elizabeth Powell, Gastroenterologist and Director of Clinical Training, Associate Professor of Medicine
Dr Julie Jonsson, Senior Research Fellow, Department of Surgery
Dr Andrew Clouston, Pathologist and Senior Lecturer, PAH and Sullivan and Nicolaides Pathology
Dr David Purdie, Biostatistician, Population and Clinical Sciences Division, QIMR

Research Staff
Ms Michelle Richardson, Scientist
Mr Wenyi Gu, Scientist
Dr Dana Vanags, Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Research Students
Peter Gochee PhD
Ingrid Hickman PhD

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
The role of weight reduction and nutrition in fatty liver disease associated with chronic hepatitis C.
The effect of renin angiotensin system blockade on the progression of hepatic fibrosis.

Other Research
The influence of host genetic factors on disease progression and response to treatment in chronic hepatitis C.
Investigation of the relationship between steatosis and fibrosis in chronic liver disease.
Investigation of the mechanisms contributing to human liver allograft acceptance.
The role of the renin angiotensin system in hepatic fibrosis.

Funding
$50,000 pa. NHMRC Practitioner Fellowship 2001-2005 (Powell).
$82,000 pa. Investigation of the role of the Renin-Angiotensin System in hepatic fibrosis. NHMRC 2002 - 4 (Jonsson, Powell, Clouston).
$40,000 pa (from total grant of $95,000 pa). Development of clinically applicable strategies to induce and monitor long-term acceptance of liver allografts. NHMRC 2001-3. (Bishop, Jonsson, McCaughan, Powell).
$69,000 pa. The role of the renin angiotensin system in hepatic fibrosis. Gesa Research Fellowship 2001-2003 (Jonsson).
$10,000 PAH Foundation. Hepatitis C virus and the host: viral effects on lipid metabolism and fibrogenesis. (Powell, Clouston, Hickman).
$10,000 PAH Foundation. Strategies to monitor graft acceptance following liver transplantation. (Clouston, Gu, Vanags).

Publications


ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION


ABSTRACTS WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED
2001 Asia Pacific Digestive Week (APDW)
Jonsson JR, Clouston AD, Gochee PA, Powell EE. Expression of the hepatic Renin Angiotensin System in chronic hepatitis C.

Clouston AD, Powell EE, Lynch SV, Jonsson JR. Leucocyte replacement following human liver transplantation-donor kupffer cells persist long term.


Clouston AD, Jonsson JR, Lynch SV, Powell EE. Sinusoidal lymphocyte apoptosis is prominent following OLT-a potential mechanism for improved outcome of liver grafts.


Lectures and Presentations
Dr Elizabeth Powell

Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian and South East Asian Tissue Typing Association November 2001. “Laboratory and clinical aspects of chimerism” (Invited).

European Association for the Study of Liver Diseases-International Association for the Study of Liver Diseases Postgraduate Course, Madrid April 2002 “Role of alcohol, nutrition and other factors in the progression of HCV-related chronic liver disease; implications for patient counselling” (Invited).


Dr Julie Jonsson
Gastroenterological Society of Australia (Queensland) August 2002 “The role of the Renin Angiotensin System In hepatic fibrosis – from bench to bedside” (Invited).

Australian Gastroenterology Week, October 2002 “The role of the Renin Angiotensin System In hepatic fibrosis-human studies” (Invited).

Dr Andrew Clouston


Postgraduate Students
Ingrid Hickman PhD
Peter Gochee PhD

Awards to Staff Members
Dr Elizabeth Powell
Investigation of the relationship between steatosis and fibrosis in chronic liver disease NHMRC Practitioner Fellowship 2001-2005 $50,000 pa.
Dr Julie Jonsson
The role of the renin angiotensin system in hepatic fibrosis GESA Research Fellowship 2001-2003
$69,000 pa.

Dr Andrew Clouston
PhD – University of Queensland. 2002.

Mr Peter Gochee
Fulbright Postgraduate Student Award ($35,550), Jul 2000 - Jun 2002

Public Service Relevant to Research
Dr Elizabeth Powell
Hepatitis C virus projections working group
(national representative of the Australian Liver Association)
Queensland Hepatitis C Advisory Committee
Journal reviewer Hepatology, Journal of Hepatology
Assessor – NHMRC project grants

Dr Julie Jonsson
Journal reviewer Gastroenterology, Journal of Hepatology
Assessor – NHMRC project grants

Dr Andrew Clouston
International Academy of Pathology (Australasian Division) Queensland Councillor
Discipline Supervisor, Pathology, Southern Clinical School. (2000- present).
Diagnostic Theme Integration Committee, MBBS Course. 2001
Assessment Working Group, Year 2. (2000-present).
Journal reviewer Hepatology, Journal of Hepatology, Pathology
Assessor – NHMRC project grants
Surgical Oncology Laboratory

Staff
Professor DC Gotley
Dr Trina Yeadon
Jennifer Reeder
Shirley Callaghan
Elida Szilagyi

Current Research Activities
Role of CD44 splice variants in tumour metastasis.

Tumour-host interactions in the liver.

Maintaining the Princess Alexandra Hospital Tumour Tissue Bank.

Funding
NHMRC
Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.
Research and Development Foundation, Princess Alexandra Hospital.
Schering-Plough Research Institute.

Publications


Abstracts

Lectures & Presentations
DC Gotley
Biology of Metastasis Annual Scientific Meeting of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. (Invited).

Postgraduate Students
Su Ing Hii PhD+
Andrew Barbour PhD+
David Lockwood PhD
Domenika Turkiewicz MPhil*

Public Service
D Gotley
NHMRC GRP
President Surgical Research Society Australasia Board of Research, RACS
Board of QIMR
Research Institute, GESA

Member Research Committees of Southern Clinical School, University of Queensland, Princess Alexandra Hospital, and Princess Alexandra Hospital Research and Development Foundation.
**Ophthalmology**

**Staff**
Professor L Hirst  
Dr Peter Madden  
Mr Chris Morais  
Dr Christina Bi

**Current Research Activities**
Randomised control trial of mitomycin C for dysplasia
Research into corneal transplantation
Research into Bat cornea

**Funding**
Prevent Blindness Foundation

**Publications**


**Abstracts Published**

**Lectures and Presentations**
Guest Lecturer, PA Week, Princess Alexandra Hospital – Eye Bank - 2001

Guest Lecturer Wenzhou Medical School – Wenzhou China 2001

**Postgraduate Students**
Glenda Nolan – PhD  
Fiona Chan – Scientific studies  
Andrew Carroll – Master of Public Health
Urology & Renal Transplantation Unit

Staff
Dr David L Nicol, Director
Dr William Cadzow, Urologist
Dr Ross Cartmill, Urologist
Dr Peter Heathcote, Urologist
Dr Roger Hinsch, Urologist
Dr Graham Holmes, Urologist
Dr Peter Mactaggart, Urologist
Dr John Preston, Urologist
Dr Glen Wood, Urologist
Gayle Frohloff, Live Donor Coordinator

Dr Trung Pham, Urology Fellow
Colleen Marsh R.N, Continence Advisor
Irina Oleinikova, Clinical Staff/Clinical Trial Coordinator (UQ)

Affiliated Scientific Staff of University of Queensland (UQ)
Dr Meaghan L Douglas, Research Officer
Michelle Richardson, Research Assistant
Ian Wilson, Urodynamics Research

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials


Other Research

Renal cell carcinoma (RCC)
Conventional or clear cell RCC is the most common malignancy affecting the adult kidney and is now the 6th leading cause of cancer death worldwide. Although surgical removal of the affected kidney is very effective in patients with localised disease, an effective treatment for patients with metastatic disease has not yet been identified. These patients have a very poor prognosis: less than 20% survive more than 5 years after diagnosis. These tumours, which metastasise predominantly to the lungs, are highly resistant to chemo- and radiotherapies, whilst trials of immunotherapeutic strategies are associated with high toxicities and low response rates.

However, a hallmark of clear cell RCC is extensive neovascularisation, indicating anti-angiogenic intervention may be an effective means of interfering with tumour growth and metastasis. The group established an animal model of human clear cell RCC in 1997 and this has been used in pre-clinical trials of various anti-angiogenic drugs, including the anti-hypertensive ACE-inhibitor captopril* and the controversial teratogen thalidomide. Whilst thalidomide was not effective in inhibiting the growth of tumours in this animal model (1), captopril showed remarkable anti-tumour efficacy in pre-clinical trials (2) and is now the subject of a phase II clinical trial in patients with advanced RCC.

The group are now collaborating with various pharmaceutical manufacturers to carry out pre-clinical trials of other potential treatment strategies for RCC.

*In collaboration with Dr Julie Jonsson, School of Medicine Southern Clinical Division, University of Queensland, Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Testicular germ cell tumours (TGCTs)
As TGCT occurs in men aged between 15 and 45 years, the side effects of currently available treatments - infertility, retrograde ejaculation, hearing loss and risk of secondary malignancy - are of great concern. Although surgical removal of the affected testis and cisplatin-based chemotherapies effectively cure up to 90% of TGCT patients, a proportion remains where treatment is ineffective.
As these tumours are not observed in pre-pubescent boys, the possibility exists that fertility-related hormones are involved in the development of TGCTs. The group has investigated this possibility in an animal model of human non-seminomatous germ cell tumour (NSGCT), the less common but more difficult to treat form of adult testicular cancer (3). Preliminary data suggests that testosterone and/or oestrogen availability may be required for tumour growth.

The group has also identified a potential tumour suppressor gene in testicular cancer* (4). The role of testisin in TGCTs and normal testis physiology is the subject of ongoing research.

*In collaboration with Dr Toni Antalis, formerly of the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR), Brisbane.

Prostate cancer (CaP)

Men with advanced CaP frequently suffer from bony metastases, a very difficult aspect in the treatment of this disease. The group have successfully reproduced an animal model designed to examine the manner in which CaP cells grow in bone (5). The first project involving this model will examine the role of members of the kallikrein family of genes, including prostate-specific antigen (PSA) in CaP cell invasion of bone as well as overall aspects of tumour growth and metastasis*.

The group is also part of a collaboration between the Princess Alexandra Hospital, the Queensland University of Technology and a London-based commercial research partner seeking to isolate new, fully documented CaP cell lines suitable for research and CaP vaccine production*.

* In collaboration with Associate Professor Judith Clements, School of Life Sciences, Queensland University of Technology (QUT).

Funding


Publications


ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION

Douglas ML, Reid JL, Hii SI, Jonsson JR, Nicol DL. Renal cell carcinoma may adapt to and overcome anti-angiogenic intervention with thalidomide. BJU Int (In press).


ABSTRACTS PUBLISHED IN 2001


**Lectures and Presentations**

Dr David Nicol


The Urological Society of Australasia Annual Scientific Meeting March 25-29, 2001, Coolum, Qld. Presentation. Renal Cell Carcinoma is able to Adapt to Thalidomide Mediated Inhibition of Angiogenesis. Douglas ML, Reid JL, Hii SI, Jonsson JR, Nicol DL.

The Urological Society of Australasia Annual Scientific Meeting March 25-29, 2001, Coolum, Qld. Presentation. Identification and Characterisation of a Novel Gene, Stag1, Up-regulated in Renal Cell Carcinoma. Rae FK, Hooper JD, Nicol DL, Clements JA.


Genito-Urinary Oncology Group, Best Practice Workshop in Urological Oncology, June 22-24, 2001, Sydney, N.S.W. “Surgery for Renal Cancer (including role of nephrectomy for advanced disease)”. (Invited).

Dr Meaghan L. Douglas
The 44th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Endocrine Society of Australia, Gold Coast, QLD. Oral Presentation: Suppression of luteinising hormone-releasing hormone activity and subsequent downstream hormone expression inhibits the growth of testicular germ cell tumours in vivo. Douglas ML, Reynolds J, Robertson T, Nicol DL.

**Postgraduate Students**

Ms Janet L. Reid, PhD (UQ)
Ms Su Ing Hii, PhD (UQ)

**Public Service Relevant to Research**

Dr Meaghan L. Douglas
Research User Group Committee (Design and implementation of the new research wing at PAH)
Alcohol & Drug Assessment Unit

Staff
Dr Gerald FX Feeney, Director
Ms Annie Mc Pherson, Clinical Nurse Consultant
Ms Jane Tucker, Social Worker
Dr Ross McD Young, Senior Clinical Psychologist
Dr Jason Connor, Clinical Psychologists
Ms Dixie Statham
Ms Janine Lonsdale
Ms Tracey Atkinson
Ms Rachel Phillips
Ms Carolyn Van Dyk, Administrative Officer

Current Research Activities
Investigation of anticraving agents
Naltrexone/Acamprosate when applied to Cognitive and Behavioural Therapy in alcohol
dependence.

Identification of factors predictive of favourable
treatment outcome in alcohol dependence.

Liver Transplantation in Alcoholic Liver Disease: Clinical and Psychometric measures
pre/12months post transplantation

Cannabis abuse: predictors of severity of dependence and social functioning.

Cannabis Expectancy cognitions: development of a psychometric instrument to measure these
cognitions and implications for treatment.

The role of neurotransmitter genes (A1 Allele of the D2 Dopamine Receptor, GABA A β3
subunit) in the development of Alcohol and other substance misuse.

Funding
National Drug Strategy (NDS) and Queensland Health funding for service delivery.

Queensland Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative (QIDDI) service delivery.

Publications
behavioural therapy (CBT) program for alcohol dependence: Impact of Naltrexone use on

Randomised controlled trial of two cigarette quit programs in coronary care patients post acute
myocardial infarction. Internal Medicine Journal, 31:270-275

ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION
polymorphism is associated with severity of alcohol dependence. European Psychiatry.

Therapy combined with the relapse-prevention medication Acamprosate: are short-term
treatment outcomes for alcohol dependence improved? Australian and New Zealand Journal
of Psychiatry.

Young RMcD, Feeney GFX. Why do people use drugs? Chapter 2 in Hulse GK, White J, Cape G
Lectures and Presentations

Dr GFX Feeney

Princess Alexandra Hospital Week: “Grape Expectations” (Invited).


Ross McD Young


Dr JP Connor

Public Service Relevant to Research

Dr Ross McD Young
Member of the Early Detection and Prevention Committee of the Queensland Cancer Fund.
Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit

Staff
Dr Ron Hazelton, Director
Dr Kathryn Pugh, Registrar

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

Assessment of Neurontin (Gabapentum) in the management of spasticity of cerebral origin. Investigators: Pugh K, Schubert M, Hazelton R.

Funding
Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation $23,000

Publications
Clinical Immunology & Allergy Department

Staff
Dr Patrick Hogan, Director
Dr Richard Wong, Staff Clinical Immunologist

Current Research Activities
Clinical Autoimmunity
Clinical Allergy
The immunology of Aortic Valve Allografts

Funding

Publications


Articles Accepted for Publication


Wong RCW, Phan TG, Steele R, Gillis D, Adelstein S. Drop the anchor, not the ANCA. Int Med J (In press).

Lectures and Presentations
Dr P Hogan
RACP (Qld) Lecture Series “Clinical Allergy”.

GMC Lecture “HLA and Transplantation”.

Dr R Wong


Wong RCW, Field K. MPO-ANCA may produce a combination of P-ANCA and atypical cytoplasmic ANCA indirect immunofluorescent patterns on certain ethanol-fixed neutrophil substrates. 5th Australasian ANCA Study Group Workshop, Melbourne, September 2001.

Public Service Relevant to Research
Dr P Hogan
Member of QHPS Education Research Trust Fund
Clinical Pharmacology

Staff
Dr Peter Pillans, Director
Dr Matthew Marrinan, Registrar
Mr Paul Taylor, Mr Paul Salm, Scientific staff
Miss Charlene Willis, Miss Kim Forrest, Mr Stuart Rutledge, Research Officers

Current Research Activities
Population pharmacokinetics of tacrolimus in solid organ transplant recipients.
Investigation of a novel aerosol delivery system for the delivery of nicotine.
Investigation of the effect of atorvastatin on the pharmacokinetics of cyclosporin and tacrolimus in liver transplant patients.
Mycophenolic acid pharmacokinetics in renal transplant patients.
Development of novel pharmacodynamic markers in solid organ transplant recipients.
Drug utilisation evaluation of COX-2 inhibitor use.
Evaluation of dosage adjustment in renal impairment.

Funding

Publications

Abstracts which have been published


**Lectures and Presentations**

Taylor PJ (Chair) and Moyer TP. 7th International Congress of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Clinical Toxicology. Washington DC, August 2001. Workshop, Oral Presentation: HPLC-mass spectrometry: A powerful tool for therapeutic drug monitoring.


Dermatology Department

Staff
Dr John Auld, Director of Dermatology

VISITING MEDICAL OFFICERS
Dr Caroline Mercer
Dr Greg Siller
Dr Robert Sinclair

Current Research Activities

CLINICAL TRIALS
Melanoma and Dysplastic Naevus Diagnosis by means of electrical impedance measurements of normal and dysplastic skin using the TS2000M.

Multi-centre Phase III, double blind study of photodynamic therapy (PDT) with Metvix 160mg/g cream in comparison to PDT with placebo in patients with primary nodular basal cell carcinoma.

An open-labelled study to elevate the safety and long-term clinical efficacy of Imiquimod cream applied once daily, seven days per week for six weeks in the treatment of superficial basal cell carcinoma.

An open-label, multi centre study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of Imiquimod 5% cream in subjects with multiple superficial basal cell carcinoma lesions.

OTHER RESEARCH
Microscopic Study of Freckles and Moles (Nguyen R.)

The Role of E2F in skin cancer formation (Saunders NA and Wong CF)

The Role of AP2 in squamous cell neoplasia. (NA Saunders and C Popa)

Genetic profiling of SCC formation (Saunders NA, Serewko MM)

The Role of Polymorphisms in the Gli gene and their implications in cell proliferation (Ross I)

Funding
All equipment and disposables used for clinical trials are provided by the external companies involved in the research. The Department of Dermatology has requested these companies donate a sum of money to the Queensland Skin and Cancer Foundation.

Publications


ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION:


Post Graduate Students
Dr Anthony Dicker, Awarded PhD
Dr Jennifer Wells, Awarded FACD
Dr Karen Behne
Dr Michael Sharkey

Public Service relevant to Research
Dr John Auld, Chief Censor Australasian College of Dermatology
Dr Caroline Mercer, Qld Censor Australasian College of Dermatology
Dr Robert Sinclair, Chairman Qld Faculty Australasian College of Dermatology
Dr Greg Siller, Secretary Qld Faculty Australasian College of Dermatology
Dr Greg Siller, Member of the Medical Advisory Panel of Peplin Biotech.
Diabetes and Endocrinology Department

Staff
Associate Professor John Prins, Director & Wellcome Senior Research Fellow, MBBS, PhD, FRACP
Associate Professor Joanne Shaw, Staff Endocrinologist MBBS, PhD, FRACP
Dr Margaret Williamson, Senior Visiting Endocrinologist MBBS, FRACP
Associate Professor Ross Cuneo, Endocrinologist (University of Queensland) MBBS, PhD, FRACP
Dr Alpha Yap, Part-time Endocrinologist MBBS, PhD, FRACP
Dr David Torpy, Part-time Endocrinologist MBBS, PhD, FRACP
Dr Winifred Lee, Part-time Endocrinologist, MBBS, FRACP
Dr Tricia O’Moore-Sullivan, Part-time Endocrinologist, MBBS, FRACP
Dr Anthony Russell, Part-time Endocrinologist
Dr Alan, Senior Scientist PhD
Dr John Cardinal, Scientist PhD
Sr Jane Lidgard, Clinical Trial Co-ordinator RN
Sr Vanessa Campbell, Clinical Trial Co-ordinator RN
Sr Karen Mains Clinical Trial Co-ordinator
Sr Christine Watts, Clinical Trial Co-ordinator RN
Sr Janine Kesting, Clinical and Genetics Study Coordinator RN
Dr Paul Lovelock, Postdoctoral Scientist PhD
Dr Francis Busfield, Postdoctoral Scientist PhD
Dr Wenda Shurety, Postdoctoral Scientist PhD
Dr Pascal Imbeault, Postdoctoral Scientist PhD
Dr Larissa Haupt, Research Scientist
Dr Chengxia Guo, Research Scientist
Ms Louise Hutley, Research Scientist
Ms Janet Rae Berkholz, Research Administrative Assistant

Current Research

CLINICAL TRIALS

Osteoporosis
Strontium Ranelate (3 Study Groups) Normalisation of Calcium & Vitamin D and the effects of S12911 on the incidence of new vertebral fractures and peripheral fractures in postmenopausal women.

Fosamax (70 mg weekly) in patients with osteoporosis.

Diabetes
Reddy1. A randomised, multi centred, double blind parallel controlled trial to investigate the safety and efficacy of 5 doses of DRF2593 in OHA and diet treated patients with Type II diabetes. A open label extension trial in patients with painful peripheral neuropathy.

IOMY - Lispro Insulin
Combination therapy of Insulin Lispro low. mixture with oral agents in patients with Type II diabetes after oral agent failure.

Mitiglinide
A month multi centre, multi national randomised double blind study of the effect of Mitiglinide in combination with Metformin compared to Metformin or Mitiglinide given as monotherapy given for the treatment of Type II diabetes followed by a 5-month open label treatment with Mitiglinide/Metformin combination.

GLAG (Pioglitazone) and GLAL (Pioglitazone)
Long-term efficacy and safety of Pioglitazone vs Gliclazide in patients with Type II diabetes.

Pregabalin (Painful Neuropathy) A placebo controlled trial of Pregabalin and Amitriptyline for the treatment of painful diabetic peripheral neuropathy.

DIRECT Retinopathy
3 year clinical programme on the effects of candesartan cilexetil on diabetic retinopathy.
**ASPART (Analogue Insulin)**
Open label noncomparative multicentre extension trial to assess long term safety vs efficacy of insulin aspart in subjects with Type II diabetes.

**Zenerastat (Neuropathy)**
A long term double blind placebo controlled parallel group study of Zenerastat (C1-1014) in diabetic patient at risk of foot ulcer.

**Reddy 2 (Ragaglitazar)**
A randomised, multicentre double blind, double dummy parallel group trial of two doses of NNC 61-0029 in combination with metformin vs metformin monotherapy of metformin and glibenclamide in treatment of subjects with Type II diabetes.

**CL2-1526 (Phase IIb)**
Dose ranging study of S15261-3 administered orally bid at the doses of 12.5mg, 25mg, 50mg, 100mg and 200mg for 12 weeks in Type II diabetic patients. Multicentre randomised double blind phase II study versus placebo and metformin.

**Endocrinology**

* Xenical
Roche Sample Repository Research Project to evaluate orlistat as a treatment for obesity.

* Prevention Breast Cancer

**OTHER RESEARCH**
Regulation of human adipose cell apoptosis.

Regulation of human adipose cell differentiation.

Regulation of insulin sensitivity in human adipose tissues – relationship to obesity and pregnancy (in collaboration with Professor David James, CMCB, University of Queensland).

Study of PPARγ activation and its endogenous ligands in human adipose tissue.

Study of TNF and its receptors and cloning of a novel mitochondrial TNF-binding protein (Collaboration with Dr Liz Ledgerwood, Dunedin, NZ).

Study of the relationship between non-alcoholic hepatic steatosis, obesity and cirrhosis (in collaboration with Dr Graeme Macdonald, Department of Medicine, University of Queensland).

Investigation of specific dietary interventions in diabetes and non-alcoholic steatohepatitis.

Identification of susceptibility genes for type 2 diabetes in pedigrees from populations in our geographic region with a high prevalence of type 2 diabetes, including a large pedigree of admixed Pacific Islander/European descent, and indigenous Australian pedigrees.

Identification of susceptibility genes for Paget’s disease of bone in pedigrees with multiple affected members.

Implementation and evaluation of diabetes education and intervention programs in indigenous Australian communities.

Clinical and genetic analysis of vascular disease in indigenous Australian pedigrees: in collaboration with Professor T Marwick, University of Queensland.

**Funding**

**CLINICAL TRIALS**

- **$429,000** Prins Group
- **$160,000** Wellcome Trust
- **$55,000** NHMRC
- **$30,000** PAH Foundation
- **$20,000** Eli Lilly Endocrinology Research Grant
- **$133,000** NHMRC project grant 102410: Characterisation of the genetic basis of Paget’s disease of bone.
- **$145,000** NHMRC project grant 142935: Identification of a novel diabetes susceptibility gene localised to human chromosome 12q.
- **$165,000** Viertel Senior Research Fellowship in Medical Science: The characterisation of the genetic basis of type 2 diabetes.
- **$67,000** Cooperative Research Centre for the Discovery of Genes for common human diseases.
$13,000 Eli Lilly Endocrinology Research Grant: Implementation and evaluation of a diabetes education program in an urban indigenous community with a high prevalence of type 2 diabetes.


$30,000 PAH Foundation.
(i) Clinical and genetic analysis of vascular disease in subjects with type 2 diabetes ($10,000)
(ii) Identification of a novel susceptibility gene for Paget’s disease of bone ($10,000)
(iii) The isolation and characterisation of a new type 2 diabetes locus on chromosome 12q in a Brisbane pedigree ($10,000).

$14,000 Arthritis Foundation of Australia: Identification of a novel gene causing Paget’s disease of bone.


$34,700 Diabetes Australia Research Trust: Identification of a novel diabetes susceptibility gene localised to human chromosome 12q.

$55,000 Lions Medical Research Foundation: Identification of type 2 diabetes susceptibility genes.

Publications


Lectures and Presentations
Dr J Prins Group
Over 40 lectures and presentations.

Dr J Shaw

Oral presentation by Dr Frances Busfield at the Australasian Gene Mapping Meeting 2001.

Oral presentation by Dr Frances Busfield at the Australian Diabetes Society Annual Scientific Meeting 2001.

Oral presentation by Dr Paul Lovelock at the Australian Diabetes Society Annual Scientific Meeting 2001.

Poster presentation by Sr Janine Kesting at the Australian Diabetes Society Annual Scientific Meeting 2001.

Oral presentation by Mr David Good at the Australasian Bone and Mineral Society Annual Scientific Meeting 2001.


Postgraduate Students
Ms Louise Hutley
Ms Manuela Stolic
Dr Anthony Russell
Dr Trisha O’Moore-Sullivan
Mr David Chambers
Ms Sylvie St Pierre
Mr David Good
Ms Shelley Walker

Public Service Relevant to Research
Dr J Prins
Princess Alexandra Hospital Research Ethics Committee (Clinician/Scientist member)

Princess Alexandra Hospital Research Committee

University of Queensland Southern Clinical School Research Committee

Chair, Committee for General Clinical Training, Princess Alexandra Hospital

Member, Grant Review Panel, NHMRC

Member, Grant Review Panel, Eli Lilly Endocrine Research Awards

Grant Reviewer - MRC (Hong Kong), Diabetes Australia Research Trust, National Heart Foundation

Assessor, Royal Australasian College of Physicians

Journal Reviewer – Diabetes, Laboratory Investigation, International Journal of Obesity, Medical Journal of Australia

Dr J Shaw
Convenor, South-East Queensland Regional Endocrine Group

Member, Specialist Advisory Committee in Endocrinology for the Royal Australasian College of Physicians

Regional Examiner, Royal Australasian College of Physicians

University of Queensland representative, Diabetes and Cardiovascular Intervention Trials (DACIT) Steering Committee

Chairperson “Australian Families Against Diabetes” Advisory Board

University of Queensland Department of Medicine representative on the Ethics, Personal and Professional Development Committee for the Graduate Medical Course

Grant reviewer: NHMRC, Diabetes Australia Research Trust, National Heart Foundation, The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation Research Grant Program, Medical Research Council UK, Arthritis Foundation of Australia.

Journal Reviewer: Diabetologia, Journal of Clinical Endocrinology, Diabetes/Metabolism Research and Reviews
Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Staff

Clinical Staff
Darrell Crawford MD, FRACP, Associate Professor of Medicine, Director of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Elizabeth Powell MBBS, FRACP, PhD, Clinical Senior Lecturer, Department of Surgery, Director of Clinical Training & Gastroenterologist
Paul Kerlin MD, FRACP, Clinical Professor of Medicine, Senior Consultant Gastroenterologist
Derek Dickey MBBS, FRACP, Senior Consultant Gastroenterologist
Charles Steadman MD, FRACP, Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine, Senior Consultant Gastroenterologist
Neville Sandford MBBS, FRACP, Consultant Gastroenterologist
Andrew Pascoe MBBS, FRACP, Consultant Gastroenterologist
Mark McCullen BSc MBBS MRCP, Senior Fellow in Gastroenterology
Dr Peter Whiting MBBS, FRACP, Senior Registrar

Research Staff
Linda Fletcher BSc (Hons), PhD, Scientist
Katherine Stuart MBBS,FRACP, NHMRC PhD Student
Therese Murphy MSc, Scientific Research Officer
Claudia Shorthouse RN, Liver Disease Co-ordinator
Julie Roggeveen RN, Clinical Research Co-ordinator
Di Jones RN, Research Assistant

Current Research Activities

Research
Our research interests focus strongly on liver disease, in particular in the areas of iron overload, hepatic fibrosis, liver transplantation and hepatitis C. We actively collaborate with colleagues from the Queensland Institute of Medical Research particularly in relation to disorders of iron metabolism (haemochromatosis) and liver fibrosis and cirrhosis.

(i) Disorders of Iron Metabolism in relation to end-stage liver disease:

(a) End-stage Liver disease and iron deposition. We are investigating the mechanism of hepatic iron loading in cirrhosis. This is an extension of our findings of an outcome analysis of liver transplantation in patients with increased hepatic iron stores which suggested that the severity of liver disease rather than the degree of hepatic iron loading is the most important determinant of outcome following liver transplantation. In particular we are investigating whether this increased deposition of hepatic iron is as a result of increased iron absorption rather than a redistribution of body iron stores. Dr Stuart is undertaking an NHMRC funded PhD and has proceeded to quantitate the mRNA expression of recently described duodenal iron transport genes (DMT1, IREG1, Ferroportin) in human duodenal biopsy specimens in patients with cirrhosis and related these to type of liver disease. She is also measuring the mRNA expression of these novel transporters in animal models of liver disease (bile-duct ligation and carbon tetrachloride injection) and investigating the effect of haemolysis induced by phenylhydrazine on the expression of these transporters. Dr Stuart presented her data at the World Congress on Iron Metabolism, Cairns, August 2001.

(b) Population screening for haemochromatosis. In collaboration with Dr Peter Hickmann (Department of Chemical Pathology) and Dr Patrick Hogan (Department of Immunology) we have been evaluating outcomes of a hospital based screening program for C282Y associated haemochromatosis. The study is nearing completion with over 15,000 patients presenting to Chemical Pathology for routine tests screened to date and over 5% with a TIBC >40% genotyped for the disease. Although the study is ongoing, preliminary analysis of outcomes suggests only limited benefits of population screening for HHC in a tertiary hospital environment. Factors contributing to this
outcome include poor compliance, modest disease expression in affected individuals and the source of the screening population. Similar studies in community populations are required to further define the benefits of screening for HHC. Dr McCullen has presented the findings of this study at the World Congress on Iron Metabolism, Cairns, August 2001.

(c) Excess alcohol consumption and cirrhosis in hereditary haemochromatosis.
Dr Fletcher has examined the range of hepatic iron concentration (HIC) associated with cirrhosis in the absence of alcohol and other pro-fibrogenic cofactors haemochromatosis patients homozygous for the C282y mutation in the HFE gene and quantitated the contribution of excess alcohol consumption to the development of cirrhosis. We found that subjects who consume more than 60g alcohol per day are approximately 9 times more likely to develop cirrhosis than those who drink less than this amount and (ii) cirrhosis associated with excess iron alone occurs at significantly higher HIC than that associated with both alcohol and iron. (iii) cirrhosis is uncommon (<2%) when iron is the only toxic insult and liver function tests are normal, nevertheless, venesection therapy is recommended in subjects with elevated HIC. The findings were presented at the World Congress on Iron Metabolism, Cairns, August 2001.

(d) The concordance of iron indices in homozygote and heterozygote sibling pairs in haemochromatosis families.
Concordance of iron indices between same-sex siblings homozygous for the C282Y mutation suggests that the variable phenotype in hereditary haemochromatosis is caused by genetic factors. Concordance of iron indices between same-sex heterozygous sibling pairs would provide further evidence of genetic modifiers of disease expression, and guidance for family screening strategies of subjects heterozygous for the C282Y mutation. Dr Peter Whiting has completed a study examining comparing the iron indices 35 C282Y homozygous and 35 C282Y heterozygous same-sex sibling pairs. To clarify whether concordance between siblings was due to environmental or genetic factors we compared the iron indices of 164 C282Y homozygous-normal, same-sex dizygotic twins. The data suggests evidence for modifying genes influencing disease expression in haemochromatosis.

(ii) Hepatic Fibrosis, Stellate Cell Biology and Hepatocellular Carcinoma
We are continuing our collaborations with Professors Gotley and Fawcett, and Dr Trina Yeadon (University of Queenslands Department of Surgery. The aim of this research is to understand the host stellate cell response to liver malignancy and we are studying this in the buffalo rat model of HCC.

(iii) Hepatitis C Virus
Dr Peter Whiting was awarded a Princess Alexandra Hospital Research Fellowship to conduct this research into the relationship between vitamin B12 and hepatitis C virus replication in collaboration with Professor Eric Gowans. The studies were extended from in vitro studies to in vivo human studies to examine the clinical implications of this relationship. The study has been funded by a grant from Queensland Health. Recently, we were successful in obtaining competitive funding to continue this research throughout 2001.

In addition to basic laboratory and clinical research, we have commenced a series of projects specifically designed to enhance shared care arrangements between hospital specialists and general practitioners in metropolitan and non-metropolitan Queensland. These projects have also received independent funding from Queensland Health.

(iv) Other projects include:
The influence of host genetic factors on disease progression in chronic hepatitis C
Investigation of the relationship between steatosis and fibrosis in chronic liver disease
Investigation of the mechanisms contributing to human liver allograft acceptance
The role of the renin angiotensin system in hepatic fibrosis

CLINICAL TRIALS
Research Protocol NV15942 Roche 116/99
Phase III, Randomised, Multicentre, Efficacy and Safety Study Examining the Effects of the Duration of Treatment and the Daily Dose of Ribavirin in Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection Treated with the Combination of Peginterferon alfa-2a and Ribavirin, Version NV15942c(12-Jan-01).
Research Protocol WV16143A Roche
A protocol for re-treatment with the combination of Peginterferon alfa-2a and Ribavirin for patients with chronic hepatitis C in original study NV15942 who relapsed virologically after completing 24 weeks of treatment.

Research Protocol NR 16071 Roche– 22/01
A Randomised, Open – Label, Multicentre, Phase III Study Evaluating the Efficacy and Safety of Peginterferon alfa-2a (Ro25-8310) in Combination with Ribavirin (Ro 20-9963) Given for 24 weeks Versus 48 weeks Versus No Treatment in Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C and persistently Normal ALT Levels.  NR16071 Version B (2 May 2000).

Research Protocol BV 16209 Roche 132/00
Protocol B Pegasys Mono or Pegasys + Ribavirin SAS. Multicentre Open label Expanded Access Program of Peginterferon alfa-2a (Ro25-8310) Monotherapy and combination therapy with Ribavirin (Ro 20-9963) in patients with chronic Hepatitis C.

GS 98-437 Gilead 8/99
A Double-Blind, Randomised, Placebo-Controlled Study of Adefovir Dipivoxil for the treatment of Patients with HbeAg(+) Chronic Hepatitis B Virus Infection.

GS 98-435 – 112/99

Hepatitis C and Weight reduction
The role of weight reduction and nutrition in fatty liver disease associated with chronic hepatitis C.

Hepatitis C and the Renin Angiotensin system
The effect of renin angiotensin system blockade on the progression of hepatic fibrosis.

Funding
$10,000 Princess Alexandra Hospital Research and Development Foundation. Iron overload in end stage liver disease: mechanisms pathological significance and role of iron removal. Crawford DHG, Fletcher LM.


Publications


**Post Graduate students**
Dr Katherine Stuart, enrolled PhD
Ingrid Hickman, enrolled PhD
Peter Gochee, enrolled PhD

**Awards to Staff Members**
Dr Elizabeth Powell, awarded NHMRC Practitioner Fellowship for 2001-2005
Dr Katherine Stuart, awarded NHMRC Postgraduate Medical Research Scholarship
Dr Peter Whiting, awarded Princess Alexandra Hospital Medical Research Scholarship

**Public Service Relevant to Research**
Member, Editorial Board, Journal of Hepatology/Journal of the European Association for Study of the Liver

**Assessors NHMRC Research Grants:**
Dr Crawford
Dr Powell
Dr Fletcher

**Manuscripts reviewed for the following journals:**
Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology
Gastroenterology
Digestive Diseases and Sciences
Hepatology
Australian & New Zealand Journal of Medicine
Journal of Hepatology
Clinical Chemistry
Nutrition International
Medical Journal of Australia
Liver Transplantation and Surgery
GUT

**Professional and Research-Related Societies:**

**Memberships of Departmental Members:**

**International:**
American Association for the Study of Liver Disease
International Association for Study of the Liver
American Gastroenterological Society
American College of Gastroenterology
British Society of Gastroenterology
Mayo Alumni Society

**National:**
Gastroenterological Society of Australia
Australian Society of Medical Research
Australian Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition
Australasian College of Physicians
Australian Fulbright Association

**Local**
Gastroenterological Society of Queensland
Clinical and Laboratory Haematology

Staff
Dr Ralph Cobcroft, Director (PAH and QHPS) and Clin Ass Prof (University of Queensland)(UQ)
Dr Devinder Gill, Senior Staff Haematologist (PAH) and A/Director (QHPS)
Dr Paula Marlton, Senior Staff Haematologist (PAH) and A/Director (QHPS) and Senior Lecturer (UQ)
Dr Gavin Cull/Tony Mills, Staff Haematologist (PAH)
Mr Russell Saal, Chief Scientist - Haematology (QHPS)
Ms Karen Grimmett, Supervising Scientist - Special Investigations Section (QHPS)
Ms Georgina Timson, Research Assistant

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

National /International

AML M10 (ALLG). Phase 11 study of flexible low intensity combination chemotherapy (mitozantrone, cytarabine & etoposide) in elderly patients (>60 yrs)

Multi-center, Randomized, Open-label Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Immunotherapy With Subcutaneous Maxamine (histamine dihydorchloride) Plus Proleukin (Interleukin-2) Versus No Treatment (Standard of Care) In Patients With Acute Myeloid Leukemia In First or Subsequent Complete Remission.

ALSG Acute Promyelocytic Leukaemia Study: A Phase II trial with acute promyelocytic leukaemia (APML).

International Study Group Trial: CHOP with or without the anti-CD20 antibody Rituximab in de novo Diffuse Large B-Cell Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.


CD40 activated B-CLL cells: an alternate method for generating an immune response and establishing autologous antigen-specific T cells for adoptive immunotherapy.

OTHER/LABORATORY BASED RESEARCH

Analysis of new clinically valuable prognostic indicators in chronic lymphocytic leukaemia – correlation of genomic aberration, immunoglobulin gene mutational status and CD38 expression with clinical parameters.

Comprehensive assessment of minimal residual disease in patients with good prognosis acute myeloid leukemia (AML) for the prediction of relapse and development of therapeutic algorithms.

Development of quantitation of bel-1 oncogene by real-time PCR and monitoring of minimal residual disease in mantle cell lymphoma

Profiling EBV dynamics in Hodgkins disease: collaboration with QIMR.
**Funding/Grants**

$10,000 Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation. Detection of leukaemia specific transcripts in the peripheral blood of patients in clinical remission with inv(16) or t(8;21) genetic rearrangements.

$15,000 Amgen Australia Pty Ltd: Evaluating minimal disease in AML & lymphoma.

$US 15,065 Maxim. Immunotherapy in AML trial.

$1,060 ALLG: HD3.

$21,952 Gilead: COP-X trial.

$70,000 Queensland Cancer Fund (QCF).

**Publications**


**ABSTRACTS PUBLISHED**


**Invited Lectures/Ooral Presentations**


**Public Service Relevant to Research**

**Dr Devinder Gill**

Member, Laboratory Scientific Sub-Committee of Australasian Leukemia and Lymphoma Group (ALLG).

Committee Member, on behalf of NHMRC and CAN, preparing management guidelines for transplant related post lymphoproliferative disorders (PTLD).

Co-Principal Investigator, International Study Group Trial: CHOP with or without the anti-CD20 antibody Rituximab in de novo Diffuse Large B-Cell Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

Committee Member, on behalf of NHMRC and ACN, preparing management guidelines for Hodgkins Disease.

Scientific assessor Anti-cancer Council of Victoria and for the Leo & Jenny Leukaemia and Cancer Foundation.

Speaker for Leukemia Foundation of Queensland.

**Dr Paula Marlton**

Director, Australasian Leukemia and Lymphoma Group (ALLG).

Committee Member, the on behalf of NHMRC and ACN, preparing management guidelines for Lymphoma.

Committee Member, on behalf of NHMRC and ACN, preparing management guidelines for transplant related post lymphoproliferative disorders (PTLD).

Chairman, Laboratory Scientific Committee Australasian Leukemia and Lymphoma Group (ALLG).

Chairman, ALLG Leukemia Tissue Bank.

Member of the Organising Committee for the 33rd Annual Meeting of Haematology Society of Australia – 2001.
Member, Medical Services Advisory Committee
Supporting Committee on Nucleic Acid Amplification Testing in Haematologic Malignancy.

Working Party Member for ACN NH&MRC Guidelines for The Management of Lymphoma

Member, Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics Working Party QHPS.

Speaker for Leukemia Foundation of Queensland.

Dr Ralph Cobcroft
Member, Blood Product User Group of NE Australia Red Cross Blood Service.

Chairman, Queensland Health Blood and Blood Products Advisory Group.

Member, High Cost Drugs Sub-Committee of the Drugs and Therapeutics Committee, Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Qld Health Pathology Service, Haematology Discipline Working Party.

Qld Health Pathology Service, Molecular Biology Discipline Working Party.

Dr Gavin Cull
Chairman, Brisbane Haematology Group Meetings.

Scientific Assessor for the National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant Funding.

Russell Saal
Qld Health Pathology Service, Haematology Discipline Working Party.

Qld Health Pathology Service, Molecular Biology Discipline Working Party.
Geriatric Unit (GARU)

Staff
Dr Paul Varghese, Director
Dr Phil Aitken, Staff Specialist
Dr Glenda Powell, Visiting Specialist
Dr Glenise Berry, Visiting Specialist
Dr Peter Kortlucke, Locum Visiting Specialist
Dr Keren Harvey, Senior Registrars
Dr Owen Davies
Dr Lisa Gemmell
Chris Watts, Research Nurse

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

FOOD trial (Feeding or Ordinary Diet for Stroke patients) a randomized trial of nutritional support in acute stroke patients. Dr P Aitken.

Other Research
Davies OJ, Varghese PN. Rehabilitation Outcomes following Lower Limb Amputation – A Six Month Follow-up Study.

Lord S, Varghese PN, et al (Collaborative partner). Preventing Falls in Acute and Rehabilitation Hospitals and Preventing Falls and Fractures in At-Risk Groups of Older People as part of Prevention of Injuries in Older People (NHMRC Injury Partnership).


Funding
$32,000 Pharmaceutical Drug trial grant GAL-INT 10.

Publications
Grimley R, Taylor S, Varghese PN. Do measures of gait and balance alter with treatment of melancholic depression in a geriatric population? Paper presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the ASGM in Leura, NSW.

Awards to Staff Members
Dr Rohan Grimley
Awarded the RM Gibson award for his paper presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the ASGM in Leura, NSW on the effects of ECT on gait.
Infection Management Services

Staff
Dr Michael Whitby, Director
Dr David Looke, Consultant Infectious Diseases
Dr Wendy Munckhof, Consultant Infectious Diseases
Dr Tony Morton, Consultant Statistician
Dr Miranda Mortlock, Statistician
Mr Ron Webster, Research Associate

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
Safety and Efficacy of Ambisome vs Conventional Amphotericin B in the Treatment of Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Mycosis. (Gilead). Protocol No: 104-CM-AUS.

Linezolid (PNU-100766) given intravenously or orally for use in patients with significant, multi-drug resistant Gram-positive infections, or in patients unsuitable to standard therapy. (Upjohn Pharmacia). Protocol Number 766INF0026-083.


Other Research
Statistical and mathematical modelling to improve healthcare outcomes.

Clinical, humanistic and economic outcomes of home intravenous therapy.

Funding
Clinical Trials
$6,452 Nexstar Pharmaceuticals: Safety and Efficacy of Ambisome vs Conventional Amphotericin B in the Treatment of Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Mycosis. Protocol No: 104-CM-AUS.

$9,300 Upjohn Pharmacia: Linezolid (PNU-100766) given intravenously or orally for use in patients with significant, multi-drug resistant Gram-positive infections, or in patients unsuitable to standard therapy. Protocol Number 766INF0026-083.


Other Research
$711,956 SPIRT Grant 1999-2002, in association with Queensland University of Technology, Department of Mathematics and Prince Charles Hospital. “Statistical and mathematical modelling to improve healthcare outcomes”.

$5,185 Ipswich Hospital Foundation. “Community acquired methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus infections in Ipswich”.

Publications


ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION


Lectures and Presentations

Whitby M. “Infection control as a quality activity”. In “Challenges and Opportunities in Pathology”, Hong Kong College of Pathologists/Hong Kong Division of International Academy of Pathology, Hong Kong. October 2001. (Invited)


Postgraduate Students
Ms Petra Graham, Doctorate of Philosophy (QUT)

Public Service Relevant to Research
Dr D Looke
Pathology – Editorial Board

Dr Michael Whitby
International Journal of Infectious Diseases – Editor for South East Asia/Australasia.

Australian Journal of Hospital Medicine – Editorial Board.

Australian Journal of General Practice – Editorial Board.
Department of Internal Medicine

Staff
Dr Ian Scott, Director
Dr Graham Hall
Dr Graeme Maguire
Dr Frank Lepre
Dr Peter Landsberg

Current Research Activities

Health Services Research
Research group affiliated with the Department of Internal Medicine in brackets.

Optimising Cardiac Care (Brisbane Cardiac Consortium Clinical Support Systems Program; Queensland Collaborative for Healthcare Improvement [CHI])

Utilisation of Cardiac Rehabilitation in Queensland (CHI)

Use of Clinical Practice Guidelines in Queensland Hospitals (CHI)

Use of Administrative Data in Assessing Quality of In-hospital Care (CHI; QUT Department of Biostatistics)

Use of Screening Tools and Targeted Preventive Interventions in Optimising In-hospital Care of Elderly Patients (Aged Care Toolkit Collaborative)

Role of Clinical Leadership in Promoting Clinical Governance (Collaboration with Griffith University School of Public Health)

Improving Rational Use of Clinical Investigations (RIO Collaborative)

Clinical Epidemiology
Systematic Review of Diagnostic Value of Brain Natriuretic Peptide in Congestive Heart Failure (School of Population Health, University of Queensland)

Systematic Review of Effects of Quality Improvement Interventions in Acute Coronary Syndromes (CHI)

Clinical Education
Methods for Enhancing the Teaching of Clinical Reasoning to Medical Students

Funding
Health Services Research
Brisbane Cardiac Consortium received $500,000 from Federal Department of Health and Aged Care.

Queensland Collaborative for Healthcare Improvement (CHI) received $750,000 from Queensland Health Quality and Improvement Enhancement Program. For conducting collaboratives in the areas of cardiac care, cardiac rehabilitation, clinical practice guidelines, and assessment of quality of hospital care.

Griffith University collaboration received $75,000 National Institute of Clinical Studies.

Publications


Articles Accepted for Publication

Coory M, Scott IA, Baade P. Differential effect of socioeconomic status on rates of invasive coronary procedures across the public and private sectors in


Scott IA, Campbell D. Health services research: What is it and what can it offer? Intern Med J. (In press).


Lectures and Presentations


‘Optimising Cardiac Care’ PAH Scientific Week. Brisbane. 20/6/01.

‘Evidence-based Medicine Workshop’. RACP Cottrell Travelling Fellow. University of Otago School of Medicine, Dunedin, NZ. 25/7 – 27/7/01. (Invited).


‘Optimising Cardiac Care’ MSD/Cardiac Society of Queensland seminar. Brisbane. 15/9/01. (Invited).

‘Effects of quality improvement interventions on in-hospital mortality in acute myocardial infarction’ Poster presentation. 11th Asia Pacific Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care. Sydney. 19/9/01.


‘Effects of quality improvement interventions on in-hospital mortality in acute myocardial infarction’ 11th Cochrane Colloquium. Lyons, France. 12/10/01.


‘Effects of quality improvement interventions on in-hospital mortality in acute myocardial infarction’ QH Medical and Scientific Forum. Brisbane. 4/12/01.

Postgraduate Students
Michelle Groves (PhD in Clinical Education)
*Jennifer Doust (PhD in Public Health)

Awards to Staff Members
Dr Ian Scott, Medical Journal of Australia & Wyeth Australia Research Award 2001

Public Service Relevant to Research
Dr Ian Scott
Co-Sponsor, Queensland Collaborative for Healthcare Improvement
1Member, Heart Failure Initiative, National Institute of Clinical Studies

Member, Medical Quality Board, Queensland Health

Editor for Internal Medicine, Internal Medicine Journal (formerly Australian and New Zealand Journal of Medicine)
Medical Oncology

Staff
Assoc Professor DB Thomson, Director
Dr Euan Walpole, Senior Staff Specialist
Mr Dan Jackson, Data Manager
Ms Danica Humphries, Data Manager
Mr Steven Ivanhoe, Data Manager
Mrs Susan Godwin, Research Nurse

Current Research Activities

CLINICAL TRIALS

Breast
Phase III BIG 1-98 (140/97 Dr E Walpole). Postmenopausal women with operable disease receptor positive. (Double-blinded).
Phase III ANZ BCTG (144/00 Dr E Walpole). Intermittent Capecitabine vs Continuous Capecitabine vs standard CMF in advanced disease.
EORTC Phase III randomised (63/01 Dr E Walpole). First line hormonal treatment for metastatic breast cancer with exemestane or tamoxifen in postmenopausal patients.
BCIRG Phase III 005 (Dr E Walpole). Adjuvant therapy in node positive, HER2 negative, Doxetaxel with Doxorubicin and Cyclophosphamide vs Doxorubicin and cyclosphosphamide followed by Docetaxel.
BCIRG Phase III 006 (Dr E Walpole). Adjuvant therapy in node positive and high risk node negative patients, HER2 positive.

Colon
Stages II & III Ca. Colon C-07 (75/2000 Dr E Walpole).
5-FU + LV + oxaliplatin vs 5-FU + LV.
TROG Study (Single arm non-random) Study of concurrent radiation and chemotherapy for organ conserving treatment of early anal canal cancer.
EORTC Phase III (1/01 Dr E Walpole). Pre and post-op chemotherapy with Oxaliplatin 5-FU/LV vs. Surgery alone in resectable Liver metastases from colorectal origin.

Upper G.I.
Phase II Gastric Taxane Study (170/00 Dr E Walpole).
Previously treated, advanced gastric carcinoma
Phase I-II PAH/MATER QRI Study

Dose escalation of Paclitaxel with 5FU + concurrent radiation in advanced oesophageal carcinoma. (Paclitaxel day 1, 5-FU civ days 1-4 3 wk interval then radiation 35 Gy)
Phase I-II PAH/MATER QRI Study
Protracted intravenous infusion of 5FU + concurrent radiation for oesoph.ca.
5-Fu civ for duration of radiation (3wks – palliative) (6 wks curative)
Phase II PAH/MATER QRI Study
Randomized preoperative chemotherapy vs preoperative chemoradiation for resectable ca of the oesophagus and gastro-oesophageal junction.

Pancreatic
Phase II Aust. Pancreatic Cancer Study Group (172/00 Drs Walpole/Harvey) Gemcitabine integrated with concomitant 5-FU & 3D conformal radiotherapy in the treatment of localised pancreatic cancer.
Phase III Gemcitibine study 125/01 (Dr Walpole).
Previously untreated locally advanced non-resectable pancreatic adenocarcinoma.

Melanoma
DTIC with Taxotere (142/00 Dr DB Thomson) Metastatic Melanoma
Phase III randomized in advanced metastatic Melanoma (142/00 Dr Thomson)
DTIC vs DTIC + G3139 Bel-2 Antisense Oligonucleotide.
Phase II Vinflunine study (180/2000 Dr Thomson).
IV Vinflunine in metastatic melanoma/chemotherapy naive.
OTHER RESEARCH
Cancer Registry Project – Results of cancer treatment at PAH using electronic data (ongoing project).

Funding
CLINICAL TRIALS
$122,216.62 received as support for multiple clinical trials. This amount applies to both Medical Oncology and Haematology.

Publications


ABSTRACTS WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED


Lectures and Presentations
D. Thomson
Multidisciplinary Care – Centenary Surgical Oncology (CSO) Meeting, Brisbane, 2001
Adjuvant Treatment of Colorectal Cancer - CSO Meeting, Brisbane, 2001
Management of advanced melanoma - CSO Meeting, Brisbane, 2001
E. Walpole
Lung Cancer Debate – Grand Rounds PAH
Upper Gastrointestinal Cancer – International Society of Oncology Pharmacy Practitioners, Broadbeach, July 2001
Testicular Cancer - International Society of Oncology Pharmacy Practitioners, Broadbeach, July 2001
Pain Control Symposium – MOGA Annual Meeting
Peri-operative chemotherapy for liver metastases of colorectal cancer, Australasian GI Trials Group (AGITG) Annual Meeting

Public Service Relevant to Research
E Walpole
Deputy Chairman – QCF Medical and Scientific Committee
Reviewer Anti cancer Council of Victoria for competitive research grants
Chairman – Medical Oncology Group of Australia Annual Scientific Meeting 2001
Organizing Committee- AGITG Annual Meeting 2001
Trial Monitoring Committee – AGITG Gastric Cancer Study
AGITG Colorectal Committee
Department of Nephrology

Staff
CONSULTANT PHYSICIANS
Dr Carmel Hawley MB BS (Hons), FRACP, Director of Nephrology
Assoc. Prof. David Johnson MB BS (Hons), FRACP, PhD (Syd), Deputy Director of Nephrology, Head of Renal Research Laboratory
Dr Scott Campbell MB BS (Hons), FRACP, Consultant Nephrologist
Dr Nicole Isbel MB BS, FRACP, Consultant Nephrologist
Dr John Burke MB BS, FRACP, Visiting Consultant Nephrologist
Dr James Petrie MB, ChB, MD, FRACP, FRCPE, Visiting Consultant Nephrologist
Dr Andrew Bofinger MB BS (Hons), FRACP, Visiting Consultant Nephrologist

RENAL RESEARCH LABORATORY

SCIENTISTS
Dr David Vesey BSc (Hons), PhD (London), Senior Research Scientist
Ms Catherine Cheung BSc (Hons)

Current Research Activities
1. CLINICAL TRIALS

a. A randomised, open-label, prospective controlled trial of multiple risk factor intervention on atherosclerosis, vasoreactivity and cardiac ischaemia in pre-dialysis and dialysis patients. LANDMARK Trial (Isbel N, Johnson DW, Marwick T) (Bailey R, Reiger K, Beal B, Best J)

b. A randomised, open-label, prospective controlled trial of multiple risk factor intervention on atherosclerosis, vasoreactivity and cardiac ischaemia in renal transplant patients. Transplant LANDMARK Trial (Isbel N, Johnson DW, Hawley CM, Hiremalagur B, Marwick T) (Reiger K, Best J)


d. A randomised, open-label, prospective controlled trial of the effect of topical mupirocin on the rate of exit site infection and bacteraemia in haemodialysis patients with cuffed, tunnelled dialysis access catheters (Hollett P, MacGinley R, Kay TD, Isbel N, Hatten S, Hawley C, Campbell SC, Johnson DW).

e. A prospective, non-controlled trial of the impact of troponin on peritoneal dialysis patient survival. (Johnson DW, Hawley CM, Campbell SB, Hickman P, Isbel N).


i. A prospective trial of icodextrin as salvage therapy for peritoneal dialysis patients with refractory fluid overload (Johnson DW, Vincent K).

j. A prospective comparison of the value of early versus late peritoneal equilibration tests in the assessment of peritoneal permeability in CAPD patients (Johnson DW, Vincent K).

k. A comparison of peritoneal equilibration test results using 2 different dialysate glucose concentrations (Johnson DW, Vincent K).

l. Determinants of residual renal function decline in peritoneal dialysis patients (Johnson DW, Vincent K).


n. A prospective, non-controlled study of the role of memory T cells for Epstein-Barr virus in renal allograft rejection. (Johnson DW, Campbell SB, Franzen K, Burrows S).

o. A retrospective analysis of post-renal transplant lymphoproliferative disorder. (Johnson DW, Campbell SB, Isbel N, Hawley CM, Herzig KA, Juffs H, Gill D).


r. An open-label, non-randomised evaluation of the Unica™ peritoneal dialysis system. (Vincent K, Johnson DW).


w. Impact of oral iron supplementation on mycophenolate mofetil absorption in renal transplant recipients (Johnson DW, Campbell SB, Hawley CM, Isbel N, Nicol DL, Taylor P, Pillans P).

x. The role of subclinical rejection in renal transplant outcomes (Johnson DW, Campbell SB, Isbel N, Hawley C, Nicol D).

y. The role of tumourectomised kidneys as a potential source of allografts for renal transplantation (Nicol DL, Johnson DW, Campbell SB, Isbel N, Hawley C).

z. Use of the Cockcroft-Gault formula as a novel means of assessing dialysis adequacy in peritoneal dialysis patients (Johnson DW).

aa. A randomised, controlled trial of clexane administration for the prevention of tunnelled, cuffed catheter thrombosis (Johnson DW, Gibbs H).
bb. The role of quantitative PCR for BK virus for diagnosing BK nephropathy in renal transplant recipients (Johnson DW, Campell SB, Siebert D).

2. NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL TRIALS

a. Initiation of Dialysis Early and Late (IDEAL) Trial (Johnson DW, Sullivan M, Martin A)

b. A randomised Study of Novel Erythropoiesis Stimulating Protein (NESP) and Recombinant Human Erythropoietin (r-HuEPO) for Treatment of Anaemia in Predialysis Chronic Renal Failure Subjects (Johnson DW, Hawley CM, Freeman J, Jones S, Franzen K)

c. A Pilot Study to Examine Less Frequent Administration (Once Every 3 and Once Every 4 weeks) of Novel Erythropoiesis Stimulating Protein (NESP) in Subjects with Chronic Renal Failure (Hawley CM, Freeman J, Franzen K)

d. A Randomised Comparative Study of Novel Erythropoiesis Stimulating Protein (NESP) and Recombinant Human Erythropoietin (r-HuEPO) for Prevention of Anaemia in Patients with Chronic Renal Failure Receiving Dialysis (Hawley CM, Johnson DW, Herzig K, Freeman J, Jones S, Franzen K)


g. An Open, multicentre, multiple dose trial to investigate the efficacy and safety of subcutaneous injections of RO 50-3821 at different dosing intervals in dialysis patients with chronic renal anaemia (Hawley CM, Beal B)

h. An Open-Label extension study of the safety of long-term administration of Sirolimus in solid organ transplant recipients (Campbell S, Renal Transplant Unit Team, Franzen K)

i. A 1 year Double-Blind, Double-Dummy and 2 year open-label, randomised, multicentre, parallel group study of the efficacy and safety of SDZ RAD tablets versus Mycophenolate Mofetil as part of triple immunosuppressive therapy in de novo renal transplant recipients (Campbell S, Renal Transplant Unit Team, Franzen, K)

j. An open-label, non-randomised, multicentre phase II study evaluating the efficacy and safety of repeated administration of LF 15-0195 in patients with persistent or relapsing primary vasculitis (Isbel N, Johnson DW, Campell SB, Freeman J, Franzen K)


l. Open-Label Study of Oral Sirolimus For Treatment of Refractory Solid Organ Allograft Rejection and Prophylaxis in Transplant Patients at Risk for Allograft Rejection in Whom Approved Agents are Contraindicated, Not Tolerated, or Ineffective (Campbell S, Renal Transplant Unit Team, Franzen, K)

m. A Phase II Open-Label, Concentration-Controlled, Randomised, 6-month Study of “Standard-Dose” Tacrolimus + Sirolimus + Corticosteroids Compared to “Reduced-Dose” Tacrolimus + Sirolimus + Corticosteroids in Renal Allograft Recipients (Campbell S, Renal Transplant Unit Team, Franzen, K)

n. “Combination Therapy with Prograf and Mycophenolate Mofetil (MMF); A Dose Tapering Investigation” (Renal Transplant Unit Team, Franzen, K).

p. A Double-Blind, Randomised, Placebo-Controlled Study of an Oral Calcimimetic Agent (AMG073) in Secondary Hypothyroidism of End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Subjects (Johnson DW, Beal B).

q. A 1 year multicenter, randomized, open label, parallel group study of the safety, tolerability and efficacy of two doses (1.5 and 3 mg/day) of Certican™ (RAD001) with Simulect®, corticosteroids and optimized administration of Neoral® in de novo renal transplant recipients. (Renal Transplant Unit Team) (Franzen, K).

r. A randomized, open-label, comparative evaluation of conversion from calcineurin inhibitors to sirolimus versus continued use of calcineurin inhibitors in renal allograft recipients. (Renal Transplant Team, K. Franzen).

2. OTHER RESEARCH (RENAL RESEARCH LABORATORY & COLLABORATIVE BASIC SCIENCE RESEARCH)

a. Applying anti-apoptotic benefits of BCL-XI in the ischaemia-reperfusion injured kidney (Johnson DW, Gobe G).


~ role of nitric oxide
~ role of angiotensin II
~ effect of angiotensin II blockade and HMGCoA reductase inhibition.


~ role of nitric oxide
~ role of angiotensin II
~ effect of angiotensin II blockade and HMGCoA reductase inhibition.

d. Role of the L-arginine nitric oxide pathway in tubulointerstitial fibrogenesis (using interleukin-1β stimulated human proximal tubule cells and renal cortical fibroblasts) (Vesey DA, Cheung C, Johnson DW).


f. The role of Erythropoietin as a novel renoprotective agent in acute renal failure (Johnson DW).

g. The role of macrophages and secreted interleukin-1β in renal tubulointerstitial fibrosis (Vesey DA, Cheung C, Johnson DW).

h. The myofibroblast as a target for controlling renal fibrosis using in vitro and in vivo models (Cuttle, Endre Z, Johnson DW, Gobe G).

i. The role of reactive oxygen species and protein kinase C in in vitro models of human renal failure.

j. Targeting the myofibroblast to limit renal fibrosis after cancer therapies.

k. Strategies for targeted renal delivery of viral vectors for controlled and long-term gene therapy against chronic renal failure (Johnson DW, Gobe G).

l. Caveolins in ischaemic acute renal failure (Cuttle, Endre Z, Johnson DW, Gobe G).
Funding
1a National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant $68,463 pa. 2000-2002
1 b-i, k-bb Renal Research Trust Fund 2001
1 j Princess Alexandra Hospital Division of Nursing Research Grant ($2000)
1 p Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation Grant 2000 ($8,000)
2 a Mayne Bequest Fund ($36,000)
2 b-d National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant $70,000 pa. 2001-2003
2 b-d Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation Grant 2001 ($10,000)
2e National Health and Medical Research Council Postgraduate Research Scholarship 2001-2003 $20,000 pa.
2 k University of Queensland Research Development Grant ($35,000)

Publications

ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION
Bartley PB, Johnson DW, Schooneveldt JM, Stackroth J, Looke DF, Nimmo GR. The emergence of a clonal strain of Enterococcus faecium vanA in two Brisbane hospitals. Journal of Hospital Infections (In press).


Isbel NM. Can supplementation of vitamins and minerals boost the effectiveness of recombinant human erythropoietin therapy? Nephrology (In press).


INVITED LECTURES
“Refractory Hypertension,” Annual Servier Physicians’ Weekend, Sanctuary Cove, March 3-4, 2001 (David Johnson).


“Should peritoneal dialysis be the first dialysis choice in patients with end-stage renal failure?” Queensland Renal Group Meeting, Brisbane, June 15, 2001 (David Johnson).

“Obesity and peritoneal dialysis outcomes,” Perspectives and Advances in Peritoneal Dialysis, Sydney, July 13-14, 2001 (David Johnson).
“Early renal insufficiency workshop,” Principal facilitator, Brisbane, August 4, 2001 (David Johnson).


Principal Discussant, Clinicopathological Conference, 37th Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology (ANZSN) Annual Scientific Meeting, Darwin, September 5-7, 2001 (David Johnson).


FRACP lecture series for Brisbane Trainees: “Ischaemic and Diabetic Nephropathy”. Brisbane, July 2001. (Carmel Hawley)

“The latest and greatest on Hypertension and Recent Trial Results”. Southside Brisbane General Practitioners Meeting, Brisbane, August, 2001. (Carmel Hawley)


Lecture to General Practitioners “Recent trials in type 2 diabetic nephropathy”, August, 2001, Brisbane. (Carmel Hawley)

Advanced Renal Nursing Workshop, Brisbane, September, 2001. “Increased frequency dialysis”. (Carmel Hawley)

Lectures of Malaysian Medical Association (Penang, & Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia): Strategies to Slow the Progression of Early Diabetic Renal and Cardiovascular Disease, September 2001 (Carmel Hawley)

CARI Clinical Practice Guidelines. – “Adynamic bone disease and phosphate management in patients with impaired renal function in the pre-

dialysis phase” Dialysis and Transplant workshop, Jindabyne, April 1-4, 2001. (Carmel Hawley)

International Congress of Paediatrics, “Immunosuppression Management in Childhood Glomerulopathies” Beijing Spetmeber, 2001 (John Burke)

Renal Tubular Disorders, Glomerulonephritis, Nephrotic; FRACP lecture series for Brisbane Trainees; Brisbane, 2001 (John Burke)

Renal Calculi, Urinary Infection, Structural Reanl Abnormalities, FRACP lecture series for Brisbane Trainees; Brisbane, 2001 (John Burke)

Chronic Renal Failure; FRACP lecture series for Brisbane Trainees; Brisbane, 2001 (John Burke)


“Clinical aspects of renal disease” – QUT dietitians, August 7, 2001(Nicole Isbel)

“Signs and symptoms of renal disease” – GMC1 3/8/2001 (Nicole Isbel)


Presentations


Johnson DW, Herzig KA, Gissane R, Campbell SB, Hawley CM, Isbel NM. A prospective cross-over trial comparing intermittent intravenous and continuous oral iron supplementation in CAPD patients. 37th Annual Scientific Meeting of the ANZSN, Darwin, September 5-7, 2001.


Johnson DW, Isbel NM, Hawley CM, Nicol DL, Campbell SB. Acute rejection is more common and more severe in live donor than cadaveric donor kidney transplants. 37th Annual Scientific Meeting of the ANZSN, Darwin, September 5-7, 2001.


Pat BK, Cuttle L, Watters D, Johnson DW, Gobe G. Apoptosis and MAPK signalling in renal epithelial, fibroblast and vascular endothelial cells after fibrogenic stimuli. 37th Annual Scientific Meeting of the ANZSN, Darwin, September 5-7, 2001.


Postgraduate Students
Ms Catherine Cheung (PhD) Mechanism and manipulation of human renal growth.

Dr Tao Yan (PhD) Targeting the myofibroblast as a therapeutic strategy for limiting renal fibrosis following cancer therapies.

Ms Betty Pat (PhD) Molecular mechanisms involved in induction and control of renal fibrosis.

Awards to Staff Members
Sr Kaia Vincent, Best Research Presentation, Home Dialysis Symposium, Coogee Beach, Sydney, July 2001

Ms Allison Brown, Best Poster Presentation, Australian and New Zealand Data Manager’s Conference, Melbourne, September 2001

Dr Peter Hollett, Richard Kemp Prize for best oral presentation at the Qld RACP Advanced Trainees’ Annual Scientific Meeting 2001; Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology Travel Grant 2001

Public Service Relevant to Research
Dr. David Johnson
Steering Committee Member, Caring for Australians with Renal Impairment (CARI) Clinical Practice Guidelines
Committee Member, Australian and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Association (ANZDATA) Registry Management
Committee Member, ANZDATA Registry Peritoneal Dialysis Advisory Committee
Committee Member, Australian and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant
Peritoneal Dialysis Project Manager, ANZDATA Registry
Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology Representative on Dialysis Nephrology Transplant Committee
Working Party Member, ANZSN CARI Guidelines for Peritoneal Dialysis Adequacy
Working Party Member, ANZSN CARI Guidelines for Prevention of Renal Failure Progression
Working Party Member, Australian Cancer Network National Clinical Practice Guidelines for Post-Transplant Lymphoproliferative Disorder and Other Immunodeficiency-Related Lymphomas
Member, Working Party, Australian and New Zealand Clinical Practice Guidelines on Icodextrin Usage in Peritoneal Dialysis
Queensland Government Advisory Committee for Strategies for Prevention of Progressive Renal Failure
Early Renal Impairment Task Force
Kidney Check Australia Taskforce Member
Initiation of Dialysis Early and Late (IDEAL) Steering Committee Member
Dr Scott Campbell
Chairman, Working Party on Renal Transplantation Recipient Suitability. Caring for Australians with Renal Impairment (CARI)
Transplantation Society of Australia and New Zealand – Organizer of Annual Scientific Meeting for April 2003.

Dr Carmel Hawley
Council Member, including Current Honorary Treasurer, Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology
Caring for Australians with Renal Impairment (CARI) – Member of working party for treatment of bone disease
Australian Kidney Foundation Representative on Dialysis Nephrology Transplant Committee

Dr John Burke
Council Member and Associate Secretary, International Paediatric Society of Nephrology

Dr Nikky Isbel
Chairman, Working Party on Urine protein as a diagnostic test. Caring for Australians with Renal Impairment (CARI)
Scientific Programme and Education Committee, Australasian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology
National Vascular Disease Prevention Partnership – Australian Kidney Foundation representative.
CV-data group member
Renal Anaemia Expert Panel member

Robyn Rogers
Executive Member of the Qld Renal Society of Australia Branch

Allison Brown
Executive Member, Australasian Health and Research Data Managers Association (AHR-DMA)
Rheumatology Unit

**Staff:**
Dr Phillip Vecchio, Director
Associate Professor Dr Ranjeny Thomas, Arthritis Foundation (Qld) Rheumatology Research Laboratory
Dr John Webb, Visiting Consultant Rheumatologist
Dr Martin Devereaux, Visiting Consultant Rheumatologist
Dr Heather Wisbey, Visiting Consultant Rheumatologist
Dr Musallam AlMashani, Visiting Rheumatology Trainee
Chris Downey, Research Nurse

**Current Research Activities**

**CLINICAL TRIALS:**
A 69 week active comparator controlled parallel group double blind extension study to assess the safety of MK-0663 in rheumatoid arthritis patients (Funded by Merck)

A multicentre open label continuation study with subcutaneous D2E7 for patients with rheumatoid arthritis who completed a preceding study with D2E7 and DE033 A Health Economic Evaluation Study (Funded by Knoll / Abbott)

Prospective multi centre randomised, double blind, active comparator controlled parallel group study comparing the fully human monoclonal anti-TNFα antibody D2E7 given every second week with Methotrexate given weekly and the combination of D2E7 and Methotrexate administered over 2 years in patients with early rheumatoid arthritis (PREMIER) and Health economic evaluation in conjunction with clinical trial DE013, a prospective multi centre randomised, double blind, active comparator controlled, parallel groups trial comparing the fully human monoclonal anti-TNFα antibody D2E7 given every second week with Methotrexate given weekly and the combination of D2E7 and Methotrexate administered over 2 years in patients with early rheumatoid arthritis (PREMIER) (Funded by Knoll).

A Phase II multi-centre, double-blind, placebo-controlled two-panel study to compare the efficacy and safety of subcutaneous 50mg, 100mg, 200mg, 400mg, 600mg, and 800mg CDP870 versus placebo administered at 0, 4 and 8 weeks with assessments to Week 12 in the treatment of the signs and symptoms of patients with rheumatoid arthritis and a further dosing with sc 400mg CDP870 4-weekly with assessments to Week 112 (Funded Pharmacia)

Extension of research trial for an additional 52 weeks. A 12 week, phase II, double-blind, placebo-controlled, two-panel, dose response study of CDP870 in patients with rheumatoid arthritis, with a 100 week open label phase.

A Randomized, Double-blind Trial of the Safety of Anti-TNFα Chimeric Monoclonal Antibody (Infliximab) in Combination with Methotrexate Compared to Methotrexate Alone in Patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis on Standard Disease-modifying Antirheumatic Drug Background Therapy. (Approved 2001, active 2002) (Funded by Centocor / Quintiles).

Double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomised comparison of the efficacy and safety of Celecoxib 200mg and 400mg QD in treating the signs and symptoms of psoriatic arthritis. (Approved 2001, active 2002). (Funded by Pharmacia).

**Funding**
Sponsors for research trials are listed above the trial titles.

**Lectures and Presentations**
Dr P Vecchio
Arthritis Foundation of Queensland – Arthritis and its Treatment. April 2001 (Invited).
Queensland Spinal Cord Injuries Service (QSCIS)

Spinal Injuries Unit

Staff
Dr Tim Geraghty, Director of Rehabilitation (Spinal Injuries)
Dr William Davies, Visiting Medical Officer
Dr Susan Urquhart, Senior Medical Officer
Alison New, Nurse Practice Co-ordinator
Tricia Fronck, Senior Social Worker
Beth Baird, Senior Physiotherapist
Glenda Price, Senior Occupational Therapist
Andrew West, Research Office / Database Manager

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
The impact of cervical spinal injury on communication: A physiological, acoustic and perceptual analysis. MacBean N, Ward E, Geraghty T, Hukins C, Cahill L, Murdoch B, Bock M, Hancock K

Sleep disordered breathing in spinal cord injured patients – the contribution of central drive and respiratory muscle dysfunction in a short-term longitudinal study. Tran K, Hukins C, Geraghty TJ, Eckert B, Armstrong J


Shoulder pain and dysfunction in acute tetraplegia: a prospective study. Salisbury S, Low Choy N.

Other Research

Rehabilitation outcomes in traumatic spinal cord injury in Australia: Functional status, length of stay and discharge setting. Tooth L, McKenna K, Geraghty T.

Longitudinal Tracking of Anxiety among People with Spinal Cord Injury who are Approaching Community Re-Entry. Kendall M, Dorsett P, Geraghty T.


Funding
$43,000 Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation 19/10/01. Longitudinal tracking of anxiety amongst people with spinal cord injury who are approaching community re-entry. A study of two rehabilitation units. Kendall M, Geraghty TJ.

$30,000 Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation, 14/08/01. The regeneration potential of olfactory glial cells. Perry C, Geraghty T, Mackay-Sim A, Feron F, Licina P, Urquhart S, Nowitzke A.

The Spinal Injuries Unit Trust Fund provided financial assistance for the Sexuality study.

Publications

Lectures and Presentations

Maugham L, Amsters D, Geraghty T, Thomas J, Gargett S. A pressure area study: modelling costs for management in the community against the costs of hospital care. International Medical

Geraghty T.  Management of SCI in the Community. CME course for Metropolitan and Near Country GPs. Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (Queensland Faculty). (Invited).

Geraghty T.  Rehabilitation and functional outcome in SCI. Occupational Therapy Students, James Cook University, Queensland. (Invited).


Geraghty T.  Epidemiology and the SCI patient in Queensland.  Princess Alexandra Hospital Week.

**Postgraduate Students**

Jones, Rachel (Masters of Disability, Nepean University, NSW)

Newgard, Ellen (Graduate Diploma Computing)

West, Andrew  (Bachelor of IT, QUT)

**Public Service Relevant to Research**

T Geraghty

Research Committee, Paraplegic and Quadriplegic Association of Queensland.

Chair, Review Panel: Survival after Spinal Cord Injury, Motor Accident Commissions of Australia.

TRP/SPOT Reference Committee

S Urquhart, A West

The SIU Database (supplying statistical information on SCI in Queensland to QHealth and other organisations)

P Fronek

TRP/SPOT Reference Committee
Spinal Outreach Team (SPOT)

Staff
Ruth Cox, Programme Manager
Delena Amsters, Research Officer

Current Research Activities
Goal Attainment Scaling as a measure of client outcomes. Ruth Cox, Delena Amsters.

Outcomes in long duration spinal cord injury: Documentation of multiple integrated trajectories of wellbeing and comparative analysis of outcome measures. Delena Amsters, Kiley Pershouse, Pim Kuipers (ABIOS), Glenda Price (SIU).

Modelling costs for pressure area management in the community against the cost of hospital care. Lucy Maugham, Delena Amsters, Sue Gargett (QUT), Tim Geraghty (SIU).


Evaluation of the effectiveness of Spinal Outreach Team follow-up on the prevention of rehospitalisation for pressure areas. Ruth Cox, Delena Amsters, Carey Bayliss, Lucy Maugham.

Exploring the efficacy of coping mechanisms employed by the partners of people with spinal cord injury. Delena Amsters, Glenys Carlson (UQ), Michele Foster (CONROD).

Hospital readmissions following implementation of the Transitional Rehabilitation Program and Spinal Outreach Team (hospital readmission during the first two years after rehabilitation). Melissa Kendall (TRP), Ruth Cox, Marilyn Boulton (TRP), Greg Ungerer (TRP).

Funding
$60,000 over three years - Centre of National Research on Rehabilitation Medicine (CONROD) for "Outcomes in long duration spinal cord injury: Documentation of multiple integrated trajectories of wellbeing and comparative analysis of outcome measures".

$10,000 Princess Alexandra Hospital Research and Development Foundation Quality in Health Care Grant for "Exploring the efficacy of coping mechanisms employed by the partners of people with spinal cord injury".

Publications

ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION

Lectures and Presentations


Bayliss C, Logan G. Client centredness through outreach. Australian Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Association Conference, Brisbane.


Postgraduate Students
Delena Amsters, Master of Physiotherapy “The Wheelchair Posture of People With Tetraplegia”

Jodie Thomas, Master of Public Health “Modelling costs for pressure area management in the community against the cost of hospital care” (SPOT co-project with QUT)

Diana Su, Honours (Occupational Therapy) “Role Fatigue of Significant Others” (SPOT co-project with The University of Queensland)

Public Service Relevant to Research
Ruth Cox Reviewer for the journal Clinical Rehabilitation
Transitional Rehabilitation Program

Staff
Greg Ungerer, Manager
Melissa Kendall, Research Officer
Jennifer Campbell, Physiotherapist
Melissa Wallace, Occupational Therapist
Sue Booth, Social Worker

Marilyn Boulton, Clinical Nurse
Jeff Daley, Business Coordinator*
Susan Tiscia, Rehabilitation Assistant
Roslyn Jones, Administrative Assistant

*This position is shared with the Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Services

Current Research Activities
Several projects are being undertaken as individual and group projects within the Transitional Rehabilitation Program. These include:

Evaluation of the Transitional Rehabilitation Program service delivery model
The Transitional Rehabilitation Program is funded by a research and development grant from the CONROD and the Motor Accident Insurance Commission for a period of five years. The year 2001 was the fourth year of funding for the program. The purpose of TRP is to develop and evaluate an alternative community-based, client-focused model of rehabilitation for people who have experienced spinal cord injury. Formative evaluation efforts have been ongoing with a summative evaluation due at the completion of the current funding period at the end of 2002.

Readmissions to hospital following spinal cord injury
This study is being jointly conducted by the Transitional Rehabilitation Program and the Spinal Outreach Team (SPOT) to examine the impact of these programs on the hospital readmission rate for people with spinal cord injury. The first stage of the study involves tracking hospital readmission in a cohort of spinal injured individuals who were discharged from primary rehabilitation prior to the introduction of these services. This stage of the project has been completed and the findings published. The second stage of the study involves tracking hospital readmission in a cohort of spinal injured individuals who have been discharged from primary rehabilitation since the introduction of these services. Data collection for stage 2 will be finalised in April 2002 and completion of the final report will occur by the end of 2002.

A comparison of bladder infections in hospital and community environments for people with spinal cord injury
This study aims to compare bladder infections in hospital and community environments for people with spinal cord injuries. Specifically, the study aims to compare the prevalence of bladder infection, the severity of bladder infection and the pathogens responsible for bladder infection in these two environments and examine the impact of demographic factors and bladder management technique on bladder infection prevalence. Preparation of the final report for this study is underway.

The Clinical Outcomes Variables Scale (COVS): Its clinical utility as a mobility outcome measure for clients with spinal cord injury within a continuum of care environment
This project aims to examine the clinical utility of the Clinical Outcomes Variables Scale (COVS) as a mobility outcome measure for people with spinal cord injury within a continuum of care environment. Specifically, the study aims to:
~ determine the psychometric properties of the instrument in this clinical setting
~ examine the sensitivity of the instrument for detecting mobility change over time
~ examine the ability of the scale to discriminate across level of injury
~ determine whether the scale has greater discriminant and predictive validity in relation to mobility than the more general measures of functional independence.

Goal attainment within a community-based multidisciplinary rehabilitation setting: Utilising a modified version of the Canadian Occupational Performance Measure (COPM) with a spinal cord injured population
This project aims to examine the clinical utility of a modified version of the Canadian Occupational Performance Measure for use
within a community-based multidisciplinary setting for people with spinal cord injury. Specifically, the study aims to:

~ examine the sensitivity of the scale in detecting changes in goal performance and satisfaction
~ determine the psychometric properties of the scale in this clinical setting
~ identify demographic differences in multidisciplinary goal attainment and
~ examine the relationship between quality of life, functional independence and goal attainment within the multidisciplinary environment.

Staff knowledge, comfort and attitudes towards sexuality within a spinal cord injuries rehabilitation service: Design and evaluation of an education program

This project is a collaborative study being conducted by the Transitional Rehabilitation Program and the Spinal Injuries Unit and aims to develop and evaluate an education program aimed at promoting staff development in the area of sexuality education. Specifically, the study aims to:

~ identify staff educational needs related to their knowledge of, comfort with and attitude towards provision of sexuality rehabilitation to people with spinal cord injuries
~ develop an education program for staff that addresses their educational needs in the area of sexuality rehabilitation
~ evaluate the ability of the education program to increase staff knowledge, improve staff comfort and promote positive staff attitudes towards sexuality among people with spinal cord injury.

This project is being funded internally by the Spinal Injuries Unit. Stage 1 of the project is approaching completion with the education program being developed for delivery in mid 2002.

Funding

The Transitional Rehabilitation Program is funded by a research and development grant from the Centre of National Research on Rehabilitation and Disability and the Motor Accident Insurance Commission of Queensland for a period of 5 years. ($1.02 million).

Lectures and Presentations


Postgraduate Student

Melissa Kendall*, PhD, Griffith University
Cardiovascular Imaging

Staff
Professor T Marwick MBBS, PhD, FRACP, FACC, FESC
Colin Case MSc, Statistician and database supervisor (1999-)
Brian Haluska RDMS, Research Officer (1999-)
Rodel Leano BSc, Research Officer (1999-)
Leanne Short BSc, Research Assistant (1999-)
Satoshi Yuda MD, PhD, Post-doctoral fellow (2000-2002)

Current Research Activities
Quantification of echo techniques for detection of myocardial ischemia, using tissue Doppler techniques to measure myocardial strain and velocity. This has generated unique diagnostic approaches and further developments seek to use these techniques to access the response of myocardium to various metabolic interventions including improved diabetic control.

Use of high frequency ultrasound to follow the progression of abnormal vascular structure and function. The unique aspect of this work is the use of developmental edge-tracking software for objective quantification of vessel dimensions. These studies focus on patients with diabetes and renal disease as well as patients with heart failure. We have two large-scale interventional studies in progress that examine factors influencing vascular function and thereby progression of atherosclerosis.

Evaluation of myocardial structure using ultrasound backscatter and tissue Doppler. Changes in the nature of the returning sound waves may be a marker of the underlying tissue characteristics. This work has been used to identify structural changes supporting the presence of a diabetic cardiomyopathy, as well as pre-clinical changes consistent with fibrosis in hypertensive patients.

Evaluation of myocardial perfusion using contrast echocardiography. This work is unique in Australia and promises to offer a new tool to examine coronary patency and myocardial viability after heart attacks.

Assessment of myocardial viability.
Use of echocardiography to improve clinical decision-making (mitral regurgitation, peripheral vascular disease).
New techniques of image display and recording to improve the efficiency of echocardiography and develop tele-echocardiography in Australia.

Funding
National Health and Medical Research Foundation of Australia
Eccles award ($167,000)
Project grant - Progression of coronary artery disease (CAD) in end-stage renal failure ($63,000)
Project grant – Importance of transmural distribution of scar to the diagnosis of myocardial viability
Project grant – New techniques for quantitation of regional LV function
National Heart Foundation (NHF)
Project grant – Effects of aggressive risk factor intervention on myocardial ischemia and vascular anatomy and reactivity in advanced CAD ($35,000)
Project grant – Echocardiographic and biochemical responses to anti-fibrotic therapy in LVH
Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation Effects of aggressive risk factor intervention on myocardial ischemia and vascular anatomy and reactivity in advanced CAD (supplement to NHF)

Multicentre studies
NHMRC CTC: FIELD substudies on vascular structure and function (1999-)
Bristol-Myers Squibb, OVERTURE study (2000-2)
Approximately $50,000
Servier -Ivabradine study (2000-2001)
Approximately $6,000.

Publications


ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION


Dart J, Yuda S, Cain P, Case C, Marwick TH. Use of myocardial backscatter as a quantitative tool for dobutamine echocardiography: feasibility, response to ischemia and accuracy compared with coronary angiography. Intl J Card Imaging (In press)

Fang Z, Marwick TH. Vascular dysfunction and heart failure: Epiphenomenon or etiologic agent? Am Heart J (In press)


Marwick TH. Safe sex for men with coronary disease -- exercise, sildenafil, and risk of cardiac events. JAMA. (In press).

Najos-Valencia O, Cain P, Case C, Wahi S, Marwick TH. Determinants of Tissue Doppler Measures of Regional Diastolic Function during
Dobutamine Stress Echocardiography. Am Heart J (In press).


Yuda S, Dart J, Najos O, Marwick TH. Use of cyclic variation of integrated backscatter to assess contractile reserve and myocardial viability in chronic ischemic left ventricular dysfunction. Echocardiography (In press)

ABSTRACTS PUBLISHED IN 2001


Najor-Valencia O, Cain P, Case C, Marwick TH. Tissue doppler measures of regional diastolic function in diabetes mellitus: Evidence for a


Lectures and Presentations

“Myocardial viability: Echocardiography vs Competing Technologies” (Faculty); “Assessing and quantifying LV function and volumes – Which test and When?” (Faculty); “Should all patients with an abnormal stress imaging study undergo coronary angiography?” (Co-chair) American College of Cardiology 48th Annual Scientific Session, Orlando, Florida; March, 2001.

“Stress echocardiography”. Echo basics and beyond (Faculty) The Prince Charles Hospital, Brisbane; March 2001

“The maturation of stress echocardiography: Diagnostic tool to prognostic insight”. (Faculty) Natl Cardiology Weekend, Hamilton Island; April 2001

“Effects of intensive control of cardiac risk factors on heart and blood vessel function in coronary artery disease”. (Faculty) Natl Heart Foundation/CSANZ meeting, Brisbane. April 2001


“Cardiac function” (Chair); “Taking the eyeball out of stress echo” ; “Comparative modalities for assessment of viable myocardium” (Faculty) Port Douglas Heart meeting, May 2001, Port Douglas.


“Pulmonary hypertension” (Chair) ASEANZ CV and Lipid Forum (Organizing committee), June 2001, Melbourne.

“Satellite symposium – Assessment of left ventricular function” (Organizer); Stress echocardiography research (Chairman). American Society of Echocardiography, June 2001, Seattle, USA.

“Practical aspects of contrast echo”; “Stress echo and tissue Doppler imaging” (Plenary sessions); “Diastolic heart failure” (Session moderator). Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand, Auckland New Zealand, August 2001

“Stress echo in LVH” (Plenary session), “Quantification of LV function” (Chair, symposium); “Myocardial function – experimental models” (session moderator); 22nd Congress of the European Society of Cardiology, Stockholm. August 2001

“Risk stratification of CAD using stress echo”; “Myocardial viability – A review” (Plenary sessions); “Stress echo” (How to session). Asia-Pacific conference of Doppler Echo, Manila, Philippines, October 2001
“Current and future applications of tissue Doppler”. Symposia in Tokyo, Osaka Japan and Beijing China, October 2001

“Exercise echo is more cost-effective than exercise ECG for prediction of prognosis in stable chronic CAD”; Is stress echocardiography an effective screening test for coronary disease in asymptomatic patients?” (abstracts). American Heart Association, Anaheim, Nov 2001

Live case demonstration – stress echocardiography; “Prognostic value of stress echo”; “Illustrative studies in stress echo”; “Update on contrast echo and perfusion imaging”. 3rd Echo Hong Kong, Nov 2001

“Exercise echo or standard ECG for investigation of CAD in hypertensive patients”. Queensland Health Medical and Scientific meeting, Brisbane, Dec 2001

“New concepts in Diastolic Function”; “Color M-mode and tissue Doppler echo”; “Assessing myocardial perfusion with contrast echo”; Myocardial viability – Strengths and limitations of echo”; What exactly is Diastolic Heart Failure”; “Stress echo : Is there more to it than wall motion”. Echo Singapore, Dec 2001

**Postgraduate Students**
Dr Peter Cain MBBS – PhD (1999-2002).
Dr Vincent Khoury MBBS – Masters (2001)+.
Dr Ben Fang – PhD (2001-2004).
Dr Phillip Mottram MBBS – PhD (2001-2004)*.

**Awards to Staff Members**
Prof T Marwick  Eccles award, NHMRC
Peter Cain NHMRC scholarship 2000-2 "Use of myocardial Doppler velocity and strain velocity to enhance detection of CAD with stress echocardiography"
Robert Fathi  Henkler Foundation Fellowship 2000-1 "Use of myocardial Doppler velocity and strain velocity to enhance detection of CAD with stress echocardiography"

**Public Service Relevant to Research**

**GRANT/PROMOTIONS REVIEWER (TOM MARWICK)**
NHMRC Discipline Panel
NHF Research Grants Committee, Chair
University of Leuven, Belgium
Medical Research Council of UK

**COMMITTEES (TOM MARWICK)**
Scientific Committee, World Congress of Cardiology 2002
Echo Guidelines Committee, Cardiac Society of Aust NZ
Cardiovascular Health Advisory group, NHF
Queensland Health - Advisory Committee to review of Cardiac Surgery Services
Medicare Services Advisory Committee, Dept of Health & Aged Care (DHAC)
Cardiac Imaging Group, DHAC
Chair Southern Clinical School Research Committee
Health Sciences Faculty Research Committee

**EDITORIAL REVIEWER:**
Annals of Internal Medicine
American Journal of Cardiology
American Journal of Medicine
American Heart Journal, Editorial Board
Heart
Circulation
European Heart Journal
European Journal of Echocardiography, Ed Board
Journal of the American College of Cardiology, Editorial Board
Journal of the American Medical Association
Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography, Editorial Board
Internal Medicine Journal
Korean Journal of Cardiovascular Disease Editorial Board

**ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS REVIEWER:**
American College of Cardiology
American Heart Association
American Society of Echocardiography
American Heart Association
Cardiac Society of Australia & NZ
Geriatric Research Laboratory

Staff

GROUP MEMBERS
Dr George Mellick (Research Fellow, Chief Investigator)
Dr Peter Silburn (Consultant Neurologist, Chief Investigator)
Mr Daniel Buchanan (PhD scholar)
Mr Yifu Deng (PhD scholar)
Ms Coral Gartner (PhD scholar)

GROUP ASSOCIATES
Dr Richard Boyle (Director of Neurology, Princess Alexandra Hospital)
Dr Jonathan Chalk (UQ Department of Medicine)
Dr Michael Dunn (School of Population Health, QUT)

Current Research Activities

OTHER RESEARCH
The Parkinson’s Disease Research Group at PAH is studying all aspects of the genetics of Parkinson's disease. We are searching for genetic abnormalities that may contribute to rare familial forms of Parkinson's Disease (PD). The group is also attempting to elucidate genetic risk factors for Parkinson's and unravel the complex interactions between inheritance and the environment that are believed to influence most cases of the disease.

CURRENT PROJECTS:
Recruitment of PD patients and families
Studies on Oxidative Phosphorylation in PD
Iron Transpot and PD
Studies on the Parkin Gene in Early Onset PD
Pharmacogenetics Studies in PD
Gene X Environmental Interactions in the Aetiology of Parkinson’s Disease

Funding
$71,500 Geriatric Medical Foundation “PD and ageing”.
$10,000 PAH Foundation “Parkin gene in EOPD”
$10,000 PAH Foundation “Genetic risk factors for PD”.
$35,000 STINT (Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education) “SNP based genotyping of candidate genes in PD”.

Publications


Accepted Publications (2001)


ABSTRACTS PUBLISHED

Mellick GD, Silburn PA, Prince JA, Brookes AJ. SNPs, mitochondrial complex I genes and Parkinson’s disease: Can a comprehensive pathway approach to association studies reveal important clues to aetiology? O51 (Human Genetics Society of Australasia Annual Scientific Meeting, Cairns, July 2001).

Postgraduate Students
Mr Daniel Buchanan (PhD scholar)
Mr Yifu Deng (PhD scholar)*
Ms Coral Gartner (PhD scholar)*

Awards to Staff Members
2001 Dr Mellick received a STINT award from the Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education to take up a visiting Fellowship in the Center for Genomics and Bioinformatics, Karolinska Institute, Sweden.
Hypertension Unit

Staff
Dr Michael Stowasser, PhD, FRACP, MBBS - Director, Senior Lecturer University Department of Medicine
Diane Cowley RN
Thanuja Gunasekera, BSc (Hon), Research Assistant

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
(i) Double-blind, randomised, active-controlled comparison study of the antihypertensive effect of eplerenone versus amlodipine in patients with elevated systolic blood pressure.

(ii) Double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, parallel group, multicenter, flexible dose study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of Viagra (sildenafil citrate) in males with erectile dysfunction and arterial hypertension who are taking multiple anti-hypertensive agents.

Other Research
Dr Stowasser has 12 years of clinical and research experience in the pathogenesis, diagnostic workup and management of various forms of hypertension and especially of endocrine varieties, with particular emphasis on biochemical, morphological and genetic aspects of primary aldosteronism (PAL). While working within the Hypertension Unit at Greenslopes Hospital (1990-2000), he played a major contributing role in the demonstration that PAL is approximately ten times more common than previously thought, and in the description, phenotypic characteristics and genetic basis of a new familial variety (familial hyperaldosteronism type II, FH-II). He has made key contributions to the understanding of steroid and BP regulation in, and treatment of, another familial form (FH-I) which is glucocorticoid-remediable, and for which he helped to design a rapid new PCR-based method of genetic detection and explored its clinical utilization in depth. He has continued his research activities at Princess Alexandra Hospital as Director, Hypertension Unit and Senior Lecturer, University of Queensland patients with primary aldosteronism (PAL) worldwide who have been thoroughly documented and meticulously studied. Research projects for the Princess Alexandra Hospital Hypertension Unit in 2001 explored genetic and therapeutic aspects of familial forms of primary aldosteronism, including explanations for the marked phenotypic diversity observed among patients with FH-I, and studies into the genetic basis for FH-II.

Funding

Clinical Trials
(i) $30,387 Pharmacia
(ii) $31,159 ICON Clinical Research

Other Research
(i) Stowasser M, Gordon RD. Genetic and therapeutic aspects of familial hyperaldosteronism types I and II. National Heart Foundation of Australia (Grant-in-Aid). $50,412.

(ii) Stowasser M. Genetic and therapeutic aspects of familial forms of primary aldosteronism. Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation (Establishment Grant for Viertel Clinical Investigators). $60,500.

(iii) Stowasser M. Genetic and phenotypic aspects of familial forms of primary aldosteronism. University of Queensland (New Staff Research Start-Up Fund). $10,000.

(iv) Stowasser M. Genetic studies into familial forms of hypertension. Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation. $10,000.

Publications


ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION
Stowasser M. Hyperaldosteronism – primary or tertiary? J Hypertens. (In press.)


ABSTRACTS PUBLISHED

LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS


POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS
Dr Andrew Bofinger - PhD

PUBLIC SERVICE RELEVANT TO RESEARCH
Dr Michael Stowasser
Secretary, Executive Committee of the High Blood Pressure Research Council of Australia (since Dec 2001; Member since 1998)

Member:
Blood Pressure Advisory Committee, National Heart Foundation (NHF)
Editorial Board, Clinical and Experimental Physiology and Pharmacology
Editorial Board, Journal of Hypertension
International Society of Hypertension
Veterans' Research Foundation Research Committee, Greenslopes Hospital
Regional Grant Interview Committee, NHF
Judging Panel for the Foundation for High Blood Pressure Research Fellowship Awards

President, Queensland Hypertension Association
Written Grant Application Reviewer, NH&MRC
Metabolic Research Unit

Staff

Senior Staff
Ross Cuneo
Jennifer Wallace

Research Staff
Edward Pratt
Carmen McNaught
Nicole Pelton
Francis Thomas
Anh Tran

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
The MRU team are nearing completion of the clinical phase of the NHMRC Project entitled “Regulation and Effect of the Growth Hormone, IGF-I and IGF-I -binding protein responses to acute exercise”.

The MRU team are also involved in a joint study with researchers at Griffith University, “Ageing, Sarcopaenia, Training, and the Growth Hormone Axis”.

Other Research

Australian and New Zealand Acromegaly Registry (ANZAR) and clinical trial comparing primary medical vs primary surgical treatment for Acromegaly.

Development of an integrated thermal-balance model of exercising humans: skin blood flow, sweating, and the effects of body composition on energy homeostasis.


Assessment of the utility of Metyrapone Stimulated Inferior Petrosal Sinus Sampling in the differential diagnosis of ACTH-dependent Cushing’s Syndrome.

The Role of the Growth Hormone/ Insulin Like Growth Factor Axis In Chronic Liver Disease: antinatriuresis and catabolism.

Nutritional Assessment in Liver Transplantation: Vitamin A and vision.

Funding

NHMRC grant of $335,000 over the period 2000-2002.

Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation grant of $8,000.

Princess Alexandra Women’s Auxiliary Defibrillator grant of $16,000

Ageing, Sarcopaenia, Training and the Growth Hormone Axis

Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation grant of $10,000.

Publications


**Articles Accepted for Publication**


**Abstracts which have been Published**


**Lectures and Presentations**


**Postgraduate Students**

Jennifer Wallace, PhD, University of Queensland; Detection of GH Abuse in Elite Athletes.

Dr Edward Pratt, MD project commenced 2000; regulation of the GH/IGF-I axis during acute exercise in adults.

Dr Shahin Alam, PhD Salt sensivity in hypertension (successful 2001)

Ms Winsome Abbott, PhD; University of Queensland; Nutrition in Chronic Liver Disease.

Ms Anh Tran, Honours, Chemical Engineering Dept, University of Queensland: Thermal Homeostasis in Exercising Humans

**Public Service Relevant to Research**

Ross Cuneo
Reviewer for NHMRC grants.

Editorial Board member of the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism.

Member of local organising committee of GRS Growth Hormone Research Society.

Reviewer of:

Endocrinology and Metabolism
Clinical Endocrinology
Journal of Endocrinological Investigation
Endocrine Reviews
Growth Hormone & IGF Research
Australia and New Zealand Journal of Medicine
Proceedings of National Academy of Science
European Journal of Endocrinology
American Journal of Physiology
Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism
Paediatrics

Invited member of Advisory group to develop strategies for the Australian Centre for Excellence in male reproductive health

Chairman, Australian and New Zealand Acromegaly Registry (ANZAR) Study group

Jennifer Wallace
Reviewer Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism; Journal of Medicine and Science in Sport.
Therapeutics Research Unit

Staff
Professor MS Roberts (Professor and NH&MRC Senior Principal Research Fellow)
Dr SE Cross (NH&MRC Senior Research Officer)
Dr M Whitehouse (Honorary Research Fellow)
Dr D Hung (NH&MRC Research Officer)
Dr B Muller (Post-doctoral Researcher)
Dr P Masci (Technical/Professional Officer)
Mr G Siebert (Postgraduate Researcher)
Dr Y Anissimov (NH&MRC Research Officer)
Dr B Magnusson (Pfizer Post-doctoral Researcher)
Dr K Foster (Lions Post-doctoral Researcher)
Ms J Stokes (Research Officer and PhD student)
Ms M Dianni (Administration Officer)
Ms C Ientile (Postgraduate Officer)
Mrs N Walker (Administration)
Ms J Lee (Administration)
Ms C Ramsey (Administration)
Ms F. Wier
Mr F. Torres (Administration)
Mr A. Francey (Administration)

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
Dose administration aids trial
Treatment of toe nail fungal infections
Dehydration in the elderly

National Evaluation of Quality Care Pharmacy Programme.

Coordinated Private Hospital and Domiciliary Medication Care Services

Combination therapy for asthma (at PAH, co-investigators C Mitchell & J Armstrong), using Lyprinol® to amplify the potency of low-dose corticosteroids.

Inflammation in horses being treated by topical applications of emu oils with proven anti-inflammatory activity and various penetration enhancers (With G Hancock, Kalbar, Qld. & W Schaletzk, Romsey, Vic)

Other Research
Targeting of drugs by topical application and the risk assessment of xenobiotics absorbed through the skin

Verification and development of bioequivalence test systems for topical applied formulations

Interrelationship of physiology, pathophysiology and drug structure in relation to drug therapy involving the liver, the limbs and the placenta

The use of extracellular acidosis and novel drug therapies to treat brain damage in the asphyxiated newborn

Drug targeting in the regional perfusion of melanoma and transdermal delivery

Improvement of quality of medication care in elderly people in residential care institutions and in the community through the application of clinical pharmacokinetics and nurturing the input of clinical pharmacists in the health care team.

Characterising anti-inflammatory lipids from N.Z. mussel, emu oil and Indian celery seed natural medicines from Maori/Aboriginal/Ayurvedic traditions.

Studying synergistic combinations of these lipids with known anti-inflammatory agents (AIA) to amplify potency/diminish toxicity of these AIA e.g. NSAID gastropathy; extend therapeutic window e.g. using NSAIDs to assist prevention/reduction of fibrotic and other chronic inflammation.

Preventive medicine: looking at environmental factors that may predispose to and/or amplify polyarthritis as studied in rats. Current focus is on a) smoking and b) use of mineral-oil containing cosmetics.

Funding (2001)

NH & MRC (#142914), Targeted drug delivery by topical application (sole chief investigator) 2001, $190,000.

Wellcome Trust Equipment for Biomedical Research (062332). NMR. (with Istvan Toth, Maree Smith, Richard Prankerd) 2001 $482,649.

Apex Foundation for research into intellectual disability. Neuroprotection in the developing brain (with P Colditz & K Foster) 2001 $9,248.

PAH Research Foundation. Improving responses to regional perfusion chemotherapy in tumours. (with M Smithers, J Thompson) 2001 $10,000.

Pfizer (UK) Predicting of drug structure determinants of percutaneous absorption 2001 $132,813.

PAH Foundation 2001 $10,000 for Studying synergistic combinations of these lipids with known anti-inflammatory agents.

Novartis Foundation Basel, Switzerland, 2001 sFr 18’000 support of Dr B Mueller, development of bioequivalence test systems for topical applied formulations.

Freiwillige Akademische Gesellschaft Basel, Switzerland, 2001 sFr 10’000 support of Dr B Mueller, development of bioequivalence test systems for topical applied formulations.

Publications


MANUSCRIPTS


REVIEWS IN REFEREED JOURNALS


CHAPTER

CONFERENCE PAPERS OR ABSTRACTS


brain barrier mechanisms: from molecule to patient, Freycinet Peninsula, Tasmania.


Lectures and Presentations


Presentation of a paper at Inaugural Queensland Health and Medical Scientific Meeting, 4 December, 2001.

Postgraduate Students
Kankavi O PhD Thesis, UQ (submitted)
King M PhD Thesis, UQ
Newton K PhD Thesis, UQ

Peachey K PhD Thesis, UQ
Sorensen L PhD Thesis, UQ
Stokes J PhD Thesis, UQ
Chang Ping PhD Thesis, UQ (submitted)
Hayden CJ PhD Thesis, UQ
McFarlane B PhD Thesis, UQ
Crouch A Vacation Scholar
Siebert G PhD Thesis, UQ
Penissi R M Med Sci Thesis, UQ
Mo Y PhD Thesis, UQ

Postgraduate Student Graduations
Dr T Lynne PhD 2001, UQ
Dr P Masci PhD 2001, UQ

Public Service Relevant to Research
Presentations to Lions Medical Research Foundation in February (Miss Personality) and in July (Board of Governors)
Chairperson, Group 5 Animal Experimentation Committee for the University of Queensland - (this committee overviews animal experimentation in for the Faculty of Health Sciences and Brisbane teaching hospitals (Royal Brisbane, Princess Alexandra, Prince Charles, Mater, Greenslopes)
Member, National Health & Medical Research Council Discipline Panel
Councillor and Director 2000, Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists
Member, Princess Alexandra Hospital and District Research Committee
Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research

**Staff**

**DIRECTOR**
Professor Ian H. Frazer, BSc(Hons) MB ChB Edinburgh, MD Melbourne, FRCP (Ed), FRCPA

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR**
Dr Ranjeny Thomas, MBBS MD University of Western Australia, FRACP

**Immunobiology Unit**

**Dendritic Cell Biology**
Dr Ranjeny Thomas
Dr Brendan O’Sullivan
Saparna Pai
Ela Martin
Amanda Boyce
Shannon Beasley
Pauline Low
Kathleen O’Connell
Janine Richards

**Papillomavirus Structural Biology**
Dr Kong-Nan Zhao
Yan Xu
Lu Liu
Mengrong Li
Surei Bu

**Epithelial Tumour and Immunology Unit**

**Papillomavirus Vaccines**
Prof Ian Frazer
Dr Graham Leggatt
Dr Jie Zhong
Xiaosong Liu
Rachel DeKluyver
Kylie Hengst
Karen Malcolm
Olivia White

**Memory T cell group**
Dr Germain Fernando
Tania Peters

**Molecular and Cellular Biology Unit**

**Molecular Virology**
Dr Nigel McMillan
Mrs Elizabeth Payne
Mrs Liliana Munoz
Mr Tom Fothergill
Mr Daniel Clarke
Mr Aaron Irving

**Current Research Activities**

**Immunobiology Unit**

**Dendritic Cell Biology**
Development of vaccination strategies against EBV-associated nasopharyngeal carcinoma using latent membrane protein 1 (LMP1).

Chemotaxis, migration and antigen presentation by DC in a murine model of RA.

Blockade of DC function in RA: the role of the anti-inflammatory cytokine IL-10 and regulatory T cells.

Virus like particles as a delivery system to the MHC class I pathway of DC.

**Molecular and Cellular Biology Unit**

**CLINICAL TRIALS**
Analysis of HPV E7 levels and response to Interferon.

**OTHER RESEARCH**
HPV E7 repression of Interferon Response.

Papillomavirus Receptors.

HIV escape from Interferon (Dora Lush Scholarship NHMRC).

Role of PKR in chronic lymphocytic leukemia.
Epithelial Pathobiology

The overall aim of our work encompasses three major goals a) to examine the molecular events controlling proliferation and squamous differentiation in human keratinocytes, b) to identify the mechanism by which normal growth and differentiation events are disrupted in cancer and c) to exploit this knowledge to develop potential new targets for intervention therapy of squamous carcinomas. A brief description of our current research projects addressing our aims are listed below.

E2F in Squamous Carcinoma Formation

A key factor in the control of proliferation is the cell cycle regulatory complex, E2F. E2F refers to a family of transcription factors (numbered 1 – 6) that are responsible for the transcription of genes required for replication of the genome. We have previously shown that E2F1, and not other family members, is associated with keratinocyte proliferation (J. Invest. Dermatol., 1997). We have also found that when cells undergo differentiation they no longer proliferate due to the downregulation of E2F1 expression/activity. In contrast, cancer cells are unable to undergo differentiation and are also unable to downregulate E2F1. Furthermore, when we deliberately deregulated E2F activity in normal keratinocytes we found they exhibited a phenotype similar to that of squamous cell carcinomas (J. Invest. Dermatol., 1997). We have now extended these findings and shown 1) that overexpression of E2F1 occurs in patient tumour samples, 2) that the overexpression of E2F1 may actively suppress squamous differentiation and 3) that inhibition of E2F activity results in the suppression of cancer cell growth (Oncogene, 2000). We are currently exploring these agents for use as potential anticancer agents. This particular area of research is our strongest and we have been at the forefront of this work since 1993. Our competitiveness is reflected by publication of work relating to E2F in the leading international journals.

TGFβ1 Signalling Pathways in Differentiating Keratinocytes

The regulation of tissue replacement in stratified epithelia is regulated by the relative activities of positive growth signals (eg TGFβ) and negative growth signals (eg TGFβ1). Squamous carcinoma formation is often associated with the loss of negative growth regulation which results in deregulated proliferation. This deregulation of proliferation is characterised by the inappropriate activation of E2F activity. We have been examining the signalling pathways that mediate TGFβ1 growth inhibition in keratinocytes. Our studies to date indicate that TGFβ1 is capable of a) inhibiting growth, b) stimulating extracellular matrix production and c) inhibiting differentiation. However, upon closer inspection of the signalling pathways involved in these processes we have shown that the regulation of growth inhibition utilises multiple signalling pathways (J. Invest. Dermatol, 2001).

One of these pathways is associated with the suppression of Rb:E2F activity and this pathway is the same as that which mediates the induction of extracellular matrix production and the suppression of differentiation. The other pathway is a novel pathway that is characterised by the suppression of the cell cycle regulator, cdc2 (J. Invest. Dermatol, 2001). This observation has significant implications for cancer formation and we are currently trying to identify the new signal transducers.

During the course of these studies we also found that there was significant cross talk between the inhibitory SMAD molecules (the molecules responsible for transducing TGFβ signalling), SMAD6 and SMAD7, and pathways regulating growth and differentiation (Knop et al, to be submitted). Again, these pathways have not been described previously and we are currently pursuing these studies with vigour in collaboration with Dr Jetten (NIH, USA). These latter studies are of particular significance since we believe they may be indicative of a previously undescribed mechanism by which squamous differentiation is regulated. We currently receive funding for this project from the Association for International Cancer Research.

The Role of the AP2 Transcription Factor Family in Squamous Differentiation and Squamous Carcinoma Formation

The process of squamous differentiation is a tightly regulated process that is primarily controlled at the transcriptional level by specific transcription factors. Other work from our laboratory shows that the regulation of proliferation is controlled by the transcription factor and cell cycle regulator, E2F. The precise role of other transcription factors in regulating later points in the squamous differentiation programme are less clear. Recently we undertook obtained preliminary data which showed that the AP2 transcription factor complex was switched from being a transcriptional activator to being a transcriptional repressor during the process of squamous differentiation. Furthermore we found that AP2α and AP2γ were expressed in human keratinocytes whereas AP2β was not. This
and preneoplastic skin lesions and compared them isolated keratinocytes from skin samples of normal properties of cells during this transition. We very few studies that have examined the biological preneoplasia and finally neoplasia there have been during the transition of normal keratinocytes to process. Although various genetic changes occur neoplastic keratinocytes is a complex multistep
The transformation of normal keratinocytes to
Progression in Keratinocytes
Biological Characterisation of Neoplastic Progression in Keratinocytes
The transformation of normal keratinocytes to neoplastic keratinocytes is a complex multistep process. Although various genetic changes occur during the transition of normal keratinocytes to preneoplasia and finally neoplasia there have been very few studies that have examined the biological properties of cells during this transition. We isolated keratinocytes from skin samples of normal and preneoplastic skin lesions and compared them to those of neoplastic skin cancer cells. We were able to show, for the first time, that during the early phase of skin cancer formation the skin cells are still able to respond to normal growth inhibitory and differentiation-inducing stimuli. However, the preneoplastic skin cancer cells differed to normal skin cells in so far as they had 1) an extended lifespan, 2) there ability to undergo irreversible growth arrest was impaired and 3) they could not form a normal epithelial layer in organotypic raft cultures. These findings have significant implications for our understanding of the processes involved in skin cancer formation and were recently accepted for publication (Exp. Cell Res., 2000). We have now extended these studies to an analysis of differential gene expression between normal, preneoplastic and neoplastic cells using microarray screening. This work is the basis of Ms Serewko’s doctoral studies and is funded by a prestigious scholarship awarded by the Garnett Passe and Rodney Williams Memorial Foundation.

Histone Deacetylase Inhibitors as Potential Anticancer Agents
The regulation of differentiation in keratinocytes is a complex processing involving both transcriptional repression and transcriptional activation (Mol. Endocrinol., 1993; J. Biol. Chem., 1999).

The regulation of transcription is, in part regulated by the condensation of the chromatin into nucleosomes. This tertiary structure is regulated by the acetylation status of the nucleosomal core particles (histones). We examined the effects of nucleosomal disruption on keratinocyte differentiation using specific histone deacetylase inhibitors. Our results indicated that histone deacetylase inhibitors causes an increase in histone acetylation which is associated with an irreversible growth inhibition and differentiation in normal keratinocytes. Interestingly, the same compounds also inhibit the growth of squamous cell carcinoma cells. Since squamous cell carcinoma cells are normally not able to undergo growth inhibition we are now examining these compounds as potential anti-cancer agents (Cancer Res., 1999; Exp. Opin. Invest. Drugs, 1999). A visiting student from Germany (Ms Brinkmann) joined my lab for four months in 1999. During this time Ms Brinkmann was able to show that acetylation of histones may not be sufficient to induce growth inhibition of cells. Furthermore, Ms Brinkmann demonstrated that the effects of the inhibitors may be mediated by specific histone deacetylase isofoms (J. Biol. Chem., 2001). This finding is of great significance since it is the first time specific isoforms have been attributed specific cellular functions. Furthermore, these findings will have an enormous impact on the design of specific new inhibitors for this exciting and novel class of anticancer agents (already undergoing clinical trials overseas).

Collaborative Research Projects
Translational Nature of Research: An important component of the research program I have established is the involvement of both clinical and commercial collaborators. This has been a deliberate strategy of mine in so far as a major focus of my research is to be able to translate our research findings into effective therapeutic applications. In this respect, the involvement of both clinicians and industry partners are essential. The clinical and commercial collaborations I have established since initiating my research program are very real and have resulted in high impact publications and research dollars.

Clinical Collaborations. Dr Tony Dicker (Registrar, Department of Dermatology, RBH), Dr Geoff Strutton (Staff Pathologist, PAH) and Prof. Bill Coman (Chair in ENT, PAH). These collaborations are an important adjunct to my laboratories research program and all individuals contribute intellectually and physically to our research. Dr Dicker did his PhD in my laboratory before entering the second
phase of his dermatology training. Dr Dicker remains an active researcher in my laboratory and contributes physically and intellectually. Dr Strutton has a keen interest in dermatopathology and not only provides samples but is quick to suggest particular pathologies that are relevant to our work. The collaboration with Prof Coman is a longstanding one and reflects our mutual interest in squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck region. This collaboration has extended to an open invitation to attend the head and neck cancer clinic here at the PAH. An offer I frequently take up. The head neck cancer clinic at the PAH is the largest in the southern hemisphere and consequently this is a very fruitful collaboration. In addition to our scientific collaboration, Prof Coman has also asked me to assist in inviting and planning the speakers in the head and neck cancer section of the “Head & Neck 2002” conference to be held in July in Brisbane. All the clinical collaborations are expected to continue indefinitely.

Commercial Collaborations. Prof. Ian Frazer (Director of the CICR, Uni. Qld. and Corridon Inc.) and Dr Kevin Mills (Chief Scientist with Proctor and Gamble, USA). Our work with the role of E2F in squamous cell carcinoma development has progressed to the point where a commercial source (Corridon Inc) has invested in the development of E2F inhibitors as potential anticancer agents. Based on our proven expertise in the area of keratinocyte biology and more recently, microarray technology, I was approached to act as consultant to a project on cutaneous biology by Dr Mills of Proctor & Gamble. Attracting commercial sponsorship is an important component of our research program.

Papillomavirus Structural Biology
Study of papillomavirus DNA encapsidation and formation of infectious virions.

Interaction between papillomavirus and tubulin: a mechanism of virus translocation.

How does tRNA correlate with codon usage to regulate the expression of papillomavirus late genes?

Epithelial Tumour and Immunology Unit
Papillomavirus Vaccines
CLINICAL TRIALS
A phase I trial of immunotherapy for Cervical Precancer.

A phase I trial of immunotherapy for Juvenile Laryngeal Papillomatosis.

A phase I trial of immunotherapy for Genital Warts

OTHER RESEARCH
A skin graft model of immunotherapy for skin cancer.

Modelling regulation of tolerance in the mouse.

Regulation of thymocyte development by thymic epithelium.

Production of high and low affinity T cells by selective immunisation.

Memory T cell group
Study of the generation of anti cancer cytotoxic memory T cells.

Study of activation of cytotoxic memory T cells.

Anti-Cancer Vaccines.

Funding
CURRENT NHMRC


$177,500/yr. Analysis of HPV E7 levels and response to Interferon (McMillan N).

$177, 500/yr. HPV E7 repression of Interferon Response (McMillan N).

HIV escape from Interferon (Dora Lush Scholarship NHMRC) (McMillan N)


$750,000 total (2001 - 2002). A phase 1 clinical trial of VLP immunotherapy for JLP (Frazer I).

$236,952 total (2000 - 2002). The role of CD4+ T-helper cells in the generation, maintenance and activation of long lasting anti-tumour CTL effect. (Fernando GJ).

CURRENT OTHER SOURCES
$150,000 p.a (2001 - 2004). Arthritis Foundation Queensland. Operating grant for rheumatoid arthritis research (ThomasR)

$10,000/yr. PAH Foundation. Role of PKR in chronic lymphocytic leukemia (McMillan N).

$95,000 total (2000 - 2001). Queensland Cancer Fund. Biological characterisation of neoplastic progression in keratinocytes (Saunders NA).


$155,000 pa (1999 - 2002). CRI New York Genotype specific and genotype cross reactive cell mediated immunity to VLP based papillomavirus vaccines (Frazer I).

$230,000 1999 - 2002 NIH. Development and evaluation of hybrid novel mucosal vaccines [Frazer I (50%), Kent S (50%)].

$1.5m (1998 - 2002). CSL Ltd. A Phase 2b trial of immunotherapy of Cervical Cancer (Frazer I).

$150,000 pa (2001 - 2003). GRDC. Codon usage as a determinant of gene expression in plants [Frazer I (50%) Botella J (50%)].

$1.5m pa (2001 - 2003). Uniquest. Codon usage as a means to targeting genes to epithelial cancer (Frazer I).

Publications


**Articles Accepted for Publication**


Fernando GJ, Khammanivong V, Leggatt GR, Liu WJ, Frazer IH. The number of long-lasting functional memory CD8+ T cells generated depends on the nature of the initial nonspecific stimulation. (In press).


Thompson AG, Pettit AR, Padmanabha J, Mansfield H, Frazer IH, Strutton GM, Thomas R. Nuclear RelB+ cells are found in normal lymphoid organs and in peripheral tissue in the context of inflammation, but not under normal resting conditions. Immunol Cell Biol. (In press).

REVIEWS AND PATENTS


Lectures and Presentations
Ranjeny Thomas (Invited speaker)

March 2001. WA cancer oncology group. Re-educating the immune response against melanoma - are dendritic cells enough?


Nigel McMillan


PAH Hospital Research Seminar. Interferon and Leukemia.

Hanson Cancer Centre, Adelaide. Integrins, ras and papillomavirus. How viruses hijack cells. (Invited).

Cleveland Clinic Foundation, USA. Suppression of jak/stat signaling; a novel function of the HPV E7 oncoprotein. (Invited).

Johns Hopkins University, USA. Papillomavirus Receptors. (Invited).

Nicholas Saunders

Kong-Nan Zhao
Kong-Nan Zhao and Ian H Frazer, Bovine Papillomavirus type-1 virions can be amplified in yeast (Saccharomyces cerevisiae) cultures infected with natural BPV1 virions. 2001 HPV conference Brazil.

Kong-Nan Zhao and Ian H Frazer, Replication, transcription and translation of bovine Papillomavirus type-1 genes in Saccharomyces cerevisiae. 2001 Australian Molecular Biology and Biochemistry Society Conference.

Kong-Nan Zhao and Ian H Frazer, Infectious virus particle assembly and DNA encapsidation of bovine papillomavirus type 1 in Saccharomyces cerevisiae. 2001 Australian Virology Meeting.

Ian Frazer (Invited talks)
Bill Gates Foundation Symposium on PV Vaccines, Seattle, Jan 2001

NIH tumour virology meeting, Bethesda May 2001
EMBO Papillomavirus Meeting, Siena May 2001
Gynaecological conferences, Lisbon June 2001 and Helsinki October 2001
WHO summit on PV vaccines for the developing World, Geneva September 2001
Several national immunology and cancer meetings.

Germain Fernando
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biosciences, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA. “Peptide Vaccines against Cervical Cancers”. (2001 Invited lecture):


Postgraduate Students

Ranjeny Thomas
Judy Peng, PhD 2001 Assoc supervisor with Chem Eng (60%)
Angus Thompson MBBS PhD 2000 Supervisor (75%)
Meng Yong Yan, PhD 2000 Supervisor (75%)
Helen Juffs, M MedSci (research thesis) 1999 Supervisor (75%)

Nigel McMillan
Liliana Munoz PhD
Daniel Clarke PhD
Tom Fothergill B.Sc Hons, PhD
Elanore Lambley B.Sc Hons
Aaron Irving, B.Sc Hons.

Nicholas Saunders
Ms Claudia Popa BSc (Hons), PhD Student
Ms Magdalena Serewko BSc (Hons), Ph D Student
Ms Chung Fai Wong BSc (Hons), PhD Student
Ms Sarah Cozzi BSc (Hons), PhD Student (cosupervise with Prof Peter Parsons)
Ms Samiya S. Al-Jaaidi BSc (Hons), PhD Student (assoc. sup. with Prof M Waters)

Jan Frazer
SiMei Ng PhD 1999
Claudia Popa PhD 1999
Magdalena Serewko PhD 1999
Meng Yong Yan PhD 2000
Craig Harris Hons 2001

Germain Fernando
SiMei Ng, PhD (commenced 1999)

Awards to Staff Members
International Union Against Cancer Fellowship.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Ranjeny Thomas
Team leader, paper reports for Arthritis Research 2000- present Write regular reports on papers of interest to the field of rheumatology for publication in the journal. Edit reports of my team before publication

Primary reviewer for Journal of Immunology 1998- present Approximately 2 manuscripts per month


Reviewer NHMRC grants 1995-present Approximately 6 grants per year

Ad hoc reviewer for approximately 7 other granting bodies 1995-present Approximately 6 grants per year

Media comment 1994-present 1-2 times per year: on rheumatoid arthritis prognosis, treatment and research, and on tumor immunotherapy

Scientific Committee Arthritis Foundation of Australia 1995-present Assess, rank and recommend funding for approximately 50 grants per year

Scientific Programme Committee, Australian Rheumatology Association (ARA) 1994-present Organised scientific programme for ARA annual meeting 1997, oversee scientific programme organisation for annual meetings from 1998-2000

Member, working party for ARA research and education fund 2000- present Develop and implement guidelines for ARA research and education fund

Seminar Programme Coordinator, PAH Research Division 1999- present Organise, advertise and look after weekly speakers
Postgraduate student speaker meeting coordinator
1999- present Organise meetings of postgraduate
students on PAH campus with seminar speakers

Nigel McMillan
PAH Research Division
Organising Committee Australian Virology Group
Conference 2001
Reviews papers for Journal of Virology, Archives
Virology

Nicholas Saunders
Grant Reviewer for Australian NHMRC
Grant Reviewer for the Victorian Cancer Council
Grant Reviewer for Canadian Medical Research
Council
1999 – present Member of the University of
Queensland Institutional Biosafety Subcommittee
Manuscript reviewer for assorted journals.
2001 - Member of the Board of Directors for the
Centre for Immunology & Cancer Research.

Ian Frazer
NHMRC Grant advisory Group (Chair)
JDRF Immunotherapy committee
Scientific steering committee for the International
Papillomavirus Workshop
Regional representative for Oceania/Asia for the
International Papillomavirus Society board.
Chair, Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee
of the Queensland Cancer Fund Board Member, the
Cancer Council of Australia.
Editorial board of the journal “Virology” with a
particular brief for viral immunology
Reviews papers regularly for Journal of Virology,
Journal of Immunology, and JNCI.

Germain Fernando
PAH Biological Research Facility Committee
Reviews papers regularly for Journal of
Immunology.
Centre for Primary Health Care-School of Population Health

Staff
Associate Professor Robert Bush (on secondment to Queensland Government)
Dr Maria Donald
Dr Judith Murray
Dr Jo Dower
Dr Fran Boyle
Dr Pim Kuipers
Ms Allyson Mutch
Ms Julie Dean
Ms Trish Wilson
Ms Rebecca Farley

Current Research Activities

OTHER RESEARCH
Department of Public Works (DPW) Project
This project was a pilot study to ascertain the incipient health risks of the Public Works Department workforce.

Sharing Health Care Initiative funded by Department of Health & Aged Care
The program involves a six-week course designed to enhance self-efficacy and improve the capacity of people with chronic disease to manage and respond to the demands of their illness. The project consortium is led by the Arthritis Foundation of Queensland.

Community Capacity Health Planning in Rural and Remote Areas Project
The Centre for Primary Health Care was appointed as the external evaluator of the Community Public Health Planning in Rural and Remote Areas Project. The Project was funded by Queensland Health for three years to develop, implement and evaluate a framework or model for the delivery of Public Health services in rural and remote areas. The project involves 14 rural and remote communities in Queensland and aims to address the health inequalities by assisting communities to identify health determinants and issues facing populations living in their local area, to analyse these issues and identify those susceptible to community action and to access resources which will allow them to plan, develop and implement strategies to address these issues. The project is funded until June 2002.

Pathways of Care for Young People Project
This study involved tracking young people, aged 18 to 24 years, who have attempted suicide or deliberately self-harmed and presented to the Accident and Emergency Department of the Princess Alexandra Hospital during a 12 month period commencing in June 1998. The objectives of the study included describing the demography and clinical characteristics of the young people, detailing the predisposing and precipitating factors and current methods associated with deliberate self-harm in young people, documenting the service utilization patterns and general help seeking behaviours of these young people and examining the young peoples’ perceptions of the attitudes of health service providers and the adequacy of service provision following deliberate self-harm.

Enhancement of Community Capacity Health Development Index
The New South Wales Health Department has funded the Centre for Primary Health Care to further develop the User’s Manual associated with the Community Capacity Health Development Index.

National Population Health in Primary Health Care Education Research and Practice Network funded by Public Health Education and Research Program
The project requires the Centre for Primary Health Care, with the University of New South Wales, to develop a discussion paper and conduct consultation workshops concerned with the development of appropriate and effective information dissemination strategies in the primary health care sector.
Review of current practice in the management of clients with co-morbid mental health and substance use disorders in tertiary care settings funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care.

The project involves a scoping study to identify current practice in the management of clients with co-morbid mental health and substance use disorders in tertiary care settings.

Performance Indicators and Outcomes for the Early Intervention component of the National Action Plan for Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention for Mental Health 2000.

This project is an extension of the project that the Centre for Primary Health Care was involved in to develop the performance indicators and outcomes and the evaluation frameworks for the National Action Plan for Promotion, Prevention and Early Intervention for Mental Health 2000. The project is being conducted in collaboration with Professor Sue Spence and is being funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care.

Funding
Department of Public Works Project. Queensland Health $31,250.


Effective Collaboration between General Practitioners and Self-help Organisations GPEP $13,949.

Enhancement of the Community Capacity Health Development Index. NSW Health. $10,000.

National Population Health in Primary Health Care Education Research and Practice Network $5,000.

Review of current practice in the management of clients with co-morbid mental health and substance use disorders in tertiary care settings $13,500.

Publications


The Evaluation Advisory Booklet, titled Evaluation - A guide for good practice, which was developed as part of the original project, has been completed and can be ordered from DHAC publications on 1800 066 247 and can be found at the following Web Site http://www.health.gov.au/hsdd/mentalhe/resources/evaluation.htm.

ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION


**Lectures and Presentations**

**CONFERENCES**


General Practice and Miscarriage Care Study: Project completed and findings presented as poster session at the Primary Health Care and General Practice Conference, Adelaide, May 31-June 1, 2001.


**OTHER PRESENTATIONS**

Coping with our relationships and helping our children. Leukaemia Foundation, 9 March 2001 (Invited).

Bereaved Siblings. SANDS Awareness Week, 3 April 2001 (Invited).


Spirituality and Pastoral Care into the Future. QLD Institute of Pastoral Clinical Education Annual General Meeting, 21 August, 2001 (Invited).


Parents, Children, Parenting and CF. Royal Children’s Hospital CF Parents Day Lecture. 17 November 2001 (Invited).

Grandparents, Children, Grandchildren and CF. Royal Children’s Hospital CF Grandparents Day Lecture. 17 November 2001 (Invited).

Effective Collaboration between General Practitioners and Self-help Organisations - Presentation of findings at SANDS Awareness Week, 2nd April (Invited).

Poster presentation of research findings. 13th National Health Promotion Conference, Ecological Health Promotion: Living by Principles. Gold Coast June 5th-7th.

Postgraduate Students
* Sue Coglan, PhD
* Elizabeth Forster, PhD
* Narelle Dickensen, MPhil
* ALL the GHSP Students
Division of Mental Health

Staff
Ms Sabrina Walsh, Executive Manager
Dr Monica Des Arts, Clinical Director
Ms Liz Osborne, Assistant Director of Nursing
Dr Brian Kelly, Director, Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry
Dr Paul Schneider, Director, General Psychiatry
Dr Jimmie Cutbush, Director, Postgraduate Training
Dr Michael Leon, Director, Psychogeriatrics (to 4/5/01)
Dr David Lie, Director, Psychogeriatrics (May 01)

CONSULTANT PSYCHIATRISTS
Dr Frances Dark
Dr Michael Dwyer
Dr Mandy Evans
Dr Janice Gomes
Dr Pat Haycock
Dr Geoff Leong
Dr Richard Thomis
Dr Jo Loftus
Dr Robert Stewart
Dr Frank Varghese

VISITING CONSULTANT PSYCHIATRISTS
Dr Pat Haycock
Dr Curt Gray
Dr Jonathon Hargreaves

Current Research Activities

CLINICAL TRIALS
ENGENIX

JANSSEN-CILAG, GAL-INT-10

GAL-INT-21

OTHER RESEARCH
Binocular Rivalry Rate (BRR) in mental disorders with affective disturbance (Dr Yaser Baqir – Research Scholarship, PAH).

An investigation into the contributions of cognitive and motor processes to balance disturbance in the depressed elderly: Why are they at greater risk for falls? (Broome AS, Taylor S, Brauer S, Varghese P).
The role of arousal disturbance in false recognition syndromes: A single case study. (Broome AS, Lipp O).

Hepatitis C and Psychiatric Moribidity (Dr M Evans, Dr B Kelly, Dr K Arthur).

Clinical Factors Associated with the Wish to Hasten Death in Terminally Ill Cancer Patients (Dr Brian Kelly, Dr Frank Varghese, Dr Marguerite Robertson, Dr Paul Burnett, Mr Dan Pelusi, Ms Shirlene Badger).

Intervention to Prevent Delirium in Home Based Palliative Care (Dr Brian Kelly – Submitted NICS).

Prevention of Delirium in Oncology Patients: Risk Factors and Targeted Intervention Strategies (Dr V Ljubisavljevic, Dr B Kelly).

Characteristics of Depression in Patients Receiving Palliative Care (Dr Lydia Rusch, Dr Brian Kelly, Dr Frank Varghese).

The Validity of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (Dr Frank Varghese).

An Economic Analysis of a Psychogeriatric Domicilliary Visiting Service (Dr M Walters).

The roles of genetic vulnerability and psychosocial factors in the development of drug problems with specific emphasis on the A1 allele of the D2 Dopamine Receptor gene and GABA \( \beta_3 \) subunit gene (Dr Ross Young, Department of Psychiatry, University of Queensland, Dr Bruce Lawford, Visiting Psychiatrist, Royal Brisbane Hospital, Professor Ernest Noble, Neuropsychiatric Research Institute, University of California Los Angeles and Dr Gerald Feeney, Director, Alcohol and Drug Assessment Unit, Princess Alexandra Hospital).

The treatment of drug problems amongst individuals with comorbid disorders. These include schizophrenia. Dr Ross Young, Associate Professor David Kavanagh, and Professor John Saunders, Department of Psychiatry, The University of Queensland, Ms Ann Clair, Wolston Park Hospital, Mr Thigarthan Sitharthan, Westmead Hospital, Sydney) and PTSD (with Dr Bruce Lawford, Royal Brisbane Hospital, Dr David Torpy, Department of Medicine, The University of Queensland and Dr Mark Creamer, Centre for Veterans’ Mental Health, University of Melbourne).

Brief interventions for smoking cessation (Dr Ross Young, Department of Psychiatry, The University of Queensland, Mr Ben Perkins, Mr Jeff Dunn, Queensland Cancer Fund and Dr Steven Rollnick, Department of General Practice, Cardiff Medical School, Wales, Brisbane North Division of GP’s, Brisbane, Southern Division of GP’s).

**Funding**

Clinical Factors Associated with the Wish to Hasten Death in Terminally Ill Cancer Patients (Kelly B, Varghese F, Robertson M, Burnett P, Pelusi D, Badger S). NH&MRC, Jan 2000 – Dec 2001, $85,469

Clinical Factors Associated with the Wish to Hasten Death in Terminally Ill Cancer Patients (Kelly B, Varghese F, Robertson M, Burnett P, Pelusi D, Badger S). Mt Olivet Hospital Fundraising Committee, $60,326.

National Illicit Drugs Strategy Research Program. A pharmacogenetic approach to the treatment of opioid dependence using the D2 dopamine receptor gene (Dr Ross Young, Dr Bruce Lawford, Prof Ernest Noble, Prof John Saunders). NH&MRC $140,373.

Janssen Research Foundation - Aged Care, $32,000.

GlaxoWellcome Aust Ltd - Depression Research Dr Frank Varghese - $2,024 (Received Feb 01 for drug trial completed 2000).

**Publications**


**ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION**

Kelly B, Varghese F, Robertson M, Burnett P, Pelusi D, Badger S (In press) Terminally ill cancer patients’ desire to hasten death Palliative Medicine


**PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS**

Baqir Y, Varghese (2001). F Binocular Rivalry Rate (BRR) in Mental Disorders with Affective Disturbance. The Australasian Society for Psychiatric Research Annual Scientific Meeting, 6-7 December, Melbourne.

Chen L, Varghese F, Nurcombe B, Kenardy J (2001). The development of an “Acculturation Scale”. 10th Scientific Meeting of the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatry, 6-9 October, Melbourne


Chen L, Varghese F, Nurcombe, Kenardy J (2001). The role of ethnic identity and acculturation in young immigrants mental health. 10th Scientific Meeting of the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatry, 6-9 October, Melbourne


Lectures and Presentations

Baqir Y, Varghese F (2001) Binocular Rivalry Rate (BRR) in Mental Disorders with Affective Disturbance. The Australasian Society for Psychiatric Research Annual Scientific Meeting, 6-7 December, Melbourne (presenter Y Baqir) (Invited).


Halliday L, Meadows J (2001). Three case studies about mental illness in the elderly that may surprise you: What does mental illness really look like in an older person? Aged Care Nursing Conference, September, Brisbane (presenter L Halliday)


Kelly B (2001). Delirium – An Update. 36th Congress of The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, May, Canberra


Seifert D, Neild J (2001). To Collaborate or Not to Collaborate - That is the Question – Reflections on the production of a resource booklet for people with a mental illness who are survivors of sexual abuse. 27th Conference of Australian and New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses, 3 Oct, Melbourne (presenter D Seifert).


Chen L, Varghese F, Nurcombe, Kenardy J (2001) The role of ethnic identity and acculturation in young immigrants mental health. 10th Scientific Meeting of the Pacific Rim College of Psychiatry, 6-9 October, Melbourne (presenter L Chen).
Postgraduate Students

PhD

Ms Annette Broome, “Beyond Beck: Inter-hemispheric differences in the priming and processing of emotional words in depression - the role of attentional deficits in negative thinking” (Supervised University of Queensland, School of Psychology)

Ms Nicole Edwards, “International Comparative Study: Appropriateness of Psychotropic Medication Used by people with a Dual Diagnosis”, (Dr Brian Kelly - co-supervisor)

Mr Bob Green, “Decision making and cannabis use in psychosis” (Dr R Young - co-supervisor)

Mr Peter Mowatt, Partnerships with Non-government Sector and Mental Health Services (Supervised – University of Queensland, School of Social Work and Social Policy)

Ms Darunee Phukao, “Development and Evaluation of a Culturally Appropriate Treatment Program for Alcohol Dependent Persons in Thailand” (Dr Frank Varghese - co-supervisor)

Ms Lynne Ridgeway, “An Evaluation of Psychotherapy” (Dr Brian Kelly - co-supervisor)

Ms Lynda Troy, “Impact of Cisplatin Based Therapy on Neuro-psychological Functioning – Patterns and Predictors of Outcome”(Dr Brian Kelly - co-supervisor)

Dr Rodney Marsh, “Evaluation of Psychiatric Aspects of Parkinsons Disease in Patients Treated with Pallidotomy” (Dr Brian Kelly – supervisor)

Masters

Ms Lauri Andriske, Group Interventions with Families in the Areas of Psycho-education and Early Psychosis. (Supervised – University of Queensland, School of Social Work and Social Policy)

Ms Shona Callum, Social Work Practice Outcomes (Supervised – University of Queensland, School of Social Work and Social Policy)

Dr Robyn Leigh, “Understanding Family Factors in the Wish to Hasten Death Among the Terminally Ill (Dr Brian Kelly - supervisor)

Dr Vladan Ljubisavljevic, “Prevention of Delirium in Oncology Patients: Risk Factors and Targeted Intervention Strategies” (Dr Brian Kelly – supervisor)

Public Service Relevant to Research

Dr Brian Kelly

Member, Australasian Advisory Board, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry

Member, Research Advisory Group, Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education

Member, Board of the Queensland Cancer Fund – Griffith University Collaborative Centre on Psychosocial Oncology

Assessor for the following granting bodies:

National Health & Medical Research Council

Cancer Councils of Australia

Reviewer for the following journals:

International Journal of Psycho-Oncology

Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry

Journal of Social Science and Medicine

Medical Journal of Australia

Australian Journal of Psychology

Dr Ross Young

Assessor for the following granting bodies:

National Health and medical Research Council

Australian Research Council

Reviewer for the following journals:

Psychology and Health

Addiction Research

Drug and Alcohol Review

Australian Journal of Psychology

Australian Psychologist

Dr Frank Varghese

Assessor for the National Health & Medical Research Council

Assessor for the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry
Microbiology Department

Staff
Graeme Nimmo, Director
Jacqueline Harper, Chief Scientist
Robert Gibb, Supervising Scientists
Wayne Monaghan
Ken Stallard
Jacqui Schooneveldt, QA/R&D Scientist:
Dr William Hope, Registrar

Current Research Activities

CLINICAL TRIALS
BMS-284756 versus Piperacillin/tazobactam Trial*
Voriconazole Trial*

OTHER RESEARCH
Staphylococcus aureus resistance survey
(Australian Group for Antimicrobial Resistance)
Gram negative resistance survey (AGAR)
Enterococcal resistance survey (AGAR)
Streptococcus pneumoniae resistance survey
(AGAR)
SENTRY Surveillance Study*
Non-multiresistant MRSA study*
VRE screening by PCR
MRSA screening by PCR
Legionellosis diagnosis by PCR
Australian Candidaemia Study

Funding
* Activities marked with asterisks are funded by pharmaceutical companies.

a Funded by QHPSS grant.

b Funding by PAH Foundation.

c Collaborative project with Infection Management Services, PAH (supported by Ipswich Hospital Foundation grant) and CRC for Diagnostic Methods.

Publications


ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION


ABSTRACTS


Lectures and Presentations
G.R. Nimmo

“The SENTRY Study: Antimicrobial Resistance in the Western Pacific Region” National Symposia on Antimicrobials; Zhuhai, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Beijing, China, September 2001.

Public Service Relevant to Research
G.R. Nimmo:
Member, Editorial Board of ‘Pathology’
Deputy Chairman, Australian Group for Antimicrobial Resistance
Member, National Executive Committee of the Australian Society for Antimicrobials
Member, organising committee of 8th Western Pacific Congress on Chemotherapy and Infectious Diseases.