Leaders in Translational Research

Clinical Problem

Basic science &/or clinical research

Evaluation of efficacy of research results on clinical problem (including clinical trials)

Health Service Research (can the solution be applied to routine practice?)

Clinical Solution

PEOPLE INVOLVED

Scientists and Clinicians

Patients

Clinicians & Hospital / Health Managers

Regulatory Authority

Improved Medical Care
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Health and medical research is central to the provision of quality healthcare for our patients. A successful research effort will encompass a full spectrum of basic biomedical, clinical and health services research. It is this breadth that underpins the growing success and the attraction of funding to the clinicians and scientists at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. The last decade has seen remarkable progress in research outputs and outcomes as evidenced by the discovery of the Cancer Vaccine by Professor Ian Frazer. Translational and clinical research will underpin the quality of our health services in making vital contributions to outcomes.

PAH Week 2007 was a great success with the theme of ‘Looking Forward’. Scientists and clinicians submitted over 70 abstracts of high standard for presentations and posters. All professional streams were involved from basic biomedical science, through education to clinical process.

Professor Richard Larkins AO, Vice Chancellor – Monash University, Melbourne, delivered the Kurt Aaron Oration entitled ‘The Future of the Clinician-Scientist’. This superb oration was delivered eloquently and with a great stamp of authority.

The Translational Research Institute, which will be located at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, secured $100 million from the State Government towards the construction of the facility, with a further $100 million in matching funds from the Federal Government. Planning of the facility is well underway, as outlined in Professor Prins’ report.

Research activity at the Princess Alexandra Hospital continues to expand through the growth of existing departments and groups and through new affiliations with the Queensland University of Technology.

This report provides an overview listing the multitude of research programs and achievements in 2007 across the Princess Alexandra Hospital. The report concludes with a list of research staff and publications. Further details of the research conducted by the Diamantina Institute and The University of Queensland are contained in their respective annual reports.

I wish to acknowledge the excellent work of the office of the Centres for Health Research in compiling this report, under the management of Areti Gavrilidis.

On behalf of the Clinical Council and the Executive, I wish to extend appreciation to Mrs Gwynneth Petrie, who retired at the end of the year, for her work as Chair of the Human Research Ethics Committee.
Professor Prins was elected as the Government Representative (Department of Tourism, Regional Development & Industry) to work together with the Queensland Clinical Trials Network to attract clinical trial activity and investment. I congratulate and thank Professor Prins for his ongoing leadership for another great year of achievements, as highlighted throughout this report.

I congratulate the researchers based at the Princess Alexandra Hospital and their collaborators on a very productive and successful year.

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2007 Princess Alexandra Hospital Centres for Health Research, Research Report, and look forward to working with Professor Prins and the research community to facilitate even greater achievements in basic, translational, clinical and health services research at our hospital.

Dr David Theile Snr
Clinical Chief Executive Officer

“The last decade has seen remarkable progress in research outputs and outcomes as evidenced by the discovery of the Cancer Vaccine by Professor Ian Frazer. Translational and clinical research will underpin the quality of our health services in making vital contributions to outcomes.”
2007 was another successful year for research on the Princess Alexandra Hospital campus, with further improvements in all indicators including publications, research income and numbers of researchers and higher degree students. All the information we have about the next few years suggests that this trend will continue – a pleasing forecast indeed in times of growing research competitiveness and ongoing international restrictions in research funding.

Highlights were many but, from a ‘future’ perspective, prominent was the announcement of the Translational Research Institute (TRI), to be built on the hospital campus and due for completion in late 2011. Initiated by funding of $100 million each from the State and Federal Governments and supported by investments from Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Biopharmaceuticals Australia and philanthropic sources, the building is planned to house over 600 researchers and a pharmaceuticals production facility. Importantly, the TRI will house research groups from the hospital, The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute for Cancer, Immunology and Metabolic Medicine, QUT and the Mater Medical Research Institute. We particularly welcome the latter two groups to the campus, and look forward to a long and productive collaborative research effort specifically aimed at improving health.

2007 also saw the merger on campus of two active research centres – the Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research and the Centre for Diabetes and Endocrine Research - to form The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute for Cancer, Immunology and Metabolic Medicine. This University-level Institute significantly enhances the research profile of the campus and will serve to increase collaborative links with researchers on the St Lucia campus of The University of Queensland, facilitated by the Eleanor Schonell Bridge. The year also welcomed QUT’s Professor Colleen Nelson and her team who, in collaboration with Associate Professor David Nicol, have established a Prostate Cancer research group on the campus. This team has successfully obtained funding to expand and develop their research, and will form an integral part of the future TRI.

It is also important to acknowledge the considerable support for research that comes from the hospital, the PA Foundation and the State Government. Our Visiting Professor scheme supported clinical and scientific visits and interactions by four prominent researchers in a variety of disciplines. Our Clinical Research Fellowship scheme continues to attract high-class
applicants and to serve as an entry point into the world of a clinician-scientist. By the end of 2007, 28 of these fellowships had been awarded and 25 of these awardees have either completed, or are enrolled in, a higher research degree. This will help to consolidate our campus as a lead player in translational research in the future. The PA Foundation and the Private Practice Trust fund distributed almost $1 million in research funds to the campus. This terrific contribution continues to foster our research efforts. Finally, I’d like to acknowledge the further increase in financial support that the State Government provides through its Smart State schemes, benefiting a number of our researchers. Again the indicators are that this investment will increase further as evidenced by a recent Smart State Council Working Group report which strongly recommended significant expansion of research support (http://www.smartstate.qld.gov.au/resources/publications/ss_council/Medical_research.pdf). A number of Princess Alexandra Hospital-based researchers had input into the development of the Report, not least Ms Areti Gavrilidis, Centres for Health Research Business Manager, who was specifically seconded to undertake the research and writing.

Overall one can only be pleased by our ongoing research output and also optimistic about the future. We still have work to do to better integrate the three missions of the campus: clinical service, teaching and research. However, in our favour we have the growing presence and profile of the Universities, support of the Princess Alexandra Hospital Clinical Council, improvement of facilities, and ongoing support of the PA Foundation, Government, NGOs and philanthropic donors. Most importantly, the increasing research output of the campus and capability and commitment of our researchers means that the successful integration of these missions is inevitable.

Professor John Prins
Chair, Centres for Health Research

“Our Clinical Research Fellowship scheme continues to attract high-class applicants and to serve as an entry point into the world of a clinician-scientist. By the end of 2007, 28 of these fellowships had been awarded and 25 of these awardees have either completed, or are enrolled in, a higher research degree”
Researchers at the Princess Alexandra Hospital are developing new systems and technologies to provide specialist healthcare to our local and remote communities.

**Tele-geriatrics**

Most older people living outside Brisbane and Cairns lack access to specialist geriatric services.

The Academic Unit in Geriatric Medicine (AUGM) is using modern e-health and telemedicine strategies to bring services to rural communities.

Traditional ‘fly-in, fly-out’ strategies which are used in many specialties have two major problems: large amounts of specialist time are consumed in travel; and there are long gaps between visits, making the visits useful only for non-urgent or chronic problems.

Three types of service have been developed:

- Online Geriatric Consultation via the internet.
- An outpatient memory disorders clinic via traditional video-conference.
- Ward rounds using mobile, wireless video-conference.

Geriatric consultations in hospital can be conducted ‘online’ using a system of assessment administered by specially trained nurses on site with geriatricians reviewing cases over the internet. It takes advantage of “intelligent systems” supported by software developed jointly by AUGM and the Centre for Online Health at The University of Queensland. This approach enables same day access to geriatric specialist expertise that would otherwise be completely unavailable to older people in rural settings. Response times are more rapid than achieved in many major metropolitan hospitals.

The Princess Alexandra Hospital Memory Clinic now extends its services to North-Western Queensland via weekly video-consultation.

Using mobile wireless video-conferencing equipment, hospital ward rounds are now conducted in Toowoomba Base Hospital Rehabilitation and Geriatric Unit. The geriatrician interviews and examines patients at the bedside from his own office. High quality vision and sound, with cameras
A consortium of researchers from Monash University, The University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, Boston University and Princess Alexandra Hospital has completed the development and piloting of an automated telephone system to support diabetes self-management. This telephone system, the Telephone-Linked Care (TLC) Diabetes, is designed to educate, monitor and coach patients to improve self-care behaviours essential to diabetes management.

The TLC system, a computer equipped with sophisticated speech recognition and voice processing software, interviews and converses with the user via pre-recorded statements and questions. It 'listens' to answers and records them in the database and uses them to provide feedback and tailor current and future conversations. Prior to each call, users also upload their most recent blood glucose readings via a data transmitter, AliveConnect, connected to a dedicated mobile phone.

Participants in the pilot testing of the data transmitter device and the full TLC system reported high satisfaction with the technology.

The research team, led by Professor Brian Oldenburg, is now recruiting 340 adults with Type 2 diabetes, aged between 18 and 70 years, for a randomised controlled trial to evaluate the TLC Diabetes system. The trial compares a group receiving usual care and a group receiving support from the TLC Diabetes system for 6 months. The team hopes to demonstrate significant improvements in glycaemic control, quality of life and key self-care behaviours.

This trial will demonstrate how well a new tool for improving the management of Type 2 diabetes can complement the existing role of Australian health providers and current approaches. The multidisciplinary research team from Australia and USA has outstanding expertise in diabetes and chronic disease management, socio-behavioural intervention programs and use of interactive computing and telecommunications technology for improving health and disease management.

This study will further inform understanding of those key elements identified by Wagner and others as being critical for improving chronic disease care at the patient, service delivery, health system and societal level.
The University of Queensland (UQ) continues to have strong ties with research groups at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. UQ’s Faculty of Health Sciences (www.uq.edu.au/health) has seven schools, encompassing most of the health professions. Those represented are: medicine; nursing and midwifery; population health; pharmacy; human movement studies; dentistry; and health and rehabilitation sciences.

There are many conjoint appointments and honorary academic appointments (clinical and adjunct) across the Princess Alexandra Hospital and The University of Queensland attached to these schools. Multidisciplinary research is a strength of the faculty, including the new National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Program Grant awarded to Professor Tom Marwick and his group. Increasing research at the Princess Alexandra Hospital campus is part of the agenda.

A number of school research centres are located at the Princess Alexandra Hospital including the Endocrine Hypertension Research Centre and the Renal Research Centre. There is a wide range of less formal collaborations that combine clinical expertise with patient-focused research in ground-breaking development activities. This innovative research translates directly into optimal patient care.

In exciting developments, the Faculty of Health Sciences will be collaborating with the new Diamantina Institute for Cancer, Immunology and Metabolic Medicine (Diamantina Institute). The School of Pharmacy will also be increasing collaborations across the campus in the near future, with the Pharmacy Australia Centre of Excellence (PACE). The PACE project is currently in development and will relocate the School of Pharmacy to a site adjoining the Princess Alexandra Hospital. When fully developed, it will be home to the school, pharmacy professional organisations and associated health industries. PACE will increase links with industry, the pharmacy profession and the hospital. The project will also greatly expand the school’s research portfolio and facilitate more opportunities for postgraduate research training. It is envisaged the precinct will be occupied in early 2010.

Looking to the future, The University of Queensland, particularly its Faculty of Health Sciences, aims to increase research ties with the Princess Alexandra Hospital campus, with the focus on improving health outcomes through excellence in research.
The University of Queensland’s School of Medicine ranks third among Australia’s 11 medical schools and is one of only four world-class institutions in the nation. Founded in 1936, the school is Australia’s largest graduate medical program, with a global reputation for excellence and quality in medical research and education. Incorporated within the Faculty of Health Sciences, it provides the majority of medical training places in the state of Queensland and runs one of the most successful rural clinical schools in the country. Ranked 50-75 worldwide in terms of clinical medicine (the highest in Australia), 33rd in World University Rankings in the 2007 Times Higher Education Supplement and 23rd for biomedicine universities, the school supports a diversity of research that reflects both the clinical and research specialisation of its staff. With more than 60 active research groups ranging from cancer to diabetes, and from schizophrenia to drug metabolism, the school supports world-class researchers at the forefront of medical research.

The School of Medicine is a diverse enterprise operating over multiple sites, with major partners including Queensland Health and private health service providers. Geographically, the school extends throughout Queensland and overseas, operating in major sites in Brisbane as well as rural and remote area facilities throughout the state. New clinical schools are being developed on the Sunshine Coast, through central Brisbane and in Ipswich.
knowledge to improve clinical practice. The Princess Alexandra Hospital offers a tertiary-level facility with more than 700 beds and over 700 medical staff and visiting medical officers. Many of the medical staff hold joint positions or academic titles with the School of Medicine. Research activity at Princess Alexandra Hospital is enhanced by the active school presence and research activity at the nearby Greenslopes and Mater Misericordiae hospitals. Its proximity to The University of Queensland St Lucia campus is also an advantage.

The school’s presence at the hospital site continues to grow. In 2007, 104 School of Medicine staff members where based at the hospital. Researchers attracted $4.57 million in competitive research funding. Of the school’s 340 postgraduate research students, 41 were based at the hospital, with seven students completing their higher degrees during 2007.

A number of other School of Medicine groups have reports in this publication, including the Cardiovascular Imaging Group, the Academic Unit in Geriatric Medicine, the Endocrine Hypertension Research Centre, and research groups in urology, liver research and ophthalmology. Also included are research activity reports in the clinical departments of: gastroenterology and hepatology; intensive care; ear, nose and throat; respiratory; and the renal unit.

The ability to forge diverse collaborations is an outstanding feature of the School of Medicine. These have developed between the school’s research groups, as well as between these groups and the hospital’s clinical departments and other university groups. Collaborative studies include those into heart failure and liver disease; schizophrenia and diabetes; geriatric medicine and psychiatry; and hypertension and clinical pharmacology. The Centre for Clinical Research Excellence in Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disorders brings together school groups including the Cardiovascular Research Group, the Centre for Diabetes and Endocrinology Research, the Endocrine Hypertension Research Centre, the Kidney Disease Research Centre and the Gastroenterology and Hepatology’s Liver Disease group, as well as other onsite UQ groups and hospital clinicians. Centre for Diabetes and Endocrinology collaborations have become so strong, and the research so dynamic, that this group has merged with the Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research to form a new stand-alone UQ institute, the Diamantina Institute for Cancer, Immunology and Metabolic Medicine. The institute is focused on translational research - producing better outcomes for patient treatments. It is comprised of nearly 200 researchers and students.

In a joint initiative, UQ and the Queensland Skin and Cancer Foundation established the Professorial Chair of Dermatology in mid 2007 to represent Queensland’s first professorial research unit led by specialist dermatologists.

The Dermatology Group, which is co-located with the Dermatology Department in the Geriatric and Rehabilitation Unit Building of the PAH, is directed by Professor Peter Soyer, an Austrian clinical and academic dermatologist of international repute. The primary objectives of the Chair are to initiate, conduct and promote international-standard translational and interdisciplinary research in skin disease. Research will focus on three major areas: teledermatology, cutaneous bio-imaging and cutaneous systems biology. The latter research will be conducted under the direction of Associate Professor Stephen Gilmore, who joined the group from Victoria.

Since returning to the Princess Alexandra Hospital in early 2007, Professor David McIntyre has expanded links between the hospital and the School of Medicine research groups. In collaboration with Professor John Prins, he has fostered the development of the Princess Alexandra Hospital Collaborative Organisation for Research and Education (PAH – CORE) which aims to further integrate the activities of these groups. PAH – CORE will form a major part of the Translational Research Institute at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Further information can be found http://www.som.uq.edu.au/som/index.htm
Dr David Sturgess
(MBBS FRACGP)
Anaesthetic / Intensive Care Unit Registrar

“My Doctorate of Philosophy is nearing completion. I am grateful for the opportunities that have resulted from The Princess Alexandra Hospital Clinical Research Fellowships scheme.”

Dr David Sturgess was a clinical research fellow at the hospital in 2005. The Princess Alexandra Hospital Clinical Research Fellowships offered him an excellent opportunity to begin a Doctorate of Philosophy at The University of Queensland. His primary research interest is the biochemical and non-invasive evaluation of myocardial dysfunction during severe sepsis and septic shock. His clinical fellowship resulted in a number of successful grant applications, publications, presentations and awards.

Dr Sturgess has published abstracts and manuscripts in notable journals such as Circulation, Critical Care, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care and Critical Care and Resuscitation. He has presented original research at a number of scientific meetings including: The International Symposium of Intensive Care and Emergency Medicine (Brussels, 2007); The American Heart Association Scientific Sessions (Chicago, 2006); and The Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society Annual Scientific Meeting (Adelaide, 2005). He was awarded the coveted Tess Crammond Award for the best presentation at the ANZCA/ASA Annual Anaesthetics Registrars’ Meeting (Brisbane, 2007).

In 2006 Dr Sturgess was awarded a project grant of $22,500 from the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists and a registrar grant of $10,000 from the PA Foundation. In 2008 he will continue his training in clinical anaesthesia and intensive care.

The Princess Alexandra Hospital Clinical Research Fellowship Scheme has been operating for nine years. The scheme supports clinical research through three awards annually. It allows registrars in clinical training programs to undertake a year of supervised clinical research at the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

To date, 28 clinical research fellowships have been awarded: 25 of these 28 clinicians have gone on to perform formal research training with higher degree enrolment.

The support of early career researchers is essential to the ongoing development of academic medicine and the progression of medical science.

Profiled below are some of the current and previous awardees and what they have to say about the scheme.
Dr James Hare  
(MB, BS (Hon), FRACP)  
Cardiology Research Fellow

“It is with significant gratitude that I acknowledge the invaluable assistance provided by the Clinical Research Fellowship and commend the hospital for its support of early career investigators.”

The award of a Clinical Research Fellowship in 2006 facilitated Dr James Hare’s entry into clinical research and enabled him to commit his third year of specialist cardiology training to clinical research in echocardiography. This is an area in which the Princess Alexandra Hospital has particular expertise and which is recognised for its international competitiveness.

Dr Cynthia Ong’s fellowship in 2006 provided her with an invaluable opportunity to become intimately involved in clinical research for endocrinology. She is particularly interested in looking at the regulation of gonadal function in obesity. She is currently enrolled in a full-time PhD program with The University of Queensland and has been successful in obtaining an NHMRC postgraduate research scholarship. Dr Ong has developed close collaborations with major andrology centres interstate and will be presenting some of the novel results of her pilot study at upcoming international scientific meetings.

Dr Cynthia Ong  
(MBBS, FRACP)  
Clinical Research Registrar  
Endocrinology/Diabetes

“Through the fellowship, I was able to consolidate my research interest and develop my PhD plans and direction.”

The fellowship allowed the Melbourne-based Dr Hare to move to Brisbane and to pursue postgraduate studies at the Princess Alexandra Hospital and The University of Queensland. Currently completing his third year of PhD studies under the supervision of Professor Tom Marwick, his work involves investigating the clinical applications of new physiological assessments of cardiac function. The recent development of several sensitive new technologies has enabled accurate cardiac assessment to be obtained in standard clinical practice, which could lead to improved clinical decision-making and accurate assessment of therapeutic interventions. Highlights of the program so far include the opportunity to collaborate with international researchers, the publication of original articles in international peer-reviewed journals and receiving a Princess Alexandra Hospital Society Young Investigator Award in 2007. Dr Hare’s work has received subsequent funding for 2008 through a co-funded NHMRC and National Heart Foundation postgraduate scholarship. The next 12 months will see him complete several clinical studies and research trials, requiring a significant amount of writing.
In 2007 Dr Malcolm Turner was awarded a Clinical Research Fellowship for 2008. This will allow him ongoing participation in a clinical research trial through the hospital and the Diamantina Institute. This research will form the basis for his masters through The University of Queensland.

Dr Turner works with Professor Ranjeny Thomas and Professor Tom Marwick on assessment and modification of cardiovascular disease in early rheumatoid arthritis. He is also working with Professor Thomas on a dendritic cell vaccine in early rheumatoid arthritis.

Through his position, Dr Turner has contributed to a diverse range of publications and web resources. He gives lectures to medical students and members of the public. He is involved in teaching medical students as well as those in the physician training program.

In 2007 Dr Carolyn Clark was awarded a fellowship for 2008, as a final year advanced trainee in nephrology. She has decided to undertake a PhD in renal transplantation to further her own education and understanding of basic science, and to contribute to the body of knowledge in this area. She plans to investigate ischaemia reperfusion injury in rat kidney and, in particular, the potential healing role of mesenchymal stem cells in this model.

Through the Princess Alexandra Hospital Clinical Research Fellowship Dr Clark will begin her research, and expects that after 2008 she will have published enough to be a serious contender for another research grant.

Dr Clark will continue close ties with the hospital and will continue to undertake some clinical work in the Nephrology Department.

“It provides me with the opportunity to enrol in my masters program, formalising my research. This fellowship has whet my appetite.”

“As I currently have no research experience or publications, it would have been extremely difficult to obtain a research grant. I am very grateful for this opportunity to further my education and career.”
New Colleagues

Professor David McIntyre

“My future research aims to integrate clinical and basic aspects of pregnancy research through a more detailed understanding of disease mechanisms, leading to improved treatment strategies.”

Since returning to the Princess Alexandra Hospital in early 2007, Professor David McIntyre has expanded links between the Hospital and The University of Queensland School of Medicine research groups. In collaboration with Professor John Prins, he has fostered the development of the Princess Alexandra Hospital Collaborative Organisation for Research and Education (PAH - CORE), which aims to further integrate the activities of these groups. PAH - CORE will form a major part of the Translational Research Institute to be based at the hospital.

Professor McIntyre’s personal research interests are largely in the area of diabetes and obesity in pregnancy. Collaborations with the Diamantina Institute have advanced the laboratory aspects of this research in recent years. The Placental Biology Group was established in 2005 with the aim of investigating the effects of metabolic and hormonal factors on placental function in vitro. Under the supervision of Dr Tony Russell, in 2007 the group successfully attracted Dr Will Zeck, an obstetrician from Austria’s University of Graz, as a visiting research fellow at the Diamantina Institute. Dr Zeck’s work with the group focused on defining the regulation of placental growth hormone in BeWo cells (a placental cell line), leading to presentations and the publication of this data in an international journal.

More recently, Professor McIntyre has established a program designed to explore the links between metabolic and inflammatory changes in human pregnancy, both in normal pregnant women and in pregnancies complicated by obesity and diabetes. This involves collaborations with Dr Tony Russell, Professor Ranjeny Thomas and Professor Deon Venter. The new program has attracted funding from the PA Foundation and Novo Nordisk Australia. Professor McIntyre collaborates with Associate Professor Leonie Callaway (Royal Brisbane Women’s Hospital) examining the role of exercise in pregnancy. He also collaborates with Professor Pat Catalano (Cleveland, USA), examining maternal metabolic factors and their effects on insulin resistance in pregnancy.
After completing medical school at the National University of Iran, Professor Naderi moved to the USA, where he carried out his internal medicine residency training at the University of Maryland and Wayne State University. He subsequently moved to the Mayo Clinic for a subspecialty fellowship in medical oncology. As a part of his fellowship at the Mayo Clinic, Professor Naderi carried out research on the chromosome 17q23 amplicon in breast cancer, which identified TBX2 gene as preferentially amplified and overexpressed in hereditary breast cancers. As a result of this work Professor Naderi developed an interest in breast cancer research. To advance his experience, he accepted a position at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom where he performed expression microarray profiling on a large cohort of breast tumours. This led to the discovery of novel breast cancer genes BEX1 and BEX2. He also obtained Certificate of Specialist Qualification in Medical Oncology, working at the Department of Oncology in Cambridge as a consultant oncologist and scientist until late 2007.

Professor Naderi joined The University of Queensland and the Princess Alexandra Hospital in December 2007 as a Diamantina Institute Research Fellow and Medical Oncologist. He has a research laboratory within the Cancer Biology/Molecular Oncogenesis Program and plans to begin his clinical work at the Princess Alexandra Hospital’s breast cancer clinic in 2008 and set up a translational clinical trial into metastatic breast cancer.

“As a clinician-scientist, my aim is to identify novel therapeutic targets in breast cancer and conduct translational clinical trials. Existing opportunities and future potentials at the hospital provide a great platform for my translational research program.”

Professor Colleen Nelson

Professor Colleen Nelson completed her PhD in 1990 at the John Curtin School of Medical Research, The Australian National University. Professor Nelson spent 17 years in British Columbia, Canada, studying the role of hormones in cancer. Her research investigated the role of androgens in prostate cancer progression and gene networks that are altered by treatment and in therapeutic resistance. In 1998 she co-founded the Prostate Centre at Vancouver General Hospital (VGH), which supports a multi-disciplinary team of scientists and clinicians focused on prostate cancer. Together in prostate cancer, which will have its hub at the hospital.”

“I have been working on assembling a national and international network of like-minded scientists and clinicians interested in prostate cancer, which will have its hub at the hospital.”
with uro-oncologist Professor Martin Gleave, she created the Prostate Centre’s Translational Research Initiative for Accelerated Discovery and Development program. With more than 30 investigators and 150 staff, the program focused on the rapid identification, characterisation and development of novel targeted therapeutics for prostate cancer.

In 2007 Professor Nelson took up a position as Chair and Professor of Prostate Cancer Research at Queensland University of Technology (QUT), directing a Prostate Cancer Translational Research Program at the Princess Alexandra Hospital on behalf of QUT’s Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation. She maintains strong collaborative links and joint appointments with the Prostate Centre at VGH and the University of British Columbia.

Professor Nelson’s current research centres on the identification and characterisation of potential therapeutic targets in prostate cancer progression. Most of this work involves large scale gene expression analysis of prostate tumours following androgen ablation and progression to hormone independence. Genes and pathways of interest are validated for patient relevance using tissue microarrays. Her team has targeted and preclinically developed particular genes that serve as controlling nodes of pathways that drive tumour progression. Two are currently in clinical trials in North America. In the past year Professor Nelson’s team has extended this approach to interrogate non-coding RNAs and microRNAs (the ‘master switches’) that are dysregulated in prostate cancer progression.

Dr Nelson’s goals are to create clinically-relevant biomarkers for treatment decision-making and new targeted therapeutic strategies for localised and advanced prostate cancer. Development of new therapeutics and biomarkers in prostate cancer requires large scale collaboration between scientists in a variety of disciplines, as well as urologists, pathologists and oncologists.

The unit is situated in the dermatology department in the Geriatric and Rehabilitation Unit building of the hospital and is directed by Professor Soyer, an Austrian clinical and academic dermatologist of international repute. Professor Soyer’s scientific background is in dermatopathology and dermatoncology. His main research interest is dermoscopy of pigmented skin lesions, with special emphasis on clinicopathologic correlation as well as teledermatology. Throughout his career, Professor Soyer has been involved in various research projects and has conducted several clinical trials in Austria as principal investigator.

The primary objectives of the Dermatology Chair are to initiate, conduct and promote international-standard translational and interdisciplinary research in skin disease. This research will focus on three major areas: teledermatology; cutaneous bio-imaging; and cutaneous systems biology. The latter research will be

Professor Peter Soyer

“The long-term goals of the group are to facilitate improved patient outcomes while increasing the profile of research.”

In July 2007 the Professorial Chair of Dermatology was implemented as a joint initiative of The University of Queensland and the Queensland Skin and Cancer Foundation, representing Queensland’s first professorial research unit led by specialist dermatologists.
under the additional direction of Associate Professor Stephen Gilmore, who joined the group from Victoria.

Since his appointment, Professor Soyer has been busy establishing research collaborations for the group and organizing funding for the future research directions. In collaboration with the Therapeutics Research Unit Professor Soyer will provide the dermatological expertise for pharmacological investigations.

Although in its early stages, the research group has already significantly expanded its research team to include clinical medical officers who will coordinate the various clinical trials the group will undertake. In addition, a specialist team has been selected to contribute to the teledermatology research from a clinical, technical, logistical viewpoint.

Professor John Upham

“Returning to take up a position as Professor of Respiratory Medicine, I found a very different city - both Brisbane and the hospital have grown in many exciting ways.”

Professor John Upham worked at Princess Alexandra Hospital for several years during the 1980s, before leaving Brisbane to pursue his research training in Perth and Canada. During that time he developed an interest in how abnormal immune function might contribute to lung diseases such as asthma.

Having returned to the hospital, his work now focuses on better understanding respiratory allergy and virus infections in the lung. His group studies specialised cells of the immune system, known as dendritic cells. The group believes these cells are a key to understanding the causes of asthma and that dendritic cells may be exploited to develop novel treatments for asthma and emphysema. In the last 12 months Professor Upham’s group has identified some of the novel proteins expressed by dendritic cells after exposure to allergens such as house dust mite. They have also shown that lipoprotein components of the cell wall of common bacteria can be used to alter allergic responses in the test tube. With a Smart State Clinical Research Fellowship and funding from the National Health and Medical Research Council, the PA Foundation and the Asthma Foundation, over the coming years the group plans to translate these initial findings into novel treatments that can be safely and effectively used for patients.
It is wonderful to see record numbers of postgraduate students supervised at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. In 2007, over 150 students were enrolled in PhD and Masters’ programs.

Initial funded with a Princess Alexandra Hospital clinical research scholarship, he was quickly ‘thrown into the deep end’ and found himself at the mercy of deadlines, ethics submissions and funding applications. It has been a great experience so far, and he has specially valued the guidance and support of his supervisor, Professor Marwick.

The focus of Dr Hare’s studies has been the clinical use of new echocardiographic techniques used to measure left heart function. This has involved investigating technologies such as 3D echocardiography and tissue Doppler imaging. With an emphasis on the identification and monitoring of sub-clinical myocardial disease, Dr Hare has been looking at conditions such as hypertensive and diabetic heart disease, as well as monitoring the cardiac toxicity of chemotherapy.

Dr Hare’s 2007 highlights include the opportunity to work with the talented Cardiac Imaging Group, the excitement of reading his first peer-reviewed publications in print and the experience of presenting research at international conferences. He also received a Princess Alexandra Hospital Society Young Investigator Award and funding from the NHMRC and National Heart Foundation for his final year.
“The most rewarding aspect of the PhD is the interaction with other researchers and professionals who, though busy, are willing to take time to discuss ideas and point new researchers in the right direction.”

Older people with memory problems who live in rural areas may have difficulty accessing specialist services if they are unable to travel long distances. Melinda Martin-Khan’s PhD research focuses on identifying the accuracy of dementia diagnosis when a specialist interacts with a patient using video conferencing (VC) technology, rather than meeting with them face-to-face (FTF). VC equipment enables a patient located hundreds of kilometres from the hospital to see and speak with a doctor in real time. It is hypothesised that agreement between specialists on the diagnosis of dementia is very similar when an assessment has been carried out via VC and when it is FTF. Once this is confirmed, patients will be able to undergo a specialist memory clinic assessment without travelling far from home. This work is part of a larger telegeriatric focus in the Academic Unit of Geriatric Medicine, led by Ms Martin-Khan’s supervisor, Professor Len Gray.

Ms Martin-Khan holds a National Health and Medical Research Council PhD scholarship for her thesis: Assessing cognitive function in older adults using video consultation. This is supported through a project grant of which she is a chief investigator. The project - the largest international study to be carried out in this area - operates at four sites, two in Queensland (including the Princess Alexandra Hospital) and two in Western Australia. A multi-site project results in complex management issues relating to maintaining research protocol integrity and ensuring that timelines are maintained. However, it also enables collaborative opportunities that are very rewarding.

Ms Martin-Khan was involved in developing the service model for a telegeriatric memory service that provides specialist assessment of memory problems for rural Queensland patients using video consultation. In 2007, she received funding from the Medical Specialist Outreach Assistance Program to establish a Queensland-based telegeriatric memory service at the Princess Alexandra Hospital’s memory disorder clinic. With Dr Paul Varghese, Director of the Geriatric and Rehabilitation Unit, a telegeriatric memory assessment for rural patients is now possible. Ms Martin-Khan is an inaugural committee member for the Statewide Dementia Clinical Network, which provides a practical outworking of her commitment to provide access to services for people with dementia.

In 2008 she will complete her PhD and a Postgraduate Certificate in Science (Biostatistics). At that time she hopes to continue to undertake collaborative research on ageing with opportunities to focus on supporting access to quality care for people with dementia.

Professors Gray and Wootton, are integral to all that has been achieved with the telegeriatrics and cognition project, and in providing support and direction in all aspects of her development as a researcher.
“2007 saw the birth of my third child - juggling my PhD studies with three young children and some clinical work proves challenging at times but well worth the effort.”

Dr Janelle Nisbet graduated from The University of Queensland in 1997 with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery. After completing her intern and residency years, she chose to undertake specialty training in diabetes and endocrinology. She began her PhD in 2005 with her project: The role of 11beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase in obesity and the metabolic syndrome.

The 11beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase enzyme system is responsible for the interconversion of cortisone (a biologically inactive glucocorticoid in humans) with cortisol (the active form). This occurs within tissues and allows the tissue to regulate the local concentration of glucocorticoid irrespective of the circulating serum concentration. It has been postulated that overproduction of cortisol within fat tissue, particularly omental fat, may contribute to the features of metabolic syndrome.

In 2007 Dr Nisbet explored this further, concentrating on subcutaneous and omental fat tissue samples obtained during elective abdominal surgery. She has been able to perform a functional assay looking at the production of cortisol within the tissue, as well as ascertain protein and mRNA levels for the 11beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase type 1 enzyme.

Dr Nisbet then studied the role of the 11beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase enzyme and local production of cortisol in the differentiation of primary human preadipocytes. She plans to extend her understanding through the use of a specific inhibitor of the 11beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase type 1 enzyme, and hence local cortisol production.
The allied health research group includes health professionals providing diagnostic, rehabilitative and clinical support to the hospital and community through specialised services. It generates research within medical and social disability models.

In 2007 the Allied Health Research Committee continued to facilitate and support high-quality research into allied health. This nationally and internationally recognised research has contributed significantly to evidence-based practice in the hospital.

Co-ordinating and advocating for the dedicated allocation of resources to research in allied health has been a priority, with the committee striving to ensure allied health research needs were represented in strategic planning. The group provided the support needed to increase the number of research proposals, publications, presentations and successful grant applications in allied health.

An important part of the committee’s role has been to increase the profile of allied health involvement in research at the hospital and in the community. It has also encouraged networking and collaborations with nursing and medical researchers.

One of the committee’s key achievements in 2007 has been the development of an Allied Health Research Collaborative (AHRC). As a group, the AHRC has secured more than $3 million of funding, which was awarded in the areas of falls prevention, exercise therapy, clinical education, brain injury rehabilitation, oncology and nutrition. It oversaw a significant increase in postgraduate research participants, with more than 16 full-time and part-time higher degree students enrolled in 2007.

The AHRC was published in more than 16 refereed journals and book chapters. Members presented research at more than 20 national and international conferences.

The AHRC was proud to increase its collaborative/multidisciplinary research projects. It also received Cancer Collaborative Group PhD and PA Foundation Allied Health Research Scholarship awards.

Details of funding attained, postgraduate students, publications and presentations can be found in the relevant departmental reports.

The Princess Alexandra Hospital celebrated significant special events in 2007. It recognised five years of partnership with The University of Queensland with the appointment of allied health conjoint research fellows. The hospital hosted the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences University of Queensland Postgraduate Research Conference, with more than 30 speakers and 120 attendees. The allied health session during PAH Week, which addressed the promising future of allied health, was exceptionally well attended.
As a result of the efforts of the Princess Alexandra Hospital Cancer Collaborative Group, translational research achievements are enormously encouraging. Outstanding results have been achieved in the areas of leukaemia, head and neck cancer, osteosarcoma, genomics and stem cell biology. These achievements form the foundation for future research endeavours.

The Translational Research Unit has created an environment in which clinical trials and research projects can be initiated to specifically address improving patient outcomes. Over fifty cancer related projects were submitted to the Princess Alexandra Hospital Human Research Ethics Committee, of which forty were clinical trials. A number of projects continue to make advances in predicting clinical outcomes.

Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) project: A range of findings indicate that histone deacetylase inhibitors may be useful in treating a subset of elderly patients with AML. The manuscript is in preparation for the Valproic Acid with Ara-C in elderly patients with AML.

B-CLL project: Long term in vitro cultures of CLL has been established and two novel growth factors for CLL cells have been identified. The manuscript has been submitted for publication. A more reliable prognostic test for ZAP-70 is in development. ZAP-70 is useful in identifying patients at risk of developing progressive disease.

Head and Neck project: This study has been completed and a manuscript submitted for publication. The experience of this study has led to further pre-clinical investigations as a prelude to a new clinical study.

Osteosarcoma project: To date research data suggests that osteosarcoma patients who will do poorly can be predicted with 93% accuracy.

HPV and Breast Cancer project: Observations for the presence of HPV in breast cancer tumour samples are showing that a significant fraction of the tumour samples are HPV. These are preliminary findings that may lead to altered patient management.

Training and Mentoring Young Investigators

The Cancer Collaborative Group has awarded six PhD scholarships and two practitioner fellowships since 2004. The PhD scholarships were awarded to: Letitia Burridge (Gender Differences in Lay Caregiver Needs, Burden and Support While Caring for a Patient with Recurrent Cancer); Fang Zhou (The Molecular Mechanisms of Tumour Immunotherapy); Sarina Cameron (Treatment failure in Head & Neck squamous cell carcinoma may be due to biologically distinct tumour cell subtypes); David Brown-Rothwell (Prediction of Hearing Outcomes in Acoustic Neuromas Surgery: Correlation between Audiological Results, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Surgical Findings, and Histopathological Appearance); Bena Riddle (Long-term Swallowing Outcomes in Head and Neck Cancer Patients Treated with Curative Intent Altered Fractionation Radiotherapy).
In addition, Jennifer Fleming, PhD research scholar, received support towards her project with the ALLG Tissue Bank looking at Perceptions of Tissue Banks and the Related Ethical and Legal Challenges of Consent, Linkage and Disclosure of Research Results.

The practitioner fellowships were awarded to Dr Alex Guminski, Medical Oncologist, who presented on Valproic Acid in Head and Neck Cancer at the: American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting Los Angeles, USA; Lorne Cancer Conference, Victoria; and the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Head and Neck Society in Brisbane. The other fellowship was awarded to Amanda Purcell, Occupational Therapist, researching cancer related fatigue. Stage 1 of her study focuses on contributing factors and effects in patients undergoing chemotherapy and radiation therapy treatment. Stage 2 is a randomised control trial investigating the effects of group education and support in reducing cancer-related fatigue and improving quality of life in patients undergoing radiotherapy.

**Translating Research Outcomes**

The group has published Cochrane reviews including ‘Sequencing of chemotherapy and radiation therapy for early breast cancer’ and ‘Fraction size in radiation treatment for breast conservation in early breast cancer’.

Sequencing of chemotherapy and radiation therapy for early breast cancer has showed the frequency and severity of side effects of chemotherapy and radiotherapy. (http://www.mrw.interscience.wiley.com/cochrane/clsysrev/articles/CD005212/frame.html)

Fraction size in radiation treatment for breast conservation in early breast cancer highlights women with less significant tumours that have not infiltrated lymph nodes, may be able to have fewer radiation treatments after tumour removal. New techniques have been developed where a portion of the breast is irradiated.

Two reviews are currently in the process of being published.

**New Initiatives and Other Achievements**

New initiatives included the award of two grants by the Cancer Collaborative Management Committee towards multi-disciplinary clinical research involving surgeons at the hospital. The successful recipients were: Dr Andrew Barbour for a project investigating ‘Whether Inhibition of the shh pathway represents a potential therapeutic target in gastric cancer’ and Associate Professor Ian Bennett et al for a study on ‘HPV association with Breast Cancer’.

A total of eighteen presentations were made at the bi-monthly seminars which included national and international speakers. The seminars continued to be strongly supported with good attendance.

In terms of publications as one measure of performance, forty-nine peer review articles were published by members of the Cancer Collaborative Group. An increase in the number of published abstracts and book chapters from the research activity was also evident. Members continued to attract competitive peer-review funds from a variety of sources including the Leukemia Foundation; the Wesley Research Institute, the Cancer Clinical Network Allied Health AHS Cancer Care Initiative Research Scheme and Queensland Health Southern Area Allied Health Cancer Care Initiative Research Scheme.
With the launch in May of the revised National Health and Medical Research Council “National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research”, 2007 was a full and productive year for the Human Research Ethics Committee. It continued to ensure the ethical conduct of research first and foremost safeguards the interests of our research participants and supports the efforts of the research community at and in collaboration with the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

During the year the Committee held eleven meetings and reviewed a total of 259 new protocol submissions. As represented in Figure 1, fifty percent of submissions related to clinical research, with the majority of these involving phase II & III clinical trials. A significant number of other research protocols included a diverse range of collaborative projects (such as research in epidemiology, nursing, allied health, community health and indigenous communities) with researchers at numerous affiliated teaching hospitals, research institutes and academic institutions throughout Australia and internationally.

The overall number of new research protocol submissions continued to increase since 2001, showing some fluctuation between years.
Significant events included the appointment of Mrs Sharon Knight as the Ethics Manager and a number of new appointments to the Committee. Dr Karam Kostner, Cardiologist; Dr Daniel Varghese, Psychiatrist; Ms Eleanor Milligan, Clinical Ethicist; and Ms Jennifer Fleming, Researcher accepted voluntary appointments to the Princess Alexandra Hospital HREC. These appointments allowed for a broader representation on the Committee to reflect the increasing diversity of research activities.

Special thanks goes to Dr Peter Pillans for continuing to provide independent Pharmacological/Toxicological expert advice and support for Phase I and Phase II studies along with a number of expert reviewers who had agreed to act in this capacity, including Dr Peter Mollee, Dr Richard Ashby, Professor Ranjeny Thomas and Dr David Looke.

A number of staff and committee members attended and participated in professional conferences including the Intensive Research Ethics Course, conducted by the Centre for Ethics in Medicine and Society, Monash University, the National NHMRC Conference. Ms Fleming presented at both the National NHMRC Conference and the Australian New Zealand Institute for Health Law and Ethics. The Chair and the Ethics Manager presentations at the ‘Ethics Training Day’ conducted at the PAH by Nursing Research.

Simultaneous audits of contracts and protocol files were carried out during the year. This has provided the opportunity to identify gaps and improve the review and approval processes. This led to a platform for process change which resulted in a significant reduction in time from submission to ethical clearance. Review and upgrade of the PAH Ethics website remains ongoing. Various forms were added to the website, including a new Summary Submission form, revised annual reports as well as onsite and external adverse events forms. Additional resources are planned to be posted on the website including internal and external links to information on ethics and researcher responsibilities and/or code of conduct. The PA HREC was involved in the pilot of the Mutual Acceptance Model for multi-centre research conducted by Queensland Health.
The PA Foundation continued to expand during 2007, awarding record funding of more than $1 million for medical research on the Princess Alexandra Hospital campus for the 2008 calendar year. The Foundation is confident that next year it will substantially exceed this amount.

The primary objective of the Foundation during the past year was to increase current and future ability to financially support and encourage medical research on the Princess Alexandra Hospital campus. To that end, new and productive strategies and actions continue to expand. These include the establishment of commercial ventures and an Endowment Fund, workplace giving programs, and greater emphasis on major gifts and bequests.

In addition to the continuing support and encouragement the PA Foundation receives from Professor David Theile, Clinical CEO of Princess Alexandra Hospital, and Professor John Prins, Chair, Princess Alexandra Hospital Centres for Health Research, particular mention must be made of the many years of productive and impacting service Emeritus Professor Ken Donald has made as a Director of the PA Foundation and Chairman of the PA Foundation Research Committee.

Professor Donald retired from the PA Foundation Board in November 2007; his dedication and enthusiasm will be greatly missed.

Mr Michael T Willie OAM
Chairman
Group Reports
Research and development activity within the Academic Unit in Geriatric Medicine continues to flourish. The focus of the work is on improving access to high-quality care for frail, older people. To achieve this, the group is developing and testing a range of e-health and telemedicine strategies. Electronic assessment systems and videoconferencing are key ingredients. The work is establishing new methods for conducting geriatric assessment and management. In particular, it appears to provide solutions for patients living outside major cities, where specialist expertise is often lacking.

The unit secured $250,000 in new research grants and contract research, while total research income (derived from new and previously acquired grants) exceeded $700,000 for the year.

Currently the unit hosts three PhD students and engages all advanced trainees in geriatric medicine in formal research projects. There are strong, ongoing collaborations with the Centre for Online Health and the Australasian Centre on Ageing at The University of Queensland, as well as numerous interstate and international agencies. The Geriatric Mental Health Unit research effort is now affiliated with the Academic Unit in Geriatric Medicine.

Major collaborations exist with: The University of Queensland Centre for Online Health and Australasian Centre on Ageing, the University of Waterloo (Ontario, Canada) and the interRAI Research Collaborative (over 20 countries); the University of Sydney; Flinders University; and University of Western Australia. Other collaborations exist with: Griffith University; Queensland University of Technology; University of New South Wales; and Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

The unit continues to enjoy extensive patronage from the Geriatric Medicine Foundation, for which the group is extremely grateful.

Professor Len Gray  
Director, Academic Unit in Geriatric Medicine

Dr Paul Varghese  
Director, Geriatric Medicine
Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

*Modelling the future: A policy flight simulator at the acute – aged care interface.* (Gray L, McDonnell G, Broe T, Gibson G) This project has developed computer simulation of the interactions between acute, residential and community care to assist in service planning. A simulation model has been developed for application at the national level. Funded by AHMAC/NHMRC.

*Geriatric outcomes study in hospital (GOSH).* (Gray L, Hirdes J, Wilson A, Beller E, Scott I, Ramritu P, et al) This prospective study aims to identify predictors of adverse outcomes within hospital (delirium, falls, functional decline, pressure ulcer, etc) among older medical patients. An omnibus screening strategy that will risk profile patients at admission with an aim to better target prevention and treatment strategies will be developed. In addition, there will be ‘validation’ of the inbuilt screeners for dementia, delirium, depression and malnutrition. This project is partly funded by the JO and JR Wicking Trust.

*Reliability and validity of the interRAI Acute Care protocol.* (Gray L and the interRAI Collaborative) Professor Gray coordinated this eight nation study to test the reliability and validity of the revised interRAI Acute Care assessment schedule. This study was completed in 2006 and a publication is in press with the Journal of the American Geriatric Society.

*Development of Remote Assessment Strategies using Telemedicine.* (Gray L, Varghese P) This work is developing and testing techniques for conducting inpatient geriatric screening and assessment in remote and provincial settings which lack geriatric medical or gerontic nursing expertise. A service has been set up at Toowoomba General Hospital based on the interRAI Acute Care (AC) assessment tool and ward rounds conducted by videoconference. This work is supported by Queensland Health.

*Piloting Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment in a Teaching Hospital: GATE* (Geriatric Assessment through E-health). (Varghese P, Siller A, Gray L, Casey V, et al) An integrated approach was trialled to improve geriatric evaluation and management through the use of a simplified referral and assessment process using a single point of contact and accountability for rehabilitation, residential care and community based aged care programs (eg transition). This work was supported by project funding from Queensland Health Strengthening Aged Care and ongoing funding was secured in June. The GATE service is now a permanent feature provided from the Geriatric and Rehabilitation Unit at Princess Alexandra Hospital.

*The Development and Validation of a Comprehensive Geriatric Telemedicine Service Model.* (Gray L, Varghese P, Theile D, Thorburn C, et al) This project aims to enhance the Geriatric Medicine and Rehabilitation services of a hospital without current access to geriatric medical expertise, using a variety of e-health and telemedicine strategies. It will pilot and validate a model of service delivery for ‘distance’ geriatric services which will have applicability throughout Queensland. This work is supported by project funding from Queensland Health Strengthening Aged Care.

*Validation of Cognitive Assessment using Telecommunication.* (Gray L, Flicker L, Wootton R, Loh PK, Martin-Khan M, et al) This project assesses the use of video conferencing to enable geriatricians to assess and diagnose memory problems including dementia. Establishing the reliability of diagnosis and other related assessments, and identifying which functions can confidently be carried out via video conferencing, are steps towards extending the availability of this service to rural and remote communities. The Memory Disorder Clinic at Princess Alexandra Hospital has been used for the pilot in this study. This is now an NHMRC funded project which has commenced at four sites, two in Brisbane (Queensland) and two in Perth (Western Australia). Completion is anticipated in December 2008.

*Ambulatory monitoring of elderly patients in a rehabilitation setting.* (Gray L, Cheung V, Karunanithi M, Yelland C) This project has been developed to determine if patient activity can be monitored by an accelerometer device on a long-term basis in a rehabilitation hospital setting. The aim of the research is to collect acceleration data to assess the accuracy and practicality of an activity classification algorithm in detecting the position and movement of elderly patients with an accelerometer device attached to their waist. If the activity classification algorithm is proved to be accurate in measuring functional status and mobility of older patients, and the accelerometer
device is considered to be practical in clinical settings, then it could be useful to improve clinical monitoring and patient management, particularly in assessing and prescribing activities in rehabilitation programs. An initial pilot has been completed resulting in refinements and a second pilot will be completed by March. The main study will commence thereafter.

Transition Care: Evidence and Innovation. (Cameron I, Crotty M, Gray L, Kurrle S, et al) This project will evaluate the efficacy of transition care models from a variety of clinical, economic and consumer perspectives. The Unit is one of three lead agencies in this five year NHMRC Health Services Research Program. A sound methodology is currently being developed to evaluate one model of transition care in South-East Queensland and the project is expected to commence in 2008.

Validation of an online geriatric assessment tool. (Wong L, Martin-Khan M, Gray L) This research project will determine the reliability of administering the Rowland Universal Dementia Assessment Scale (RUDAS) through videoconferencing as compared to the gold standard of face-to-face administration. It aims to extend existing knowledge by examining the practicability and reliability of administering the RUDAS in a telemedicine setting. In particular, its validity across the cut-point score of 22/30 will be studied.

Validation of Online Geriatric Consultation Triage Decisions: A Pilot Study. (Cutler A, Wright O, Gray L) The reliability of distance geriatric assessment using the interRAI-AC was ascertained by comparing two geriatricians’ assessments of the same patient using information from the interRAI-AC. One assessment was performed online and the other by face-to-face consultation with the patient. The group ascertained how well online assessment agreed with face-to-face for triage decisions and discharge disposition. Online assessment decisions matched live assessments at a substantial level (k=0.6). Online assessments appear to be more conservative, and predict actual discharge disposition well. The findings of this work suggest that further research is important and a larger, multi-site study is warranted.

Orthopaedic supplement to the interRAI AC. (Pulle R, Gray L) This project aims to develop a set of supplementary data collection items to act as diagnostic screeners, inform clinical decision-making and predict outcomes. The initial stage will be a literature review that identifies potential candidate items. The items will be peer reviewed by a panel of experts and those chosen will be applied in an orthopaedic ward. Analysis of the results will determine the best items to include. Completion is expected late in 2008.

Other Research

Streaming Technology as an Adjunct to Dementia Interventions (STEADI). (Lie D, Austin S) STEADI is an intranet-based dementia resource trial. It will assess the utility of intranet-based multi-media to assist dementia care in medical and surgical settings in a metropolitan teaching hospital. This project is funded for three years by the Dementia Collaborative Research Centre (Australian Government).

Evaluation of the impact of an online structured geriatric assessment system. (Wright O, Varghese P, Wootton R, Scuffham P, et al) Funding for a rigorous evaluation of these systems of structured assessment across three sites was awarded by a Queensland Health Private Practice Trust Fund grant. An e-health supported, geriatrician-led comprehensive geriatric assessment (CGA) service has been established at Princess Alexandra Hospital, Toowoomba Base Hospital and Redland Hospital. The three models of CGA have been successfully implemented at each site for 12 months. Evaluation results show positive benefits of improved access to formal geriatric assessment and trends of reduced waiting times for patient assessment by Aged Care Assessment Teams.

Duplication of documentation in hospital study. (BPimm, Wright O, Gray L) The aim of this study was to identify levels of documentation duplication and quality of data collected between health professionals for an acute admission episode for frail, aged clients. A retrospective audit of 100 medical charts has been completed and is currently being analysed.

Enabling dementia risk reduction in every day practice: A literature review. (Martin-Khan M, Travers C, Lie D) This report identified and summarised the current research evidence regarding barriers and enablers to the incorporation of dementia risk reduction strategies into everyday clinical practice at the primary care level. It involved a comprehensive literature review of national and international research of both peer-reviewed and grey literature.
Efficacy of models of care coordination for clients with complex health needs: a literature review. (Wright O, Cartmill L, Wootton R, Gray L) This study was funded by the Department of Veterans’ Affairs and is being completed in partnership with The University of Queensland Centre for Online Health. The aim of this literature review was to assess the effectiveness of models of coordinated care for frail, older adults with complex health conditions living in the community, based on specific outcomes: rates of hospitalisation, rates of institutionalisation, mortality, costs to the provider, patient/care-giver satisfaction, quality of life and functional ability. A systematic review of 22 studies of coordinated care from Australia and overseas has been completed. Results from this review are being used to devise recommendations for the Department of Veterans’ Affairs for a development of a ‘best practice’ model of coordinated care.

Financial Support

Current NHMRC Grants
$146,150 NHMRC, Project Grant. Validation of Cognitive Assessments using Telecommunication. (Gray L, Flicker L, Wootton R, Loh PK, Martin-Khan M) (Mercy and Bentley Hospitals, Western Australia and the Royal Brisbane and Womens’ Hospital, Queensland)

Other Grants

$218,000 Health Services Research Program Grant, Research Program Grant. Transition Care: Evidence and Innovation. (Cameron I, Crotty M, Gray L, Kurrle S, Luscz M, Scuffham P, et al) (University of Sydney, Flinders University)

$98,450 Queensland Health, Grant. Support for the Standardised Comprehensive Geriatric System. (Gray L, Wootton R, Wright O)

$100,000 The University of Queensland, Mayne Bequest. Development of Geriatric Assessment Systems. (Gray L, Wootton R) (Redland, Toowoomba, Gold Coast and Mater Adult Hospitals)


$25,000 Department of Veterans’ Affairs, Contract. Care Coordination Literature review. (Wright O, Cartmill L, Wootton R, Gray L) (Centre for Online Health, The University of Queensland)

$13,000 Dementia Collaborative Research Centre, Contract. Enabling dementia risk reduction in every day practice: A literature review. (Martin-Khan M, Travers C, Lie D)

$4,000 Queensland Health, Contract. Evaluation of a geriatric telemedicine service model. (Wright O, Gray L) (Toowoomba Hospital)

$10,000 Queensland Health, Contract. Transition Care Evaluation. (Gray L, Wright O)

$20,000 Queensland Health, Contract. Support for development of geriatric assessment system at Toowoomba. (Gray L)

Lectures and Presentations

Professor Len Gray

InterRAI Acute Care. interRAI Conference, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Introduction to the InterRAI suite of assessment instruments. Experience with the InterRAI Assessment Suite in the Asia-Oceania Region. Symposium at the Regional Congress of Gerontology, Beijing, China.

Meeting the challenge of distance: using e-health and telemedicine strategies to deliver rehabilitation services in Australia. Rehabilitation in the Elderly: Challenges in Asia Oceania. Symposium at the Regional Congress of Gerontology, Beijing, China.

Streamlining Care of the Elderly in Hospital. The Halman Lecture, University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.

Telegeriatrics in Acute Care. Canadian InterRAI Conference 2007, Ottawa, Canada.

Pimm, B

Establishing a comprehensive geriatric assessment system in the acute care setting. InterRAI Conference, Christchurch, New Zealand.
Martin-Khan M, Varghese P

A telegeriatrics memory disorder service for remote patients using video-consultation. The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists - 2007 Congress, Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, Gold Coast, Australia.

Telemedicine for Memory Disorders - a project report. Medinfo 2007: 12th World Congress on Health (Medical) Informatics, Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane, Australia.

The use of information technology for remote patients with memory disorder. Exploring Transition in Aged Care, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane, Australia.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Professor Len Gray

Associate Editor, Australasian Journal on Ageing

Fellow and Board of Management, interRAI Consortium (interRAI is an international working group of aged care researchers that develops assessment protocols, data sets and quality tools for aged care and related fields)

Dr Paul Varghese

Member, Health Care of Older Australians Standing Committee Clinical reference group advising the Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council – Care of Older Australians Working Group

Member, Transition Care Task Group advising the Care of Older Australians Working Group) on the Transition Care program

Chair, Falls Injury Prevention Committee - State-wide clinical network funded through the Patient Safety Centre

Chair, Southern Area Health Service Aged Care Clinical Network

Co-Chair, Division of Medicine – Princess Alexandra Hospital

Chair, Canossa Clinical Advisory and Credentialing Committee
The Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service is a specialist community rehabilitation service for people with acquired brain injury which aims to facilitate successful community integration for people with acquired brain injury. The service also provides training and consultancy to service providers and carers. Research and development activities are focused on outcomes for people with acquired brain injury and their families.

Research highlights during the year included a collaborative project funded by an Australian Research Council Linkage grant to commence in 2008 with The University of Queensland, Griffith University and Disability Services Queensland. The study will look at the service and support needs of people with acquired brain injury during the transition from hospital to home. The service also commenced a number of applied research projects including the long-term care needs of people with acquired brain injury and the development of parenting support for people with acquired brain injury.

Raymund Quinn
Manager

Current Research Activities

Improving community-based rehabilitation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders with Acquired Brain Injury: Identification of key dimensions to enhance service suitability. (Gauld S, Smith S, Kendall M)

Determinants of successful community transition for individuals with acquired brain injury and their families. (Fleming J, Worrall L, Cornwall P, Haines T, Ownsworth T, Kendall M, Chenoweth L)

Self management support networks for people with stroke and brain injury after hospital discharge: Development and evaluation. (Kennedy A, Clarke D)

Understanding the changing community care needs of people with acquired brain injury. (Kendall M, Quinn R, Wilson C)

Integrating individual parenting support into the community rehabilitation and case management context: A pilot study. (Black G, Kendall M, Roser J, Smith S, Wright S, Morriss E)

Interventions for improving home and community re-engagement following traumatic brain injury (TBI). (Ownsworth T, Fleming J, Shum D, Kendall M)

Financial Support

Grants

$34,510 Community Rehabilitation Research Scheme, Community Rehabilitation Workforce Project, Project Grant. Understanding the changing community care needs of people with acquired brain injury. (Kendall M, Quinn R, Wilson C)

$68,640 Community Rehabilitation Research Scheme, Community Rehabilitation Workforce Project, Project Grant. Determinants of successful community transition for individuals with acquired brain injury and their families. (Fleming J, Worrall L, Cornwall P, Haines T, Ownsworth T, Kendall M, Chenoweth L)
$9,927 Community Rehabilitation Research Scheme, Community Rehabilitation Workforce Project, Project Grant. Integrating individual parenting support into the community rehabilitation and case management context: A pilot study. (Black G, Kendall M, Roser J, Smith S, Wright S, Morriss E)

Lectures and Presentations

Melissa Kendall

Transition from hospital to home, discharge planning and the continuum of care. QUT Nursing, Brisbane.


Assessing the availability and utilisation of ‘resources’ in community rehabilitation for people with acquired brain injury. ASSBI Conference, Brisbane.

Transition from hospital to home: Bridging gaps in the rehabilitation continuum. UQ Physiotherapy, Brisbane.

Areti Kennedy


Sharon Smith
Conversations with the Field – ABIOS service delivery; outreach to indigenous communities. QUT Human Services, Brisbane.

The ABIOS service model and working in indigenous communities. UQ Social Work, Brisbane.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Melissa Kendall
Member, Princess Alexandra Hospital Allied Health Research Committee

Member, Queensland Spinal Cord Injury Service Research Committee

Member, Steering Committee Outcome Measures Project for Community Based Rehabilitation Teams

Reviewer, Disability and Rehabilitation

Reviewer, Clinical Rehabilitation
The Aged Care Mental Health Service is the psychogeriatric service within the Princess Alexandra Health Service District. Psychogeriatrics is a subspecialty of psychiatry that covers all aspects of mental health in elderly people including neurology and geriatric medicine, and other fields where neuropsychiatric disorders are common. The service provides educational expertise, especially to trainees in geriatric medicine and psychiatry.

The Memory Clinic, run in collaboration with the Department of Geriatric Medicine, is a research-funded diagnostic service which focuses on the detection and characterisation of dementia disorders at their earliest stages. It is a particularly effective vehicle for education in relation to dementia and neuropsychology.

Highlights for the year included the extension of funding until June 2008 for participation in the National Mental Health Benchmarking Forums 2006-2008. These forums help develop the quality use of clinical and operational information within public mental health services.

The service hosts the Queensland Node of Dementia Clinical Research Consortium II. Research has started into the prevention, promotion and early intervention in dementia, funded through the consortium and auspiced by The University of Queensland. It includes the Streamlining Technology as an Adjunct to Dementia Interventions (STEADI) project that aims to develop a series of short web-based multimedia resources to help manage and communicate with older people with dementia who are in hospital care.

A new program of pet-assisted therapy was introduced along with a research project which aims to investigate whether the program impacts on patient mood, behaviour, nutritional intakes and length of stay.

Dr David Lie
Director

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
EC2724 Trial of xaliproden in mild to moderate Alzheimer’s Disease. (For funding refer to the Academic Unit in Geriatric Medicine report)

Other Research
National Benchmarking for Public Mental Health Services. (Lie D, Parker R)
Dementia Care Project. (Lie D, Austin S)

Pet-Assisted Therapy in a Hospital Setting: Impact on mood and nutritional intakes. (Lloyd D, Vivanti A, Aliakbari J, McGrath P)

Financial Support

Grants
$110,000 Australian Government (NMHISC), Project Grant. National Benchmarking forums for public mental health services. (Lie D, Parker R)
Other Support
$67,500 Dementia Collaborative Research Centre. Enabling Dementia risk-reduction in everyday practice (EDREP). (Lie D, Travers C, Martin-Khan M)

$22,500 Dementia Collaborative Research Centre. Effectiveness of Adherence to Dementia Risk Reduction in Everyday Practice. (Lie D, Travers C, Martin-Khan M)

Lectures and Presentations

Dr David Lie
Assessment and Management of Behavioural Disturbance in Dementia. Pfizer Dementia Masterclass, Surfers Paradise, Queensland

Public Service Relevant to Research

Dr David Lie
Queensland Node Leader, Dementia Collaborative Research Centre 2 (Promotion, prevention, early intervention)

Organising Committee, RANZCP Annual Congress

Interventions for improving home and community re-engagement following traumatic brain injury (TBI). (Ownsworth T, Fleming J, Shum D, Kendall M)
The Alcohol and Drug Assessment Unit is a multidisciplinary unit primarily involved in developing, delivering and evaluating treatment responses for patients with substance misuse problems within the hospital. The unit provides outpatient treatment programs for patients referred from the community and is also involved with the Queensland Illicit Drug Initiative. The main treatment approaches include a combination of cognitive and behavioural therapy, often supplemented with medication.

Dr Gerald FX Feeney
Medical Director

Current Research Activities
Alexithymia and interpersonal functioning in alcohol use disorders.

The development of valid and reliable measures of craving.

Psychometric and psychosocial outcomes amongst liver transplant recipients in whom alcohol contributed to liver disease.

The application of machine learning techniques to clinical decision making in alcohol dependence treatment.

Lectures and Presentations
Dr Jason Connor, Dr Gerald Feeney, Professor R Young


Cognitive Behavioural Therapy with Adjunctive Pharmacotherapy in the Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorders: Summary of Australian Data. 42nd Australian Psychological Society Annual Conference, Brisbane.
The Audiology Department continues to provide a crucial hospital link for research into hearing and balance being conducted by The University of Queensland. There is a strong focus on research that translates into measurable improvements in clinical outcomes for patients. Long-term projects investigating the clinical aspects of acoustic neuromas, supported through a Cancer Collaborative Group scholarship reached completion.

The second Acoustic Neuroma Conference was held in September at the Princess Alexandra Hospital under the auspices of the Queensland Acoustic Neuroma Association. It was a resounding success, attracting a record number of delegates from Australia and New Zealand. The unique format of this meeting - which included patients, clinicians and researchers - provided a thought-provoking discussion on advances in diagnosis and treatment.

Evelyn Towers
Director

Current Research Activities
Developing a single index measure of hearing preservation following acoustic neuroma surgery. (Brown-Rothwell D, Panizza B, Hickson L, Kei J)

Establishing a role for balance and mobility measures as part of the usual conservative management of patients with Acoustic Neuromas. (Brown-Rothwell D, Panizza B, Low-Choy N)

Financial Support
$14,917 PAH Cancer Collaborative Group, PhD Scholarship. Improving the prediction of outcome in Acoustic Neurama Surgery. (Brown-Rothwell D, Hickson L, Kei J, Panizza B, Redmond M, Lomas A, Gandhi M, Pickles J, Clouston A)

Lectures and Presentations
Jillian Sellars

David Brown-Rothwell


Evelyn Towers

Audiology in Australia: working in the health system. Master of Audiology Studies Lecture, Division of Audiology, The University of Queensland.

Advanced Audiological Management: Tinnitus. Master of Audiology Studies Lecture, Division of Audiology, The University of Queensland.

Access in Queensland Health Best Practice Accessibility Seminar. Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Evelyn Towers

Member, Steering Committee, State Services for Deaf and Hearing Impaired

Jillian Sellars

Queensland President, Audioligical Society of Australia

David Brown-Rothwell

Member, Allied Health Research Committee

Member, Princess Alexandra Hospital Research Committee

Patron, Acoustic Neuroma Association
Breast and Endocrine

The Breast and Endocrine Department aims to provide comprehensive management of breast and endocrine surgical conditions within a multi-disciplinary setting.

Breast cancer is managed in conjunction with the Medical Oncology and Radiation Oncology units. Surgeons meet on a weekly basis with clinicians from the other disciplines in the ‘Breast Referral Multi-disciplinary Clinic’ to ensure that ‘state of the art’ breast cancer treatment is provided in keeping with nationally accepted best practice guidelines. The respective surgeons work closely with the BreastScreen Queensland Brisbane South Service so that surgical expertise is provided for screening, assessment and diagnosis of early stage breast cancer, as well as its management. The unit is involved in collection of data for the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) National Breast Cancer Audit of all breast cancers presenting to the hospital.

The unit is actively involved in research, and has been a major contributor to the RACS randomised controlled trials of sentinel node biopsy, assessing its role in the management of breast cancer. The unit participates in other clinical trials in association with the Australian and New Zealand Breast Cancer Trials Group and is involved in local clinical trials.

Associate Professor Ian Bennett
Alternating Chairman

Dr. Neil Wetzig
Alternating Chairman

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
Do Human Papilloma Viruses Participate in Breast Cancer Genesis? Centres for Health Research PAH Cancer Collaborative Group. 2nd year Grant Funding 2007-2008 $100,000. (Bennett I and Diamantina Institute)

IBIS II DCIS Trial: An International multicentre study of anastrozole versus tamoxifen in post-menopausal women with hormone sensitive Ductal-Carcinoma-in-Situ. (Co-ordinated by Australian New Zealand Breast Cancer Trials Group. (Bennett I)

IBIS II Prevention Trial: An international multicentre study of anastrozole versus placebo in post-menopausal women at increased risk of breast cancer. Co-ordinated by Australian New Zealand Breast Cancer Trials Group. (Bennett I)

Other Research
Role of Harmonic Scalpel in Thyroidectomy: an ongoing clinical audit.

Ultrasound Guided Excision of Impalpable Breast Lesions: an on-going clinical audit.

Financial Support
$100,000 Princess Alexandra Hospital Cancer Collaborative Group Grant. HPV Association with Breast Cancer. (Bennett I)
Lectures and Presentations

Associate Professor Ian Bennett
Convener, Applied Ultrasound for Surgeons Workshop, Princess Alexandra Hospital, sponsored by PAH Society.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Associate Professor Ian Bennett
Alternating Chairman, Breast and Endocrine Surgical Unit, Princess Alexandra Hospital
Chairman, BreastScreen Queensland Surgery Q Group
BreastScreen Queensland Quality Management Committee
Member BreastScreen Queensland State Accreditation Committee
BreastScreen Queensland Training Committee Representative
BreastScreen Queensland Monitoring, Evaluation & Research Sub Committee, Responsible for Annual Statistical Report

Clinical Director, Breast Cancer Family Clinic, BreastScreen Queensland, North Brisbane Service, Chermside

Dr Neil Wetzig
Chairman, Royal Australian College of Surgeons, Section of Endocrine Surgery
RACS Representative, Quality Management Committee BreastScreen Queensland
Co-Chairman, Royal Australian College of Surgeons SNAC Trial Management Committee
Chairman, Queensland Co-operative Oncology Group Breast Group
Executive Member, Queensland Co-operative Oncology Group
Editorial Board, World Journal of Surgery
Member, Ministerial Advisory Council on Cancer Control Queensland Health
The Cardiology Department is a tertiary referral unit offering a comprehensive cardiac service including electrophysiology, invasive intervention and echocardiography. The department consists of a Coronary Care Unit, Procedure Ward, Cardiology Step-Down Ward, three Cardiac Catheter Laboratories, ECG Department, Echocardiography Department, Outpatient Clinics, Pre-admission Clinics, Heart Failure Service and Research Department. Supporting the medical officers are registered nurse specialists in cardiology rehabilitation, cardiac resuscitation, pacing and electrophysiology, heart failure and cardiac research. Cardiac scientists are involved in echocardiography, pacemakers, ECG, holter recordings, exercise and pharmacological stress testing.

The department has begun Cardiology Outreach Service to rural areas in the west and south of the district - Roma, Goondiwindi, Kingaroy and Cherberg. These visits are staffed by hospital cardiology personnel, including a cardiologist, sonographer and cardiac nurse specialist, who provide clinical services with staff and patient education. Each rural region receives a yearly visit from staff of each of the following cardiology specialities: heart failure; resuscitation; cardiology; and electrophysiology. The department runs an Introduction to Cardiology Nursing workshop for city and country nurses.

Over the past 17 years the broad expertise of the Cardiology Research Department has been important in securing a large number of clinical trials from a variety of pharmaceutical companies, the National Health and Medical Research Council, the National Institutes of Health and investigator-driven research. This year saw the start of a new multicentre international electrophysiological clinical trial with Dr Gerald Kaye as Study Chair and Professor Tom Marwick as Echocardiography Laboratory Core Chair. Collaboration with the Cardiac Surgery Department and The University of Queensland’s Cardiovascular Imaging Research Group means that a broad range of cardiology modalities can be offered to prospective research organisations. This ensures that clinical trials are implemented in their entirety and offers opportunities to participate in substudies utilising specific diagnostic tools.

Research areas cover: coronary artery disease; cardiac arrhythmia; cardiac devices; acute/chronic systolic/diastolic heart failure; coronary angiography and percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty; cardiac echocardiography; cardiac magnetic resonance imaging; and cardiac surgery. Implementation of Good Clinical Research Practice is paramount to the success of the department.

Dr Paul Garrahy
Director
Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

Active Study – Atrial fibrillation. (Garrahy P)

Beautiful Study – Stable coronary artery disease and left ventricular systolic dysfunction. (Marwick T)

Cardiome Study – Atrial fibrillation. (Kaye G)

Champion Study – New reversible P2Y12 antagonist vs clopidogrel in subjects with Acute Coronary Syndrome undergoing PTCA. (Garrahy P)

Danube Study – new drug vs placebo in subjects with chronic renal disease undergoing elective PTCA. (Lim R)

Dionysis Study – new antiarrhythmic drug vs placebo in subjects with atrial fibrillation. (Hill J)

Freedom Study (#1) – PTCA vs CABG in Diabetic Subjects. (Garrahy P)

Freedom Study (#2) – Cardiac device optimisation vs standard care. (Kaye G)

HAT Study – Anterior/lateral myocardial infarctions randomised to CPR or home automatic defibrillators. (Marwick T)

I-Preserve Study – Heart Failure with diastolic dysfunction. (Marwick T)

OAT Study – Myocardial infarction with occluded coronary artery > 3 days old. (Garrahy P)

Plato Study – New short-acting drug vs clopidogrel in subjects with Acute Coronary Syndrome. (Garrahy P)

Red-HF Study – EPO vs placebo in subjects with anaemia associated with heart failure. (Marwick T)

Rocket-AF Study – Warfarin vs new drug in atrial fibrillation. (Marwick T)

Shift Study – Congestive Heart Failure. (Marwick T)

ZoMaxx II Study – Comparison of new drug-eluting stent vs TAXUS™ Express™ Paclitaxel- Eluting Coronary Stent System in de novo coronary artery lesions. (Garrahy P)

Other Research

Burden of Care: The Support Needs of Carers of Cardiac Surgery Patients. (R Robinson) Monash University

Protect Study: An international study into the outcomes of selective site cardiac pacing. (Kaye G, international lead investigator; Marwick T M, Core Laboratory international lead investigator.) (Three Australian and six UK centres are involved).

Lectures and Presentations

Dr John Hill

Co-Chairman, Medtronic Australian Technology Update, Australia.

Dr Richard Lim

How to tackle calcified lesions: To debulk or not to debulk. Congress of Qianjiang Cardiovascular Medicine, Hangzhou, China.

Management of Acute Coronary Syndrome: An Australian perspective. 2nd Hospital, Wenzhou, China.

Transradial coronary intervention for complex lesions. Great Wall International Congress of Cardiology, Beijing, China.

Poget M, Boyde M, Peters R

Outcomes of In-Hospital Arrests at PAH - What does the data tell us? Australia.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Dr John Hill

Literature Review Panel, Heart Rhythm Society

Literature Review Panel, Journal of Cardiac Electrophysiology

Dr Gerald Kaye

Literature Review Panel, European Journal of Heart Failure

Dr Richard Lim

Reviewer, Annual Scientific Meeting, Cardiac Society of Australia & New Zealand

Reviewer, International Journal of Cardiology

Faculty Member, China Interventional Therapeutics in conjunction with TCT meeting, Beijing

Cindy Hall

Executive Member, Cardiac Nurses Working Group, The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand

Study Co-ordinator Advisory Board Member, Association of Regulatory and Clinical Scientists
The Cardiovascular Imaging Research Group provides clinical and research capability in cardiac imaging and image processing. The group has expertise in new echocardiographic imaging technologies, myocardial viability, early detection of atherosclerosis, and assessment of contractile reserve. The group also studies how cardiac imaging techniques can influence patient outcomes and cost-effectiveness of care. This work is carried out in the research echo/stress area in the Cardiology Department and an image processing area in The University of Queensland’s Department of Medicine.

Highlights of the year included the successful attainment of a National Health and Medical Research Council Program Grant (in collaboration with the Baker Institute in Victoria). In addition, the group initiated its second Clinical Centre of Research Excellence (CCRE), aimed at understanding and preventing early cardiovascular complications of several metabolic conditions. Built upon the successful first CCRE in Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disease, including multidisciplinary clinical research training, this new CCRE will involve major new directions in the interface between the liver and metabolic syndrome, and strategies for community-based prevention programs.

Professor Tom Marwick
Director

**Current Research Activities**

Studies of cardiovascular effects of lifestyle and specific therapies for diabetes, hypertension, renal failure and obesity. (Clinical Centres of Research Excellence in Cardiovascular and Metabolic Disease)

- STRATIFY study – A study of strategies to identify and manage cardiac risk at noncardiac surgery.
- PROTECT-PACE core laboratory – a study of optimal pacing site for RV pacing.
- Optimization of cardiac resynchronization therapy (CRT).
- Use of perhexilene to improve cardiac function in viable myocardium.
- Importance of transmural distribution of scar to the diagnosis of myocardial viability.

New techniques for quantitation of regional LV function.

Raised LV filling pressure and hypertensive response to exercise – a study of echocardiographic and biochemical responses to anti-fibrotic therapy in LVH.

Boehringer-Ingelheim – ONTARGET study and MRI substudy co-investigator.

NIH – HAT (home automatic defibrillator) study.

**Other Research**

*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 identifies structural changes supporting the presence of a cardiomyopathy of diabetes and obesity, pre-clinical changes consistent with fibrosis in...
hypertensive patients, and evidence of ischemia. It 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.

Quantification of echo techniques for detection of myocardial ischemia, using tissue Doppler and speckle tracking techniques to measure myocardial strain and velocity.

*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. The group has recently completed two large-scale interventional studies that examine factors influencing vascular function and thereby progression of atherosclerosis. This work interfaces with Dr Kostner’s expertise in lipid management, especially novel plasma markers of atherosclerosis (lipoprotein (a), markers of complement activation and various apolipoproteins).

*Evaluation of myocardial perfusion using contrast echocardiography.* This work is unique in Australia and promises to offer a new tool to improve the detection of myocardial ischemia, as well as 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.

**Financial Support**

**Current NHMRC Grants**

- **$400,000 Clinical Centre of Research Excellence.** (Marwick TH, Prins JB, Johnson D, Beller E, Stowasser M, Coombes J)
- **$160,000 Mechanisms and treatment of raised filling pressure with exercise.** (Marwick TH, Coombes J, Sharman J)
- **$160,000 STRATIFY study (peri-operative risk).** (Marwick TH, Walker, Liepman, Atherton, Venkatesh B)

**Other Grants**

- **$40,000 National Heart Foundation of Australia, Impact of perhexilene in viable myocardium.**
- **$60,000 National Heart Foundation of Australia, Exercise tolerance in hypertensive heart disease.** (Marwick TH, Sharman J)
- **$50,000 National Heart Foundation of Australia, Echo substudy of the IDEAL trial.** (Marwick TH)
- **$45,000 NIH, HAT study.** (Marwick TH)

**Other Support**

- **$60,000 Pfizer. Illuminate study.** (Kostner KM)
- **$27,000 Pfizer. Gemini study.** (Kostner KM)
- **$30,000 Pfizer. FH - Torcetrapib.** (Kostner KM)
- **$49,000 Acusphere. Acusphere.** (Marwick TH)
- **$10,000 Bristol-Myers Squibb. I-PRESERVE study.** (Marwick TH)
- **$33,000 Boehringer-Ingelheim. ONTARGET study and MRI substudy.** (Marwick TH)

**Lectures and Presentations**

*Professor T Marwick*


Advanced Echo Symposium (Organizer), Sydney.

ASEANZ CV and Lipid Forum (Organizing committee), Melbourne.

New techniques for quantification of LV function, Echo in cardiac resynchronization therapy. (Invited speaker); Diabetic cardiomyopathy (Lunchtime symposium); Contrast echocardiography (Session moderator). Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand, Christchurch.
Bursting the bubble with ultrasound; Attracting scholars (workshop). 47th annual PAH Week, Brisbane.


Secondary mitral regurgitation: Mechanisms and diagnosis, Cost-effectiveness of invasive and non-invasive tests for CAD (Plenaries). European Society of Cardiology, Vienna.

Echocardiography in identifying the culprit vessel (Invited speaker); Contemplatory role of non-invasive imaging for CAD (Moderator). AHA Scientific Sessions, Orlando.

Awards

Professor T Marwick

President’s Award, National Heart Foundation of Australia

Public Service Relevant to Research

Professor T Marwick

Associate Editor – JACC Imaging

Editorial Board, American Journal of Medicine

Editorial Board, American Heart Journal

Editorial Board, Cardiovascular Ultrasound Journal

Editorial Board, European Journal of Echocardiography

Editorial Board, Faculty of 1000 Medicine

Editorial Board, Journal of the American College of Cardiology

Editorial Board, International Journal of Cardiovascular Imaging

Editorial Board, Korean Journal of Cardiovascular Disease

Editorial Board, Heart

Grant/Promotions Reviewer, Cardiac Society of ANZ – Ralph Reader prize committee

CVL Grants, Pfizer

Committee Member, Health Insurance Commission - Cardiac Imaging Management Committee (with CSANZ)

Committee Member, Cardiac Society of Aust NZ – Scientific Committee, Imaging Working Group, Echo Accreditation Committee

Committee Member, National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia, Panel Selector

Committee Member, PAH, Research Committee

Committee Member, PA Foundation, Research Committee

Major conference responsibilities, ASEANZ Meeting - Scientific Program

Specialist Advisor, Swinfen Charitable Trust (internet-based consulting network for doctors in remote third world hospitals)
The Clinical Pharmacology Department remains active in laboratory and clinical research despite continuing increases in service demand. A number of ongoing collaborative projects are underway, including a collaborative research agreement with Waters Corporation to investigate measurement of endogenous steroids. This is linked with the acquisition of the latest mass spectrometry technology. Paul Taylor has made impressive progress with his part-time PhD, developing a highly accurate aldosterone assay.

Drug utilisation and pharmacovigilance studies have included: bleeding complications associated with anticoagulant/antiplatelet combinations; acute renal failure with Angiotensin Converting Enzyme (ACE) Inhibitors, Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) and diuretics; lumiracoxib and severe liver injury; antifungals; vancomycin; and valganciclovir.

Dr Peter Pillans
Director

Current Research Activities
Optimizing detection of curable hypertension by the development of a highly accurate method of measuring aldosterone concentrations in human blood and urine. (Stowasser M, Taylor PJ, Gordon RD)

Improved analysis of immunosuppressant drugs by HPLC-tandem mass spectrometry. (In collaboration with Rooney F, Applied Biosystems, Melbourne)

Omega-3-fatty acid measurement by HPLC-mass spectrometry. (In collaboration with Kostner K)

Measurement of testosterone in obese males by HPLC-tandem mass spectrometry. (In collaboration with O’Moore-Sullivan T, Prins J)

Evaluation of analytical methods for the measurement of mycophenolic acid in liver transplant recipients. (In collaboration with Brown N, Tredger M, Institute of Liver Studies, Kings College Hospital, London)

Improved patient outcomes through dosage individualisation of the newer immunosuppressant drugs. (In collaboration with Staatz C, Tett S, Johnson D, Lynch S)

Financial Support
$280,000 Development of HPLC-MS/MS assays of clinical significance and utility, Waters Corporation. (Taylor PJ, Cooper DP, Morris MR)

Lectures and Presentations
Paul Taylor
Matrix effects: Implications for quantitative HPLC-mass spectrometry methods. ‘Don’t sweat the small stuff’ – Mass spectrometry for small molecule applications. The Royal Australian Chemical Institute, Brisbane, Australia (Invited Speaker).

An introduction to HPLC-tandem mass spectrometry: Application to the clinical chemistry laboratory. Australian Association of Clinical Biochemistry Queensland Branch Meeting, Brisbane, Australia (Invited Speaker).
Workshop: Development and validation of quantitative HPLC-mass spectrometry methods. 10th International Congress of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring. Nice, France.

Taylor PJ, Cooper DP, Gordon RD, Stowasser M
‘Don’t sweat the small stuff’ – Mass spectrometry for small molecule applications, The Royal Australian Chemical Institute, Brisbane, Australia. Invited Speaker: Automated on-line solid phase extraction coupled to HPLC-mass spectrometry: Application to the measurement of aldosterone.


Workshop: Automated on-line solid phase extraction coupled to HPLC-mass spectrometry: The measurement of aldosterone as a case study. 10th International Congress of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring. Nice, France.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Paul Taylor
Councillor on the Board of the International Association of Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Clinical Toxicology (IATDMCT)

Editorial Board, Therapeutic Drug Monitoring
Editorial Board, Journal of Chromatography B

Associate Professor Peter Pillans
Australian Drug Evaluation Committee

Australian Adverse Drug Reactions Advisory Committee

Queensland Hospitals Drugs Advisory Committee

Peer Reviewer: Medical Journal of Australia; Internal Medicine Journal; British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology; Annals of Pharmacotherapy
The Diabetes and Endocrinology Department continued its successful and long-standing research track record. Professor Prins and Drs Duncan, O’Moore-Sullivan and Russell contributed to several successful NHMRC grant applications for studies commencing in 2007. Several other members of the department, including Dr Clair Sullivan and Dr Liza Phillips, were successful in obtaining competitive grant money to support their research. Dr Sullivan received the highly-competitive Princess Alexandra Hospital Society Young Investigator Award (Clinician) during PAH Week 2007 for her investigator-driven research project Adiponectin: Linking obesity and cardiovascular disease.

The department continued to attract high-calibre honours and PhD students and housed five PhD students as well as provided collaborative supervision to two other students based at the Queensland University of Technology.

A broad range of research is undertaken within the department, with several staff members invited to present locally, nationally and internationally. Metabolic and genetic disease related to diabetes, obesity and bone continue to be the major research themes. New technologies were embraced, old and successful collaborations were strengthened and new collaborations were forged.

One of the most exciting developments was the merger between the Centre for Diabetes and Endocrine Research and the Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research which has led to establishment of The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute for Cancer, Immunology and Metabolic Medicine (DI). Several staff members from the Diabetes and Endocrinology Department have research appointments at DI, with Professor John Prins heading the Metabolic Program.

The innovative proposal of the Inala Chronic Disease Management Centre came to fruition after several years of hard work by Dr Anthony Russell and Professor Prins. Dr Russell’s team at Inala has already made significant improvements to chronic disease care for patients. A strong research component is a high priority for the project.

The department continues to provide tertiary level in- and out-patient care. The year saw establishment of the only national Prader-Willi Syndrome Multidisciplinary Clinic by Dr O’Moore-Sullivan. Dr Russell continues to provide an outreach service and educational support to Mt Isa, Cloncurry and surrounding areas. Consultants and registrars are active in a variety of professional bodies, and educate and train undergraduate and postgraduate students from several schools within The University of Queensland, Faculty of Health Sciences.

**Dr Anthony Russell**

*Director*
Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

Pharmaceutical Trials

A Randomised, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Study to Assess the Safety, Tolerability and Efficacy of L-001037536 (Cathepsin-K Inhibitor) in the Treatment of Postmenopausal Women With Osteoporosis.

A Study to Evaluate AMG 162 in the Treatment of Postmenopausal Osteoporosis.

The Long Term Efficacy and Safety Assessment of a Three-Year Oral Administration of S12911 in Osteoporotic Postmenopausal Women having Participated Either in Spinal Osteoporosis Therapeutic Intervention ‘SOTI’ Study or Treatment of Peripheral Osteoporosis ‘TROPOS’ Study.

Trial to Reduce Cardiovascular Events with Aranesp Therapy.

A six month study, the effect on glycaemic control after once daily administration of liraglutide in combination with glimepiride monotherapy versus glimepiride and rosiglitazone combination therapy in subjects with Type 2 diabetes.

Diabetic Retinopathy Candesarten Trials.

International study of prediction of intra-abdominal adiposity and its relationships with cardiometabolic risk / intra-abdominal adiposity.

Investigator Driven Trials

Dr O’Moore-Sullivan and Dr Russell are Associate Investigators in a NHMRC Project Grant entitled ‘Telephone Counselling for Maintenance of Physical Activity, Weight Loss & Glycaemic Control in Type 2 Diabetes’. $1,215,800 over four years. (Eakin E, Marshall A, Dunstan D, Reeves M, Graves N)

Professor Prins and Dr Russell are Associate Investigators in a NHMRC Project Grant entitled ‘A longitudinal study of nerve morphology in diabetic neuropathy using novel non-invasive opthalmic surrogate markers’. $515,900 over four years. (Efron N, Boulton A, Malik R)

Dr Russell is an Associate Investigator in NHMRC Project Grant 443214 entitled ‘Using conversational computer technology to improve diabetes management: A randomised controlled trial’. $ 604,464 over four years. (Oldenburg B, Courtney M, Friedman R, Wootton R, Ash S)

Investigation of the effects of improving insulin sensitivity by lifestyle interventions or drug therapies on markers of vascular and cardiac function, in patients with obesity, T2DM and after renal transplantation.

Investigations into the links between obesity and blood clotting.

Identification of novel targets for bone anabolic therapies.

Insulin action and signalling in human liver - the effects of obesity, free fatty acids and adiponectin.

Investigation of metabolic differences in omental and subcutaneous adipose tissue by comparing insulin action and signalling, and adipokine release and action in adipose tissue biopsies from patients with and without insulin resistance.


Androgen status in obese men. (Ong C, O’Moore-Sullivan TM, Prins JB)


An investigation into the effects of improved glycaemic control on liver injury in patients with Type 2 diabetes. (Hickman I, O’Moore-Sullivan TM, Macdonald GA)

Role of 11β-Hydroxysteroid Dehydrogenase (HSD) in Insulin Resistance.

Investigation of appropriate testing criteria for multiple endocrine neoplasia Type 1 and insights into the epidemiology of the disease. Identification of novel genes for familial hyperparathyroidism syndrome.
Identification of activating and inactivating mutations of the calcium sensing receptor in patients with familial hyperparathyroidism.

Investigation of the relationship between Type 2 diabetes and chronic liver disease looking at the role of metabolic factors in the development and progression of chronic liver disease.

Improving the success and cost-effectiveness of lifestyle intervention for weight reduction in patients with obesity-related chronic disease.

Investigation of the production of the peptide hormone, Adiponectin, by human fat cells (adipocytes) and its post-translational modification and multimerisation within the secretory pathway of cells.

Adiponectin’s role in modulating postprandial oxidative, inflammatory and cardiovascular stress.

Exploring the long term consequences of pregnancy related disorders such as pre-eclampsia, the impact of obesity on maternal and fetal outcomes, and the consequences of increasing maternal age on pregnancy outcomes. Exploring the regulation of Placental Growth Hormone.

Genetics of High Bone Mass - segregation studies and linkage studies to further understand the genetic cause of high bone mass. This work will help inform development of therapeutics for osteoporosis, a condition with loss of bone mineral density.

Genome Wide Association Studies in Bone Mineral Density.

Genetics of giant cell tumours.

Investigation into the effect of high dose steroids upon bone and the hypothalamic/pituitary/adrenal axis (in collaboration with the haematology department).

Prospective audit of bone disease in patients with stage 3-4 chronic kidney disease (in collaboration with the Nephrology Department).

Investigation into the clearance of drugs in obese subjects. (In collaboration with Green B, The University of Queensland).

Investigation of the mechanical properties of bone utilising nanoindentation. (In collaboration with Huang H, The University of Queensland).

Financial Support

Current NHMRC Grants

Other Grants
$50,000 PA Foundation, Establishment Grant. The Genetics of High Bone Mass. (Duncan E, Brown M, Tobias J, Grigson C)

$55,000 ANZ Childhood Medical Research Establishment Trust, Establishment Grant. Osteoclast activation and differentiation in cherubism and other multinucleated giant cell tumours. (Duncan E)

$39,000 The University of Queensland, Postdoctoral Fellowship. Osteoclast activation and differentiation. (Duncan E)

$50,000 DART, Project. Prevention of cardiovascular disease: understanding the links between diabetes, obesity and platelet function. (Sullivan CM, Prins JB)

$55,000 Pfizer CVL grants, Project. Adiponectin: linking obesity and cardiovascular disease. (Sullivan CM, Prins JB)

Other Support
$700,000 Inala Chronic Disease Management Project, Queensland Health. (Russell A, Jackson C, Prins JB)

Lectures and Presentations

Dr Emma Duncan
Osteoporosis: the Thin End of the Wedge (Queensland)
Current Therapeutics in Osteoporosis (Queensland)
Bisphosphonates (Queensland)
Steroid Hormones (Queensland)
Osteoporosis and its management (Queensland)

Dr Anthony Russell
GP Referral Patterns and Communication. Best Practice in Diabetes Centres 2007 (NADC), Sydney, NSW.

The Metabolic Syndrome – Diagnosis and Management Challenges in Cardiology VII, National Heart Foundation. Royal Brisbane Hospital. Brisbane, Queensland.

Lantus – A review of the clinical data in T1 and T2. The sanofi-aventis Diabetes Partnership Meeting, Brisbane, Queensland.

Dr Trisha O’Moore-Sullivan

Cardiovascular Disease in Type 2 Diabetes: Whom and how to investigate. New South Wales.

Medical Management of Obesity. Toowoomba, Queensland.

MRI and MRS in Metabolic Research. Queensland.

Traditional Diabetes Therapies: Are they safe? New South Wales.

Results from the European Association for the Study of Diabetes Annual Scientific Meeting. Queensland.

Careers in Endocrinology for Women. Queensland.


Awards

Dr Clair Sullivan
Princess Alexandra Hospital Society Young Investigator Award (Clinician). PAH Week 2007, Adiponectin: linking obesity and cardiovascular disease.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Dr Emma Duncan
Ethics Committee Advisor, Princess Alexandra Hospital
Grant Reviewer, NHMRC
Grant Reviewer, Diabetes Australia
Reviewer, Calcified Tissues International, Bone, Nephrology journals

Dr Anthony Russell
NHMRC Grant Review Panel
Chair, Diabetes Australia Research Trust Grant Review Panel
Reviewer, Medical Journal of Australia
Reviewer, Clinical Endocrinology

Dr Clair Sullivan
Reviewer: European Journal of Clinical Investigation, Arteriosclerosis Thrombosis and Vascular Biology journals
NHF Grant in Aid Review Panel
DART Grant Review Panel

Dr Trisha O’Moore-Sullivan
Reviewer, European Journal of Clinical Investigation
Reviewer, Internal Medicine Journal
Diabetes Australia Grant Review Panel
Princess Alexandra Hospital. High Cost Drug Committee
A notable loss to the Department of Radiology in 2007 was the resignation of the Director, Associate Professor Stephen Stuckey. His particular interest in encouraging research by the departmental staff, and collaborating within and outside the hospital was highlighted by the fine record of publications and poster presentations over the last three years.

The department published 15 journal articles and had seven presentations at annual scientific meetings.

Associate Professor Stephen Stuckey  
Chair/Director of Radiology

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
As part of the international multicentre CORAL (Cardiovascular Outcomes in Renal Atherosclerotic Lesions) Trial. (Redmond K)

Other Research
Outcome data is currently being collected following the use of PRIMOVIST to evaluate its utility in differentiating focal liver tumours.

Compare a study in healthy volunteers of the efficacy of DEFINITY, a second generation micro bubble contrast agent, in identifying the ultrasound signals from normal livers prior to application for using it in patients with diffuse liver disease.

Lectures and Presentations

Strahl B, Stuckey S. Diagnostic Yield of Head CT for first episode psychosis. RANZCR Annual Scientific Meeting. Melbourne, Australia.

Strahl B, Stuckey S. Psoas muscle atrophy unilateral to hip arthroplasty – a paired sample analysis. RANZCR Annual Scientific Meeting. Melbourne, Australia.


The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute for Cancer, Immunology and Metabolic Medicine was established, effective from 1 January 2007, as the sixth research institute of the university. The institute was created by an amalgamation of the Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research, a university level research centre, and the Centre for Diabetes and Endocrinology Research, a faculty research centre of the Faculty of Health Sciences.

The two ‘founder’ centres represent the strongest laboratory-based translational/clinical research centres of The University of Queensland. The institute comprises over 200 researchers and postgraduate students. It will continue to build capacity and deliver internationally-competitive outcomes in translational and clinical research in the fields of immunotherapy, cancer, diabetes and obesity.

This was another successful year for the institute, generating research income of nearly $18 million. This does not include the announcement in late 2007 of a grant for $3.2 million from the Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) to establish the ACRF Comprehensive Cancer Genomics Facility. The ACRF consortium bid was lead by Professor Thomas Gonda, Head of the Cancer Biology Program.

Innovative gene research involving scientists from the institute was honoured by leading scientific journals Science and Nature.

Professor Matthew Brown’s work with the Wellcome Trust Case Control Consortium, which focuses on isolating genes that cause some of the most common hereditary diseases, was selected as Science’s ‘Breakthrough of the Year’ and an ‘Editor’s Favourite’ in Nature. The research was also named by Scientific American as ‘Research Leader of the Year’ and by the American Heart Association as one of the ‘Top 10 Major Advances in Heart Disease and Stroke’.

Professor Ian Frazer
Director
Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

Immunology
A phase I clinical trial of autologous modified dendritic cells exposed to citrullinated peptides (Rheumavax) to induce antigen specific tolerance in patients with rheumatoid arthritis. (Thomas R, Turner M, Vecchio P)

Cancer
Valproic acid and cytarabine therapy for elderly patients with relapsed acute myeloid leukaemia. (Mollee P, McMillan NA)

The use of valproic acid in head and neck cancer patients. (Guminski A, Saunders N, Thomson D, Coman W, Porceddu S)

Other Research

Immunology

Australo-Anglo-American Spondyloarthritis Consortium. (Brown MA, Reveille JD, Weisman M)


ENU Models of Musculoskeletal Disease. (Thakker RV, Brown S, Brown MA, Croucher P)


Antigen-specific suppression of arthritis by targeting dendritic cells deficient in NF-kappa B. (Thomas R, Capini C, Davies N, Brunck M, van Gorp E, O’Sullivan BJ)

Response to citrullinated peptides in rheumatoid arthritis. (Thomas R, Capini C, van Gorp E, Purcell A, O’Sullivan BJ)

Mechanism of suppression by dendritic cells deficient in NF-kappa B. (Thomas R, Street S)

IL-1 and the pathogenesis and immunotherapy of Type 1 diabetes in a murine model. (Thomas R, Bertin-Maghit S, O’Sullivan BJ, Steptoe R)

Monocyte and dendritic cell function in human Type 1 diabetes. (Thomas R, Pai S, Prins J, Flynn S)

Pathogenesis and immunotherapy of autoimmune disease in RelB-deficient mice. (Thomas R, Pai S, Street S, O’Sullivan BJ, Dowhan D)

Mechanisms of dendritic-cell induced tolerance. (Steptoe R)

Mechanisms of memory T-cell tolerance. (Steptoe R, Kenna T)

Novel methods of gene delivery. (Steptoe R, Parekh H)

Role of dendritic cell subsets in kidney immune responses. (Coates PT, Kitching R, Steptoe R)

Induction of tolerance in memory diabeteogenic T cells. (Steptoe R)

Cancer
Use of RNA Interference for Cancer Therapy. (McMillan NA, Gu W, Har C, Payne E)

Development of liposomes for RNAi delivery (McMillan NA, Wu S, Davies N, Parekh H)

Interaction of RNAi with the innate immune system. (McMillan NA, Khairuddin L, Williams B, Belke M)

HPV in prostate cancer. (McMillan NA, Antonsson A, Chen A, Nicol D)

HPV in breast cancer. (McMillan NA, Spurr T, Bennet I)

Cyclin A/cdk2 regulation of G2 phase progression: a target for anti-cancer therapy. (Gabrielli B)

The role of cancer stem cells in glioblastoma multiforma. (Reynolds B, Harding A, Gabrielli B)

CDK4 activity in S/G2 phases influences mitotic fidelity. (Gabrielli B, Grimmond S)

Transcriptional complexity of cell cycle regulated genes during cell division and tumorigenesis. (Grimmond S, Gabrielli B)

Retroviral expression cloning using an arrayed full-length cDNA gene set. (Gonda T, Gabrielli B, Grimmond S, Barry S)
Function of the unique form of mitotic MEK1. (Gabrielli B)

Is the heterochromatin checkpoint a useful anti-cancer drug target? (Gabrielli B)

Histone deacetylase inhibitors can inhibit tumour growth via induction of an anti-tumour immune response. (Leggatt G, Gabrielli B)

Identification of Myb Target Genes. (Zhao L, Al-Owaidi F, LeP, Gonda TJ, with Goodall G (IMVS Adelaide))

Role of Transcriptional Coregulators in Transformation by Myb. (Pattabiraman D, Gonda TJ)

Regulation and Role of MYB in Breast Cancer. (Drabsch F, Gonda TJ, with Ramsay RG (Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne))

Functional Characterisation of Schlafen Proteins. (Zhao L, Neumann B, Gonda TJ)

Role of Nf-κ-B in myeloid cell proliferation and differentiation. (Murphy K, Sun J, Gonda TJ with Gerondakis S (WEHI, Melbourne))

Identification of Oncogenes in Acute Myeloid Leukaemia by Retroviral Expression Cloning. (Murphy K, Gonda TJ with D’Andrea RJ (Child Health Res Inst, Adelaide))


Investigation into the alternative splicing of steroid hormone regulated genes in breast cancer. (Harrison M, Dowhan DH, with Gonda TJ, Grimmond S, Gorman J)

The Role of the splicing factor SPF45 in resistance to chemotherapeutic drugs. (Tang YH, Harrison M, Dowhan DH)

The role of Vitamin D and retinoids in dendritic cell maturation. (Dowhan DH, Thomas R with Fiona Powrie (Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK), Herbert Strobl (Institute of Immunology, Medical University Vienna, Austria), Steve Gerondakis (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute))

U2AF65-like proteins in the regulation of CFTR alternative splicing. (Dowhan DH with Hong EP, Henning D, Berget SM (Baylor College of Medicine, USA))

Metabolism

Professor Edith Gardiner

Interaction between parathyroid hormone and neuropeptide Y regulated bone anabolic pathways. (Gardiner EM)

Role of the Wnt developmental pathway in prostate cancer metastasis to bone. (Gardiner EM)

Effects of PSA and Kallikrein 4 on bone metastatic phenotype of prostate cancer cell lines. (Clements J, Nicol D, Gardiner EM)

Patents

US Provisional patent PCT/AU2007/000692: Agents and methods for diagnosing immunomodulating conditions. (Thomas, R)

US Provisional patent PCT/AU2007/001555: Compositions and methods for modulating immune responses. (Thomas, R)

US Provisional patent 2006907308: Compositions and methods for treating or preventing unwanted immune responses. (Thomas, R)

Method of Inducing an Immune Response Provisional, USSN 60/880,547. (McMillan, N)

Financial Support

Current NHMRC Grants

$71,841 Fellowship. CJ Martin Fellowship - Characterisation of Chfr (checkpoint protein with Fork head-associated domain and Ring Finger domain) mediated mitotic checkpoint arrest. (Burgess A)

$103,500 Fellowship. (Gabrielli B)

$170,500 Project. CDK4 activity in S/G2 phases influences mitotic fidelity. (Gabrielli B, Grimmond S)

$249,416 Project. Interaction between PTH and Y2 bone anabolic pathways. (Gardiner E)

$123,122 Project. Study of HPV 6L1 virus-like particles as therapeutic vaccine for genital warts and recurrent respiratory papillomatosis. (Frazer I, Lu J, Chen B, Zhang L)

$320,000, Program. Immunological therapies for cancer and autoimmunity. (Frazer I, Thomas R, Hill G)
$45,250 NHMRC, Project. Development Grant- Improving immunotherapy by inhibiting IL-10 mediated immune deviation. (Frazer I, Song Liu X)

$66,000 Fellowship. Type 2 Diabetes and chronic liver disease: An emerging relationship between co-morbid diseases of obesity. (Hickman I)


$154,250 Project. IMPDH and lipid accumulation. (Whitehead J, Prins JB, Jones A)


$87,000 Fellowship. Matching between Codon usage and tRNA abundance determines the expression of targeting genes in mammalian cells. (Zhao K)

$140,875 Project. FGF-1 in human adipogenesis. (Hutley H, Whitehead J, Prins JB)

$130,250 Fellowship. Research Fellowship. (Brown M)

$152,125 Project. Identification of clinically significant subtypes of head and neck cancer cells. (Saunders N, Kaur P)

$133,375 Project. Non-viral vectors for targeted delivery of RNAi nucleotides to cervical cancers. (McMillan N, Davies N)

$102,500 Project. Mechanisms of dendritic cell-induced T-cell tolerance. (Steptoe R)

$107,250 Project. Mechanisms of tolerance in memory T cells. (Steptoe R, Kenna T)

$68,500 Fellowship. Peter Doherty Fellowship- The role of RelB in atopic asthma. (Street S)

$181,500 Project. Identification of oncogenes from myeloid leukaemias by retroviral expression cloning. (Gonda T, D’Andrea R)

$35,000 Project. Determining the role of Rel/NF-κB Transcription Factors in Myeloid Differentiation. Gonda T (Gerondakis S)

$388,750 Project. Retroviral Expression Cloning using an Arrayed Full-Length cDNA Gene Set. (Gonda T, Gabrielli B, Grimmond S, Barry S)

$15,000 Project. FLT3 signalling in acute myeloid leukaemia. (Gonda T, D’Andrea R)

$67,250 Fellowship. Peter Doherty Fellowship-Sensitise cervical cancer cells to shRNA-mediated gene silence. (Gu W)

$76,842 Fellowship. Biomedical (CJ Martin ) Fellowship - Mechanisms regulating cell cycle progression in response to UV radiation. (Lee W)

Other Grants

$50,000 ANZ, Project. Osteclast activation and differentiation in cherubism and other multinucleated giant cell tumours. (Duncan E)

$90,000 ARC, Project. The function of truncated MEK1 in a G2 phase cell cycle delay and in mitosis. (Gabrielli B)

$88,000 ARC, Project. Function and regulation of the Schlafen gene family: novel regulators of blood cell proliferation and function. (Gonda T, Ishii S)

$16,000 ARHR, Project. The protective effect of G82S RAGE on cardiovascular events in rheumatoid arthritis. (Thomas R)

$16,000 ARHR, Project. Project Grant. (Thomas R)

$163,000 ARTHFA, Other. Professorial Research Chair. (Thomas R)

$167,588 CRIUSA, Project. A phase IB trial of virus like particle immunotherapy for HPV associated infection. (Frazer I)

$50,000 DART, Project. DART-regulation of adiponectin bioactivity by novel post translational modifications. (Richards A)

$49,500 DART, Project. DART-Clotting in diabetic subjects: role of adiponectin. (Sullivan CM)

$44,700 DART, Project. DART- Regulation of Insulin action at the level of insulin receptor substrate-1. (Whitehead J)

$50,000 DART, Project. DART. (O’Moore-Sullivan T)

$165,000 GPRWMF, Fellowship. Developing E2F inhibitors as a potential therapeutic strategy for the
treatment of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma. (Saunders N)

$220,723 JDFINT, Project. Interleukin 1 and tolerance in type 1 diabetes. (Thomas R)

$103,000 LEUKF, Project. Valproic acis and cytarabine therapy for elderly or relapsed acute myeloid leukaemia. (McMillan N, Mollee P)

$75,000 LIONS, Fellowship. Improving vaccines against Viruses and Tumours: Optimising the cytotoxic T lymphocyte response. (Leggatt G)

$34,000 LIONS, Fellowship. Targeting Cell Cycle Checkpoints to treat Cancer. (Beamish H)

$42,500 MSD, Project. Merck Sharp & Dohme - Incretin effects on adipocyte functions. (Prins J)

$406,932 NIHUSA, Program. PO1-A Genome wide Association Study of Ankylosing Spondylitis Susceptibility (Uni Texas). (Brown M)

$50,000 PAH, Project. Investigation into the ability of splicing factor SPF45 to confer resistance to anticancer drugs. (Dowhan D)

$50,000 PAH, Project. Establishment Grant- Genetics of high bone mass. (Duncan E, Brown M)

$30,000 PAH, Program. Immunology Program. (Frazer I, Thomas R, Brown M)

$30,000 PAH, Program. CDER program. (Prins J)

$30,000 PAH, Project. Genomic profile of ankylosing spondylitis. (Brown M)

$150,000 PAH, Project. PAH Cancer Collaborative Group: QCF Collaborative research grant funds. (Saunders N)

$50,000 PAH, Project. Do human papillomaviruses participate in breast cancer genesis. (Saunders N, McMillan N, Antonsson A, Bennett I, Francis G)

$10,000 PAH, Project. Cancer Stem Cell Initiative- CICR Cancer Biology Program. (Gonda T, McMillan N, Saunders N, Gill D)

$100,000 PCFA, Fellowship. The role of human papillomaviruses in the development of prostate cancer. (Antonsson A)

$49,447 PFIZER, Project. Cardiovascular Lipid Grant (CVL) - Adiponectin: linking obesity and cardiovascular disease. (Sullivan CM)

$78,000 QCFN, Project. Development of models to study human papillomavirus and its involvement in non-melanoma skin cancer. (Antonsson A)

$78,000 QCFN, Project. Molecular mechanisms of regulatory expression of human papillomavirus L1 genes in keratinocytes. (Zhao K)

$78,000 QCFN, Project. The molecular basis for the initiation of squamous differentiation. (Saunders N)

$78,000 QCFN, Project. Role, and potential for therapeutic targeting, of transcriptional co-regulators in transformation by the MYB oncogene. (Gonda T)

$50,000 Queensland Government, Fellowship. Targeting liver macrophages to prevent diabetes. (O’Sullivan B)

$20,000 Queensland Government, Project. QLD Health Smart Health Research Grant. Clinical measures of obesity and risk of Barrett’s oesophagus. (Macdonald G)

$550,000 Queensland Government, Fellowship. Innovation Skills Fund Smart State Premier’s Fellowship 2005-2006. (Frazer I)

$75,000 Queensland Government, Fellowship. Smart State Fellowship. Regulation of human adipocyte development as a treatment for obesity. (Hutley L)

$19,088 RLCMRF, Project. Genetic and Genomic Analysis Research Facility. (Brown M)

$50,000 SANOFI, Project. Investigator sponsored study agreement. Research proposal for Investigating the effects of Rimonabant on human adipose tissue. (Prins JB)

$255,000 The University of Queensland, Equipment. RIF Major equipment and infrastructure grant - BRF infrastructure upgrade at the PA Hospital facility. (Administration)


$16,700 The University of Queensland, Project. Pathfinder - Immune enhancement via RNAi. (McMillan N)

$25,000 The University of Queensland, Project. Early Career Researcher Grant. Using siRNA or shRNA as antigen presentation enhancer for anti-tumour immunity. (Gu W)

$20,000 The University of Queensland, Project. Early Career Researcher Grant. Can local antigen presentation at effector site modulate CD8 T cell function? (Song Liu X)

$37,000 The University of Queensland, Fellowship. Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. (Kherrouche Z)

$134,883 WELLAU, Project. Study of HPV 6L1 virus like particles as therapeutic vaccine for genital warts and recurrent respiratory papillomatosis. (Frazer I)

Lectures and Presentations

Immunology

Professor M Brown

Genetic disorders of mineralisation. European Congress of Rheumatology, Barcelona, Spain.

Genetics of ankylosing spondylitis. American College of Rheumatology, Boston, USA.


Genetics of rheumatoid arthritis. Chinese Rheumatology Association, Shanghai, China.

Genetics of rheumatoid arthritis. New Zealand Rheumatology Association, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Advances in ankylosing spondylitis. New Zealand Rheumatology Association, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Advances in gene-mapping. The Wellcome Trust Case Control Consortium. University of Texas, Houston, USA.

Can genetics guide us towards new drug targets.

Molecular Signalling in Bone Remodelling, Sydney, Australia.

Professor R Thomas

Seminar. University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver, Colorado.

UniQuest postgraduate Commercialization workshop, Brisbane, Queensland. (Invited speaker)

Australian Rheumatology Association Annual Scientific Meeting, Melbourne, Victoria. (Invited workshop speaker)

Centenary Institute, Sydney, NSW. (Invited seminar)

University of Vienna Austria. (Invited speaker)

Memorial Sloan Kettering Institute, New York (Invited speaker),

Bryant Stokes Oration, Royal Perth Hospital, WA.

Biologic Therapies for Rheumatic Disease: Today and Tomorrow. London, UK. (Invited plenary speaker)

Dr Raymond Steptoe

Targeting antigens for tolerance induction. Mater Medical Research Institute, Brisbane, Australia.

Targeting antigens for tolerance induction. BIG Seminar Series, Queensland Institute of Medical Research.

People to Watch. PAH Week, Brisbane, Australia.


Cancer

Dr Nigel McMillan

RNA Interference for Cancer Therapy. Lorne Cancer Conference, Lorne.


RNAi Enhanced Immunity – a new therapeutic avenue. Queensland Institute for Medical Research.
Silence of the Genes. Mater Medical Research Institute.

Ms Sherry Wu
RNAi Delivery. AusBiotech Brisbane.

Dr Annika Antonsson
Detection of human papillomavirus in prostate tissue biopsies and in peripheral blood samples from prostate patients. 24th International Papillomavirus Meeting, Beijing.

Dr Brian Gabrielli
Clinical Targeting of Epigenetic Changes in Cancer Therapeutics. Johns Hopkins Workshop. Phoenix, AZ.

Garvan Signalling Meeting. Sydney, NSW.

Professor Tom Gonda
Regulation and Role of MYB in Breast Cancer. 4th International Workshop on MYB Proteins in Death, Differentiation and Disease, Italy.


MYB Regulation and Function in Estrogen Receptor-Positive Breast Cancer. Hanson Institute/IMVS Adelaide, South Australia.

Regulation and Role of MYB in Breast Cancer. Mater Medical Research Institute, Brisbane, Queensland.

Breast Cancer Research on the PAH Campus / Regulation and role of the MYB oncogene in breast cancer. Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane, Queensland.

Dr Dennis Dowhan
Regulation of RNA Splicing: A New Frontier in Cancer Research. Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane, Queensland.

Metabolism

Professor Edith Gardiner
I’m not fat, I just have heavy bones. Brisbane Bone Group, Woolloongabba Queensland. Invited speaker.


Neural control of bone formation. The Australian Society for Medical Research National Meeting, New South Wales, Australia. Symposium presentation.

Awards

Professor R Thomas
Women in Technology Biotechnology Researcher award. Rheumatoid arthritis vaccine.

Dr Raymond Steptoe
Highly Commended Prize. UNIQUEST Trailblazer 5 Awards.

Professor Ian Frazer
International Life Award (Sezione Ricerca Scientifica), Rome.

Florey Medal, Sydney.

Clunies Ross Award, Melbourne.

International Achievement Summit Golden Plate award, New York.

2007 Novartis Prize for Clinical Immunology, Rio de Janeiro.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Immunology

Professor M Brown

Abstract reviewing: American College of Rheumatology, British Society of Rheumatology, European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR), European Calcified Tissue Society
Grant review panels: NHMRC, Arthritis Research Campaign (UK)

Grant reviewing: Wellcome Trust, Arthritis Research Campaign, NHMRC, Horserace Betting Levy Board (UK), Irish Health Research Board, Research Council of Norway

Editorial Board membership: Associate Editor of Genes and Immunity, and Assistant Editor of Arthritis and Rheumatism, Rheumatology, Arthritis Research and Therapy, Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism, Journal of Rheumatology and Faculty of 1000

Advisory Board membership: Abbott Pharmaceuticals (Australia)

**Professor R Thomas**
NHMRC Fellowship Committee
Pfizer Fellowship Committee
Reviewer Arthritis Research Council UK
Ad hoc reviewer for approximately 10 other national and international granting bodies
Editorial Board Wiener Klinische Wochenschrift, Clinical Rheumatol, Arthritis Res and Therapy
Primary reviewer: Journal of Immunology

**Dr Raymond Steptoe**
NHMRC Project Grant Review Panel
Committee Member, Brisbane Immunology Group
Annual Scientific Retreat
Executive Committee, 2nd Australian Vaccine and Immunotherapy Development Conference

**Cancer**

**Dr Brian Gabrielli**
Diamantina Institute Postgraduate Co-ordinator
Member, PAHCHR Committee
Member, Editorial Board for Molecular Cancer Therapeutics
Member, NH&MRC Cancer Biology Review Panel
Member, Lorne Cancer Conference Organising Committee
Chairman, Diamantina Institute Education Committee
Chairman, 10th Cell Cycle Workshop

**Professor Tom Gonda**
Convenor, The University of Queensland RQF Cancer Group
Member, The University of Queensland Institutional Biosafety Committee
Member, NHMRC Cancer Biology project grant review panel
Expert Member, NHMRC Program Grant Review Panel

**Dr Dennis Dowhan**
External reviewer, NHMRC project grants

**Metabolism**

**Professor Edith Gardiner**
Member, Editorial Board, Journal of Bone and Mineral Research, published by the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research, USA
Deputy Chair, NHMRC Project Grant Review Panel (Joint and Musculoskeletal)
Member, Research Sub-committee of Council, Australia & New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society
Member, Program Organizing Committee, Diamantina Symposium
The Emergency Department is a designated Level 6-Trauma centre with 44,200 attendances and 14,000 admissions annually. Its admission rate is amongst the highest in Australasia and demonstrates the high level of clinical acuity. In addition to emergency presentations, the department is also responsible for short stay admissions. It runs a highly successful fellowship teaching program which graduated four fellows in 2007. The ongoing input into a Brisbane-wide primary teaching program has recently been intensified.

In the last two years, the Queensland Government has promised a funding commitment of $2 million per annum dedicated to Emergency Medicine research. Dr Michael Sinnott, with others, has been instrumental in the development of an entity to oversee and administer these funds. The Trust Fund and Company have been established and Moira Clay has been appointed to assist in writing the Policy and Procedure Manual. It is anticipated that within the first quarter of 2008 the Emergency Medicine Research Trust Fund will commence calling for grant applications.

Dr Phillip Kay
Director

Current Research Activities

Mathematical modelling of flows in Emergency Department. (Kozan E, Collier J, Sinnott M) Funded by ARC Linkage Grant.

Trauma Registry – Queensland Trauma Registry (Queensland Health and Conrod).


Developing Evidence-Based Workforce Models for Nursing Services in Acute Care Hospitals. (Chaboyer W, Courtney MD, Duffield CM, Seaton-Sykes PC, Forrester KE, Wallis MC, Holzhauser K)

What change occurs to an Australian health care institution during its application for Magnet Recognition? (Holzhauser K) Doctoral project.

The development of an Australian survey tool to measure nurses’ moral sensitivity and hospital ethical climate. (Winch S, Lützén K, James K, Holzhauser K, Henderson A)

NHMRC / NICS Emergency Care Community of Practice Pain Initiative – National Pain Audit. NHMRC/NICS. (Finucane J) PAH.

The PAED Ultrasound Committee is currently in early phase of multiple trials with respect to emergency department ultrasound. The unique nature of the patient population seen at this hospital allows the performance of research into ED ultrasound.

A trial of acute tele-dermatology is being established in conjunction with Professor Peter Soyer, Director of Dermatology, and Dr Jim Muir.
Financial Support

Grants

$100,000 ARC Linkage Grant. Designing Robust Reactive Scheduling System for Emergency Medical Services. (Kozan E, Collier J, Sinnott M)

$3,500 PA Foundation, Nursing Scholarship. Change to an Australian Organisation during the application for Magnet Status. (Holzhauser K)

$8,200 Private Practice Research, Study & Education Trust Fund, Travel scholarship. Change to an Australian Organisation during the application for Magnet Status. (Holzhauser K)

Other Support
Clinical Fellowship in Toxicology, Queensland Health (Page C)

Awards

Dr Andrew Rochford
Logie for most Popular Lifestyle Programme: ‘What’s Good for You’.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Kerri Holzhauser
Member, PA Hospital Human Research Ethics Committee

Member, Editorial Board, Australasian Emergency Nursing Journal

Assistant Editor (Queensland), Australian Emergency Nursing Journal

Anonymous peer review of articles in the areas of clinical practice and research utilising quantitative methodologies.

NHMRC - National Institute of Clinical Studies (NICS): Member of the Emergency Community of Practice Research Reference Group

NHMRC – NICS: Member of the Emergency Community of Practice Pain Management Working Group

Julie Finucane
Australasian Emergency Nursing Journal: Peer Reviewer

NHMRC/NICS: Member of the Expert Advisory Panel for the Emergency Care Communities of Practice

Peer Reviewer, Australian Health Review

Editor, RAANC ‘Grey & Scarlet’ as LTCOL, DHOC PT, RAANC
It has been another successful year for the Gastroenterology and Hepatology Department. Dr Brad Kendall, who has research interests in Barrett’s oesophagus, joined the department as a consultant. A research program examining the impact of obesity and related factors on Barrett’s oesophagus has been established in conjunction with the Director, Associate Professor Macdonald, and Dr David Whiteman from the Queensland Institute of Medical Research. The program secured funding from the Queensland Cancer Fund and the Smart State Health Research Fund. Work in the first year has led to publishing in the prestigious journal, *Gut*. Funding support from the National Health and Medical Research Council Centre for Clinical Research Excellence Grant in Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases has enabled consolidation of the program investigating the role of metabolic factors in liver transplant recipients. The first major project, examining the prevalence of cardiovascular disease in liver transplant recipients, is well under way in collaboration with Professor Tom Marwick’s Cardiovascular Imaging Research Group. The collaboration with the Adiponectin Research Group at the Diamantina Institute, headed by Dr Jon Whitehead, produced a rewarding number of forthcoming publications. These programs build on the established expertise in the department in relation to the impact of obesity and related metabolic alterations on human disease.

Drs Darrell Crawford and Linda Fletcher have made significant progress in their Smart State funded project. The focus is an investigation of pathophysiological mechanisms of co-toxic liver injury specifically relating to the impact of excess alcohol consumption on expression of the iron sensor, hepcidin. The work has resulted in presentations, both nationally and internationally. Significant progress has also been made on the utility of low dose rapamycin as an antifibrotic agent. Together with Drs Crawford and Fletcher, Dr Rebecca Ryan has completed two studies. One study related to the usefulness of elevated IgG4 as a marker of autoimmune sclerosing cholangitis. The other involved pre-liver transplant subjects, exploring the relationship between hepatic iron, cirrhosis and primary hepatocellular carcinoma. These studies were also presented at national and international meetings.

Dr Elizabeth Powell’s group continued investigating the relationship between body mass index, liver fat and fibrosis progression. Other research included the response to treatment in chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) and other chronic liver diseases, as well as defining the role of hepatocyte senescence, hepatic progenitor cells and the ductular reaction in promoting fibrogenesis in human liver disease.

*Associate Professor Graeme Macdonald*

*Director*
Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

PEG-Intron™ Plus REBETOL® For the Treatment of Subjects with chronic hepatitis C who Failed to Respond to Previous Combination Therapy (Any Interferon Treatment in Combination with Ribavirin). (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

PEG-Intron™ as Maintenance Therapy vs. an Untreated Control Group in Adult Subjects with Compensated Cirrhosis (METAVIR F4), secondary to chronic hepatitis C, Who Have Failed to Respond to Therapy With Any Interferon Plus Ribavirin. (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

Peg-Intron maintenance therapy vs. an untreated control group for prevention of progression of fibrosis in adult subjects with chronic Hepatitis C with Fibrosis (Metavir fibrosis score of F2 OR F3), who failed therapy with Peg-Intron plus Rebetol (in protocol P02370). (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

An extension protocol to evaluate the long-term effects of treatment with peginterferon alfa-2a (PEG-IFN) - or interferon (IFN) - based therapies for patients with chronic hepatitis C. (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

A prospective non-randomised dual arm longitudinal cohort within which all subjects will be given the option of undergoing treatment involving a 24 week course of pegylated interferon monotherapy (180 mcg / weekly at entry to study).

An Open-Label Trial of Telbividine (LdT) in adults with Chronic Hepatitis B previously treated in Idenix-sponsored Telbividine studies. (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

Phase IV study of tailored therapy with Peg Interferon alpha 2b and Ribavirin for patients with Genotype 3 and high viral load. Genotype 3 Extended Treatment for HCV. (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

Hepatitis C in South East Asians: The association between novel genotypes and response to Pegylated-Interferon and Ribavirin therapy. (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

A phase IV, Randomised, Multicentre, Efficacy and Safety Study Examining the Effect of Induction Dosing with the Combination of Peginterferon Alfa-2a and Ribavirin in Patients with chronic hepatitis C Infected with Hepatitis C Genotype 1. (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

A phase III, Randomised, Multicenter, Efficacy and Safety Study Examining the Efficacy of the Combination of Peginterferon alfa-2a and Ribavirin versus Peginterferon alfa-2a monotherapy in liver transplant recipients with recurrent hepatitis C Virus Infection. (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

A Phase 2b, Randomised, Multicentre, Active controlled Open Label Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Albuferon in Combination with Ribavirin in Interferon Alfa Naïve Subjects with chronic hepatitis C Genotype 1. (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

A Randomised, Double-blind, Controlled Evaluation of Tenofovir DF versus Adefovir Dipivoxil for the Treatment of HBeAg Positive Chronic HBV. (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

A Randomised, Double-blind, Controlled Evaluation of Tenofovir DF versus Adefovir Dipivoxil for the Treatment of Presumed Pre-core Mutant Chronic HBV. (Crawford D, Macdonald GA)

Satavaptan in the Prevention of Ascites Recurrence: a double-blind, randomised, parallel-group comparison of satavaptan at 5 to 10 mg daily versus placebo in the absence of diuretics in patients with recurrent ascites due to cirrhosis of the liver. (Macdonald GA)

Satavaptan Cirrhotic Ascites Treatment Study: a double-blind, randomised, parallel-group comparison of treatment with satavaptan at 5 to 10 mg daily versus placebo on top of conventional treatment in patients with ascites due to cirrhosis of the liver. (Macdonald GA)

Satavaptan in the Prevention of Ascites Recurrence: a double-blind, randomised, parallel-group comparison of satavaptan at 5 to 10 mg daily versus placebo with concomitant diuretics in patients with recurrent ascites due to cirrhosis of the liver. (Macdonald GA)

Study of the antiviral activity of Entecavir in patients receiving liver transplant due to chronic Hepatitis B virus infection. (Macdonald GA)

A phase IV, 2x2 factorial, double blind study of 24 versus 48 weeks and 90 versus 180mcg doses of pegylated interferon alfa-2a 40KD (PEG-IFN, Ro 25-8310) in adult patients with HBeAg positive chronic hepatitis B. (Macdonald GA)
Non-invasive assessment of hepatic steatosis by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and spectroscopy (MRS). (Powell EE)

Effect of weight loss on liver protein expression and response to antiviral therapy in patients with chronic hepatitis C. (Powell EE)

Other Research
The regulation of hepatic insulin signalling and action. (Stephenson M, Macdonald GA, Whitehead J)

The role of iron in hepatic insulin resistance. (Macdonald GA, Fletcher L, Anderson G)

The regulation of Adiponectin multimerisation and secretion. (Richards A, Whitehead J, Macdonald GA, Prins J)

The structure and function of the adiponectin receptors, AdipoR1 and AdipoR2. (Charlton H, Whitehead J, Macdonald GA, Prins J)

The role of adiponectin multimers in human disease. (Nguyen T, Fletcher L, Murphy T, Macdonald GA, Whitehead J, Hickman I)

Metabolic factors and Barrett’s oesophagus. (Kendall B, Whiteman D, Macdonald GA)

Symptoms in people living with hepatitis C infection. (Lang C, Macdonald GA, Dunne M)

The effect of aerobic versus resistance exercise on human liver disease. (Hickman I, Fletcher L, Macdonald GA)

Factors that influence the development of renal failure in liver transplant recipients. (Macdonald GA, Lipka G, Fawcett J, Isbel N, Fraser J)

Long term metabolic complications following liver transplantation. (Macdonald GA, Lipka G, Fawcett J, Marwick T, Prins J)

Immunity and gluten-sensitivity in Coeliac Disease. (Daveson J, Croese J, Jones D, McCarthy J, Macdonald GA)

Adrenal Insufficiency in Chronic Liver Disease. (Chang L, Tan T, Macdonald GA)

Interrelationships between alcohol and in liver disease. (Fletcher L, Crawford D, Heritage M, Murphy T, Bridle K)

Immunosuppression and the post-transplant hepatic fibrogenic response. (Crawford D, Bridle K, Popa C, Fletcher L)

Hepatic iron, cirrhosis and Primary Hepatocellular Carcinoma. (Crawford D, Ryan R, Stuart K, Fletcher L, Jones D)

Elevated IgG4 as a marker of autoimmune sclerosing cholangitis. (Crawford D, Ryan R, Jones D, Fletcher L)

Screening for the iron-overload disease, haemochromatosis. (Crawford D, Fletcher L, Powell L, Anderson G, Ramm G, Subrammaniam N)

Hepatic disposition pharmacokinetics of taurocholate in rats with adjuvant-induced systemic inflammation. (Roberts M, Fletcher L, Crawford D)

Altered hepatic pharmacokinetics and hepatic vascularity in liver disease. (Macdonald GA, Roberts M, Power J, Salkield I, Fletcher L, Crawford D)

The role of steatosis in promoting cellular injury and fibrogenesis in human liver. (Powell E, Jonsson J, Clouston A).

Hepatocyte replicative arrest, hepatic progenitor cells and the ductular reaction in hepatic fibrogenesis. (Jonsson J, Clouston A, Powell E, Olynyk J, Knight B).

Financial Support
Current NHMRC Grants
$154,250 Project. Adiponectin multimerisation, secretion and action. (Kozan E, Collier J, Sinnott M)

$400,000 Centre for Clinical Research Excellence (CCRE). Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases. (Macdonald GA, Whiteman D, Kendall BJ)

$165,500 Project. Does immunosuppression affect the post-transplant hepatic response? (Sullivan CM, Macdonald GA, Prins JB)

Other Grants
$52,000 Queensland Government Smart State Health Research Fund, Project. Clinical measures of obesity and risk of Barrett’s oesophagus. (Whitehead JP, Macdonald GA, Prins JB)

$66,000 Wesley Research Institute, Project. A case-control study of the inter-relationships between obesity and Barrett’s oesophagus. (Marwick TH, Prins JB, Macdonald G, Isbel N, Hegney D, Stowasser M)
$54,442 Pfizer Quintiles, Project. Adiponectin: linking obesity and cardiovascular disease. (Kendall BJ, Whiteman D, Macdonald GA)

$174,250 Queensland Government Smart State Health Research Fund, Project. The Pathogenesis of Co-Toxic Liver Disease. (Crawford DHG, Bridle K, Fletcher LM, Clouston A)

$40,000 Royal Children’s Hospital Foundation Sasakawa Fund, Project. The use of rapamycin to slow scarring of the liver. (Crawford DHG, Bridle K, Fletcher LM, Anderson G)

$20,000 Gallipoli Research Foundation, Project. Alcohol, iron and obesity as cofactors in chronic liver disease. (Crawford DHG, Bridle K, Fletcher LM, Fawcett J)

Lectures and Presentations

Associate Professor Graeme Macdonald
Steatosis as a cofactor in other liver diseases. Australian Gastroenterology Week 2007, Perth, Western Australia.

Dr Linda Fletcher
Alcohol and Iron: More pieces to fit the jigsaw. Australian Gastroenterology Week 2007, Perth, Western Australia.

Professor Darrell Crawford

Dr Elizabeth Powell
The impact of obesity on antiviral responsiveness Canadian Digestive Diseases Week / Canadian Association for the Study of the Liver. Banff, Canada.

Fatty Liver Management: Diet and Pharmacotherapy. Liver Disease in Women Summit 2007. Cleveland Clinic, USA.

Awards

Dr Claudia Popa
Gastroenterological Society of Australia Travel Grant to present her work on the potential of rapamycin as an antifibrotic agent at the Australian Gastroenterology Week 2007 in Perth, Western Australia.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Associate Professor Graeme Macdonald
Member, Executive, Australian Liver Association
President, Gastroenterological Society of Queensland
President, Princess Alexandra Hospital Society
Reviewer: Hepatology, Journal of Hepatology, Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Liver International and the Medical Journal of Australia; and grants for the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Diabetes Australia Research Trust

Dr Linda Fletcher
Reviewer, Pathology and Journal of Hepatology

Professor Darrell Crawford
President, Gastroenterological Society of Australia
Grant Reviewer, National Health and Medical Research Council
The Haematology Department is the tertiary level referral centre and the ‘hub’ for the Southern Area Health Services. It provides a holistic, comprehensive and integrated approach to haematological disorders through a multidisciplinary team. Services include state-of-the-art diagnostic facilities, chemotherapy, stem cell transplantation and immunotherapy. The National Australasian Leukaemia and Lymphoma Group (ALLG) Tissue Bank is housed within the Princess Alexandra Hospital.

The department is committed to ongoing translational research - ensuring patients are receiving the most advanced, contemporary treatment as well as contributing to the wider body of knowledge in relation to leukemias, lymphomas, myeloma, amyloidosis and other related blood disorders.

The year led to a number of achievements including the appointments of Professor Andrew Perkins and Associate Professor Peter Woods; academic appointments awarded to Drs Gill and Gandhi by The University of Queensland; and an increase in the number of Phase I and II clinical trials, providing patients with access to leading-edge cancer treatments. Over 280 patients were recruited to research protocols, compared to 120 patients in 2006. Approximately 300 samples were dispatched from PwC ALLG Tissue Bank to eight approved researchers from Australian institutions. These samples had been collected, processed and stored from 205 consented patients. At the end of 2007, the Tissue Bank has 16,422 samples collected from 721 patients, which are available for approved research into haematologic malignancies.

New initiatives included the Translational Research Program, established with the Diamantina Institute Cancer Biology Program including dedicated Leukaemia Research Group, and a satellite clinic at Logan Hospital. The department continues to strengthen the multi-disciplinary team due to the appointment of a psychologist, allied health staff, a statistician and cancer care co-ordinators to the Division of Cancer Services.

**Associate Professor Devinder Gill**  
Director Clinical Haematology

**Dr Robert Bird**  
Director of Haematology
Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

A Randomised, Open-Label Multicenter Study of Velcade with Rituximab or Rituximab Alone in Subjects with Relapsed or Refractory, Rituximab Naive or Sensitive Follicular B-Cell Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma (26866138-LYM-3001). (Mollee P)

A Phase III Randomized Trial of Cloretazine (VNP40101M) and Cytosine Arabinoside (AraC) in Patients with Acute Myeloid Leukaemia in First Relapse (CLI-037). (Marlton P)

Phase III Trial of Combined Immunochemotherapy with Fludarabine, Cyclophosphamide and Rituximab (FC-R) versus Chemotherapy with Fludarabine and Cyclophosphamide (FC) Alone in Patients with Previously Untreated Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia (CLL 8). (Marlton P)

Phase I Study of CSL360 in Patients with Relapsed, Refractory or High-Risk Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (CSL360). (Marlton P)

A Single-arm, Open-Label, Multi-centre Study Evaluating the Efficacy and Safety of Ig NextGen 10% in Patients with Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP) (CSLCT-ITP-05-21). (Bird R)

Randomised Study of Rituximab (MabThera) In Patients With Relapsed Or Resistant Follicular Lymphoma Prior to High Dose Therapy As In Vivo Purging And To Maintain Remission Following High Dose Therapy (EBMT LYM1). (Mills T)

A Phase II Evaluation of Oral Enzastaurin HCl in Patients with Relapsed Mantle Cell Lymphoma (H6Q-MC-JCA0) (H6Q-MC-JCA0). (Marlton P)

A Phase II Study of Imatinib Mesylate in Patients with Neoplastic Diseases Involving Activated Tyrosine Kinases (INDY). (Mills T)

A Randomized, Open-Label, Multicenter, Phase 2 Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Lumiliximab in Combination With Fludarabine, Cyclophosphamide, and Rituximab Versus Fludarabine, Cyclophosphamide, and Rituximab Alone in Subjects with Relapsed Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia (15ZCL201 ‘LUCID’). (Marlton P)

A Multi-center, Randomised, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Phase III Trial Comparing the Efficacy of Bevacizumab in Combination with Rituximab and CHOP (RA CHOP) versus Rituximab and CHOP (R CHOP) in Previously Untreated Patients with CD20 Positive Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (DLBCL) (‘MAIN’ (BO20603)). (Mollee P)

A Multicenter, Randomised, Open-Label, Parallel-group, Phase III Trial of Subcutaneous Azacitidine plus Best Supportive Care versus Conventional Care Regimes plus Best Supportive Care for the Treatment of Myelodysplastic Syndromes (MDS AZA). (Mills T)

A Study of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Assessment of Cardiac and Liver in Patients with Haemoglobinopathies, Myelodysplastic Syndromes (MDS) or Post Bone Marrow Transplantation (BMT) Treated with Deferasirox (Exjade) (Protocol # CICL670AAU01 ‘MILE’). (Marlton P)

A Study of MK-0457 in Adults with Chronic Myelogenous Leukaemia and Acute Lymphocytic Leukaemia (MK0457). (Gill D)

A Phase III, Multi-centre, Randomised, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, 3-Arm Parallel Group Study to Determine the Efficacy and Safety of Lenalidomide (Revlimid) in Combination with Melphalan and Prednisone Versus Placebo Plus Melphalan and Prednisone in Subjects with Newly Diagnosed Multiple Myeloma Who are 65 Years of Age or Older (MM-015). (Mollee P)


Open-label, Non-comparative Study of Pegylated Alpha-Interferon-2b (PEG-Intron) in the Induction and/or Maintenance of Hematologic Remission in Patients with Essential Thrombocythemia (ET) (P02419). (Bentley M)

A Phase III, Open-Label, Extension Study of Eculizumab in Patients with Transfusion Dependent, Haemolytic Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (PNH) who Have Participated in the TRIUMPH (C04-001), SHEPHERD (C04-002) or X03-001 Studies (PNH Extension). (Mills T)

A Randomised, Double-Blind, Phase III Study of Oral Enzastaurin Versus Placebo as Maintenance Therapy Immediately Following First-Line Treatment for
Patients with High-Risk Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma ‘PRELUDE’ (H6Q-MC-JCBJ). (Marlton P)

An Open-Label, Multicenter, Dose-escalating Phase I/II Trial of 3-weekly RhuMAb 2H7 in Patients with Follicular Non Hodgkin’s Lymphoma (BO18414A). (Marlton P)

A Multi-centre, Single Arm, Open Label Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of 1000mg Fixed Dose of Rituximab (MabThera) on Day One and Fifteen among Patients with Refractory, Relapsing or Chronic Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ML20948). (Marlton P)

A Multicentre, Double Blind, Placebo Controlled, Safety and Efficacy Trial of Whey Growth Factor Extract for Oral Mucositis in Lymphoma Patients Undergoing Beam Chemotherapy and Autologous Stem Cell Transplantation (TGR-CT01). (Bird R)

A Multicenter, Randomized, Parallel-Group, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study of Combination Thalidomide Plus Dexamethasone Therapy versus Dexamethasone Therapy Alone as Induction Therapy for Previously Untreated Subjects with Multiple Myeloma (THAL-MM-003). (Gill D)

A Randomized Open-Label Study of 400mg versus 800mg of Gleevec/Glivec (Imatinib Mesylate) in Patients with Newly Diagnosed, Previously Untreated Chronic Myeloid Leukemia in Chronic Phase (CML-CP) Using Molecular Endpoints (‘TOPS’ (CST1572301)). (Mills T)

An International Single-Arm Protocol to Provide Expanded Access to VELCADE for Patients with Multiple Myeloma Who Have Received at Least Two Previous Lines of Therapy and are Refractory to or Have Relapsed After Their Last Therapy for Multiple Myeloma (Velcade EAP). (Marlton P)

An open label randomized Phase III study of Velcade / Melphalan / Prednisone Versus Melphalan / Prednisone in subjects with previously untreated Multiple Myeloma (VISTA’ 2686613B-MMY-3002). (Marlton P)

Immune and Viral Biomarkers as Tools to Assist Clinical Outcomes in Patients with EBV-Associated Lymphomas (EBV Biomarkers). (Gandhi M)

Gene Expression Profiling and Other Associated Laboratory Studies in B-Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (B-CLL). (Gill D)

A Pilot Study Investigating Valproic Acid (VA) in Combination with Cytarabine (Ara-C) in Elderly Patients with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) and in Patients with Refractory or Relapsed AML (LAVA). (Keane C)

MUC1 as a Marker of Bleomycin Lung Toxicity (MUC1). (Keane C)

A Phase II Study of Induction Therapy using Idarubicin and Infusional High Dose Cytarabine for Adult Patients with de novo Untreated Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALLG ALL3). (Marlton P)

A Randomised Trial of Idarubicin Dose Escalation in Consolidation Therapy Following Intensive Chemotherapy incorporating High Dose Cytarabine in Patients with Untreated Adult Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (ALLG AML M12). (Marlton P)

High Dose Cytarabine and Flurabrine without Anthracycline for Patients with Core Binding Factor Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (ALLG AML M13). (Marlton P)

International Phase III Trial of Primary Therapy for B-Cell Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia (ALLG CLL2). (Gill D)

A Phase II Study of Efficacy and Safety of Gleevec(R) (STI571) in Patients with Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia (CML) and Complete or Near Complete Cytogenetic Responses to Interferon-alpha Therapy (ALLG CML5). (Mills T)

A Phase II Study in Patients with Newly-Diagnosed Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia of Initial Intensified Gleevec® Therapy, and Sequential Combined Therapy for Non-Responders (CST1571AAU08 PROTOCOL) (ALLG CML6). (Mills T)

A Phase II Study of Withdrawal of Imatinib Therapy in Adult Patients with Chronic Phase Chronic Myeloid
Leukaemia in Stable Complete Molecular Remission (ALLG CML8 (TWISTER)). (Mills T)

Intergroup Hodgkin’s BEACOPP/ABVD Study (EORTC Protocol 20012) A Phase III Randomized Study of BEACOPP (escalated X 4 Cycles) versus ABVD (x 8 Cycles) in Unfavourable Stage III & IV Patients Stratified on the International Prognostic Score as IPS 3 or M (ALLG HD4). (Gandhi M)

A Randomised Trial of Chlorambucil versus Fludarabine as Initial Therapy of Waldenström’s Macroglobulinaemia and Splenic Lymphoma with Villous Lymphocytes (ALLG LY03) (Marlton P).

A Multicentre Randomised Phase III Study of Low-dose Thalidomide, Prednisolone and Zoledronic Acid versus Prednisolone and Zoledronic Acid for Post-ASCT Maintenance Therapy in Patients with Multiple Myeloma (ALLG MM6). (Gill D)

A Phase II Study of Risk-Adapted IV Melphalan in Patients with AL Amyloidosis (ALLG MM8). (Mollee P)

A Phase II Study of a Modified Hyper-CVAD Frontline Therapy for Patients with Poor Prognosis Diffuse Large B-cell and Peripheral T-cell Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma (ALLG NHL11 ‘HyperCvad’). (Marlton P)

Randomised Study of ICE plus Rituximab (R-ICE) versus DHAP plus Rituximab (R-DHAP) in Previously Treated Patients with CD 20 Positive Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma, Eligible for High-Dose Chemotherapy and Transplantation Followed by Randomised Maintenance Treatment with Rituximab (ALLG NHL13 ‘CORAL’). (Gill D)

An Intergroup Randomised Trial of Rituximab versus a Watch and Wait Strategy in Patients with Advanced Stage Asymptomatic, Non-Bulky Follicular Lymphoma (Grades 1, 2 and 3a) (ALLG NHL14 ‘Watch & Wait’). (Gill D)

An Multicentre, Phase III, Open-Label, Randomized Study in Patients with Advanced Follicular Lymphoma Evaluating the Benefit of Maintenance Therapy with Rituximab (Mabthera) After Induction of Response with Chemotherapy plus Rituximab in Comparison with No Maintenance Therapy (ALLG NHL16 ‘PRIMA’). (Marlton P)

Chimeric Anti-CD20 Monoclonal Antibody Rituximab (MabThera) in Remission Induction and Maintenance Treatment of Relapsed / Resistant Follicular Non Hodgkin’s Lymphoma: A Phase III Randomized Clinical Trial (ALLG NHALLOW4 (EORTC 20981)). (Marlton P)

Treatment of Patients with Post-Transplant Lymphoproliferative Disorder (PTLD) with a Sequential Treatment Consisting of Anti-CD20 Antibody Rituximab and CHOP + GCSF Chemotherapy (PTLD 1). (Mollee P)

The AMP Leukaemia and Lymphoma Tissue Bank: A Joint Research Initiative of the ALLG and the Leukaemia Foundation. (Marlton P)

A Phase II Study of Idarubicin-Based Combined Modality Therapy in Primary Central Nervous System Lymphoma (TROG 01.02 (ALLG LY04). (Mills T)

A Randomised Multicentre Trial of Involved Field Radiotherapy versus Involved Field Radiotherapy plus Chemotherapy for Stage I-II Low Grade Follicular Lymphoma (ALLG NHALLOW5). (Burmeister B)

A Prospective, Non-Randomised Study of Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy for Osteolympoma (TROG 99.04). (Mills T)

Financial Support

Current NHMRC Grants

$300,000 ALLG National Leukaemia Lymphoma Tissue Bank. (Marlton P)

Other Grants

$50,000 PA Foundation, Establishment Grant. Scientific substudies associated with MM8 trial in AL amyloidosis. (Fletcher LM, Crawford DHG)

$50,000 Leukaemia Foundation of Australia, Project Grant. Valproic Acid and Cytarabine in Poor Prognosis AML. (Mollee P)

$50,000 Leukaemia Foundation of Australia, Grant. Molecular assessment of Core Binding factor. AML in conjunction with ALLG AML-M13 trial. (Mollee P, MacMillan)

$5,000 Leukaemia Foundation of Australia, Grant. High Dose cytabrabine therapy without anthracycline in CBF, AML, ALLG, AML-M13 Trial. (Marlton P) (ALLG)

$107,000 Leukaemia Foundation of Australia, Grant. ALLG National Leukaemia Lymphoma Tissue Bank. (Marlton P)
$6,000 Leukaemia Foundation of Australia, Grant. MM8. (Marlton P) (ALLG)

$5,000 Amgen, Grant. MM8. (Mollee P) (ALLG)

$5,000 Roche, Grant. PTLD1. (Mollee P) (ALLG)

$78,000 Grant. Viral and Immune bio markers in EBV lymphomas. (Mollee P) (St Vincent’s, Sydney)

$6,000 Amgen, Grant. High Dose cytobrine therapy without anthracycline in CBF, AML, ALLG, AML-M13 Trial. (Gandhi M, Gill D)

Lectures and Presentations

Dr Paula Marlton


Mabthera in Haematology: Australian Rheumatology Association Annual Meeting. Sydney

ALLG inaugural Laboratory Scientists Symposium, Organizer and Chairman, Adelaide

Public Service Relevant to Research

Dr Devinder Gill

Member, Asia Pacific T cell Advisory Board

Executive Member, Australasian Leukaemia & Lymphoma Group (ALLG)

Chair, Aggressive Lymphoma Group (Clinical Trials - ALLG)

Founding Member, Australasian CLL Research Group

Member, Medical Advisory Committee Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland

Member, Princess Alexandra Hospital Research Committee

Research Fellow, Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research, Princess Alexandra

Co-Hosted and Co-Chair, Inaugural International Meeting ‘New Directions in Leukaemia Research’ Conference, Australia

PhD Reviewer, University of Monash

Dr Paula Marlton

NHMRC grant reviewer

Leukaemia Foundation of Australia grant review panel

National Medical Advisory Committee Leukaemia Foundation of Australia

State Medical Advisor and Board Member, Leukaemia Foundation of Queensland

Reviewer, Medical Journal of Australia

Reviewer, Australia and New Zealand Medical Journal

Dr Peter Mollee

Queensland Councillor, Haematology Society of Australia and New Zealand

Member, Princess Alexandra Hospital Human Research Ethics Committee Scientific Review Subcommittee

Dr Robert Bird

Chairman, Queensland Fresh Blood & Blood Products Expert Advisory Panel

Reviewer, Australia and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Member, Queensland Blood Board

Dr Tony Mills

Chair, Brisbane Haematology Group

Dr Russel J Saal

Reviewer, Leukaemia and Lymphoma
Working with its sister unit at Greenslopes Hospital, the Hypertension Unit is considered a world authority on primary aldosteronism (PAL), a specifically treatable and potentially curable form of HT. Significant progress has been made in the quest to elucidate the genetic basis of PAL. Previous work identified a small region on Chromosome 7 that demonstrated genetic linkage with PAL in one South American and two Australian affected families. Dr Albertina So’s PhD on this work was accepted without changes and awarded a Dean’s commendation. Dr Norlela Sukor, an endocrinologist from Malaysia undertaking her PhD here, has demonstrated linkage at this same chromosomal region in two Italian families (DNA provided by Dr Paolo Mulatero, University of Torino). In collaboration with Dr Kevin O’Shaughnessy (University of Cambridge, UK), sequencing of the genes in this region is underway. This work has the potential to lead to better detection of PAL and increase understanding of how PAL develops in the first place.

Other achievements have included (1) the demonstration, in collaboration with Professor Tom Marwick and Dr Jim Sharman, of marked cardiovascular improvements in patients with PAL treated specifically by either unilateral laparoscopic adrenalectomy or aldosterone blocking drugs. This work emphasises the importance of detecting this form of HT so that patients can be specifically treated; (2) the development by Mr Paul Taylor, as part of his PhD, of a new, highly accurate method of measuring aldosterone hormone in clinical samples using high-performance liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry. This achievement was critically important given the major problems that exist with currently used methods of aldosterone measurement; (3) the establishment of a Registrar/Clinical Research Fellow position; and (4) A/Professor Stowasser’s participation as a member of a task force sponsored by the US Endocrine Society to develop clinical guidelines for the diagnosis and management of PAL.

Associate Professor Michael Stowasser
Director
Current Research Activities

Epidemiological, clinical, biochemical, morphological and genetic aspects of PAL. Using meticulous new diagnostic approaches, the GHHU was first to demonstrate worldwide that PAL is approximately 10 times more common than previously thought. The combined unit has the largest number of patients (currently over 1400) with PAL worldwide who have been thoroughly studied and documented. This provides a unique resource for further research into the causes, diagnosis and treatment of mineralocorticoid hypertension. The unit is the only facility in Eastern Australia offering genetic testing for a familial variety (FH-I) which can cause severe hypertension and early death from stroke, but which is easily controlled by giving small doses of specific ‘glucocorticoid’ medication.

Genetic forms (i) FH-I: clinical, biochemical and genetic approaches to detection, various aspects of aldosterone biosynthesis, determinants of hypertension severity, treatment, and seeking evidence of non-blood pressure related adverse cardiovascular effects of aldosterone excess in normotensive subjects with FH-I.

Genetic forms (ii) the unit is involved in collaborative research with the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, the University of Torino (Italy) and the University of Cambridge (UK) in order to determine genetic mutations responsible for a new familial variety of PAL (FH-II).

Non-BP dependent adverse cardiovascular effects of aldosterone excess, which are being sought in patients with PAL and other forms of hypertension by measuring biochemical markers of inflammation.

The therapeutic potential of aldosterone antagonists in a variety of clinical situations (including exercise-induced hypertension).

The genetic basis of fibromuscular dysplasia of the renal arteries, which causes a renovascular form of hypertension.

The detailed pathophysiology and genetic basis of Gordon’s syndrome.

The diagnosis of renin-secreting tumors.

Pathogenesis and diagnosis of pheochromocytoma, a tumor that secretes catecholamines (including adrenaline and noradrenaline), leading to extremely dangerous hypertension and cardiac arrhythmias.


Financial Support

Current NHMRC Grants

$83,500 Project Grant. Genetics of primary aldosteronism. (Stowasser M, Gordon R, Duffy D)


Other Grants

$59,250 National Heart Foundation, Grant-in-Aid. Trial of aldosterone blockade and exercise training for the treatment of exercise intolerance in hypertensive heart disease. (Marwick TH, Stowasser M, Sharman J)

$10,000 PA Foundation, Block Funded Grant. Block funded grant. (Stowasser M)

Other Support

$50,000 per annum from the Irene Hunt Hypertension Research Fund to support a medical graduate pursuing a higher degree in hypertension research.

Lectures and Presentations

Associate Professor Michael Stowasser

Primary aldosteronism. (Meet-the-Professor Sessions x 2). 89th Annual Meeting of the US Endocrine Society, Toronto.

Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of primary aldosteronism. 17th Annual Meeting of the European Society of Hypertension (Endocrine Hypertension Working Group Meeting), Milan.
Primary aldosteronism - who and how to screen?
International Consensus Conference on Primary Aldosteronism Practice Guidelines (Satellite Symposium to the 17th Annual Meeting of the European Society of Hypertension), Venice.

Primary aldosteronism - subtype differentiation.
International Consensus Conference on Primary Aldosteronism Practice Guidelines (Satellite Symposium to the 17th Annual Meeting of the European Society of Hypertension), Venice.

Associate Professor Michael Stowasser et al


Stowasser M. Hypertension. 14th Congress of the ASEAN Federation of Endocrine Societies. Kuala Lumpur.


Sukor N, Stowasser M, So A, Duffy D, Kelemen L, Jeske Y, Mulatero P, Gordon RD. Familial hyperaldosteronism type II - evidence for linkage at chromosome 7p22 in families from Australia, South America and Italy. 28th Scientific Meeting of the High Blood Pressure Research Council of Australia, Adelaide.


Awards

Associate Professor Michael Stowasser
Visiting Professor, Tung Wah Eastern Hospital, Hong Kong (2007 for 2008).

Public Service Relevant to Research

Associate Professor Michael Stowasser
Member, Primary Aldosteronism Guidelines Taskforce, US Endocrine Society

Member, Blood Pressure and Vascular Disease Advisory Committee for the National Heart Foundation of Australia

President, Queensland Hypertension Association

Member, Grant Review Panel, National Health and Medical Research Council

Reviewer: Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism; Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology and Physiology; Hypertension; Clinical Chemistry; Clinical Endocrinology
Infection Management Services provides clinical infectious diseases programs, sexual health services, provision of alternate site infusion services and infection control programs at Princess Alexandra, Logan, Ipswich, QEII and Redlands Hospitals.

The department provides under-graduate and postgraduate teaching in all areas of infectious diseases and infection control, as well as some microbiology to medical, pharmacy and science students of The University of Queensland. Postgraduate education and activities are undertaken with a range of professional groups including doctors, nurses, pharmacists and laboratory scientists.

Research within the department primarily focuses on the epidemiology, prevention and therapy of healthcare-associated infection. In particular, the focus is on healthcare-acquired fungal nosocomial infection, healthcare-acquired and community staphylococcal infection, and on aspects of healthcare worker behaviour integral to the prevention of healthcare-associated infection.

Dr Michael Whitby
Director

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
A phase III, double-blind, randomised study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of BAL8557 versus a caspofungin followed by Voriconazole regimen in the treatment of candidaemia and other invasive candida infections.

A phase III, double-blind, randomised study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of BAL8557 versus voriconazole for primary treatment of invasive fungal disease caused by aspergillus species or other filamentous fungi.

Open Label Study of Isavuconazole in the Treatment of Patients with Aspergillosis and Renal Impairment or of Patients with Invasive Fungal Disease caused by Rare Moulds, Yeasts or Dimorphic Fungi.

A Phase II, Multicenter, Randomised, Double-Mask, Double-Dummy Study Comparing the Efficacy and Safety of Peramivir Administered Intravenously Once Daily versus Oseltamivir Administered Orally Twice Daily in Adults with Acute Serious or Potentially Life-Threatening Influenza.

Nuvocid™ (oritavancin) at Single or Infrequent doses for the Treatment of Complicated Skin and Skin Structure Infections (SIMPLIFI).

Other Research
Epidemiology of invasive fungal infections in ICU and haematology patients
Non-culture diagnosis of invasive fungal infections
Economic and decision analysis of early antifungal interventions
Epidemiology and prevention of bloodstream infections in haemodialysis patients
Financial Support

Grants

$30,000 Princess Alexandra Hospital, Research Foundation Grant. A randomised controlled trial of ethanol locks versus standard care for the prevention of tunneled intravenous catheter-associated bacteraemias. (Broom J, Playford EG, Mollee P, Johnson DW)

$75,000 Queensland Health - Communicable Diseases Unit, Grant. Nasal carriage of Staphylococcus aureus including virulent community strains of methicillin-resistant Saureus (MRSA) in southeast Queensland. (Munckhof WJ, Nimmo GR, Williams G)

Other Support

$97,000 Pfizer Research Grant, Grant. Prospective surveillance of invasive fungal infections in Australian ICUs. (Playford EG, Sorrell TC)

$35,000 Merck Research Grant, Grant. Molecular diagnosis of invasive fungal infections in ICU patients. (Sorrell TC, Playford EG)
The Intensive Care Unit continues to contribute to critical care research at a national and international level. Growth and development are reflected in the unit’s involvement in an increasing number of national and multinational clinical trials. Nursing research activities have increased, with the Evidence Based Practice Group presenting their work internationally. The unit is the instigating centre for the nationally-recognised STATINS trial, thanks to the hard work of diligent research staff. Several clinical trials have been successfully completed, and analysis and publication are eagerly awaited.

The continuing expansion of the unit’s work results from the persistence and enthusiasm of the research staff and the significant support of overall Intensive Care Unit team.

Associate Professor Chris Joyce  
Director of Intensive Care

Professor Bala Venkatesh  
Director of Research

Professor Leanne Aitken  
Chair Critical Care Nursing

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

DECRA (Decompressive craniectomy) study: Multi-centre prospective randomised trial of early decompressive craniectomy in patients with severe traumatic brain injury.

ENTERIC: The early Nasojejunal Tube to meet energy requirements in intensive care study: A multi-centre randomised controlled trial comparing early jejunal feeding (using a frictional nasojejunal tube) and standard feeding in critical illness.

RENAI: Multicentre, Unblinded, Randomised, Controlled Trial to Assess the Effect of Augmented Vs. Normal Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT)

on 90-day all-cause mortality of Intensive Care Unit Patients with Severe Acute Renal Failure (ARF).

VALID study: Venticute® (rSP-C Surfactant) in patients with pneumonia or aspiration of gastric contents leading to intubation, mechanical ventilation, and severe oxygenation impairment (VALID Study). A randomised, multinational, multicentre, parallel group, double blind, control group study.

CAS: The Continued Use of Atorvastatin in Sepsis Trial. A phase II randomised, controlled trial in patients on statin therapy who develop sepsis to evaluate the effect of continued atorvastatin use on the incidence of severe sepsis.
SAFE TBI II: Fluid Resuscitation of Critically Ill Patients with Traumatic Brain Injury: potential mechanisms behind the detrimental effect of albumin resuscitation.

STATInS: A Phase II randomised Controlled Trial of Atorvastatin therapy in Intensive Care Patients with Severe Sepsis. Study of Atorvastatin therapy in Sepsis (STATInS).

ART-123: Randomised, Double Blind, Placebo Controlled, Phase-2B Study to Assess the Safety and Efficacy Effects of ART-123 on Subjects with Sepsis and Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation (PAH).

STRATIFY: Study of risk assessment to reduce cardiac events in patients following major surgery (STRATIFY).


Changes in body fluid dynamics and drug behaviour in critically ill patients - currently looking at neuromuscular blocking drugs (Cisatracurium) and antibiotic dosing in sepsis.

Experimental ICU facility.

Assessment of medical and nursing handover during critical care ward rounds.

Sepsis prognosis.

Fluid responsiveness in sepsis.

Fluid responsiveness study – preload study in ventilated post-CABG pts.

The use of echocardiography of the left ventricular load during anaesthesia and ventilation.

Echocardiographic features of myocardial dysfunction in severe sepsis. A retrospective, blinded, case-controlled study.

Comparison of brain natriuretic peptide and tissue Doppler imaging in the prediction of fluid responsiveness in septic shock.

Comparison of predictive value of brain natriuretic peptide, troponin and tissue doppler imaging in the prognosis of septic shock.

Early PN: Early Parenteral Nutrition Versus Standard Care in the Critically Ill Patient: A Level I Randomised Controlled Trial.

The effectiveness of family-centred-care as a model for best practice nursing in adult ICUs.

Testing a home-based rehabilitation program for survivors of a critical illness: a randomised controlled trial.

Routine Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) swabbing of inter-hospital transferred patients.

Financial Support

Current NHMRC Grants

$603,825 Project Grant. A phase II randomised control trial of atorvastatin therapy in intensive care patients with severe sepsis. (Kruger P, Venkatesh B, Bellomo R, Kostner K, Cooper J, Roberts M)

$589,000 Project Grant. Antibiotic dosing in the ‘at risk’ critically ill. (Roberts M, Paterson D, Kirkpatrick C, Kruger P, Roberts J)

Other Grants

$10,000 ANZCA, Project Grant. Serum protein C concentrations in immunocompromised patients with sepsis. (Panwar R, Bird R, Gill D, Kruger P, Venkatesh B)

$18,000 ANZCA, Project Grant. Tissue 11-beta HSD activity in rodent sepsis. (Cohen J, Prins J, Vekatesh B)

$259,000 ARC, Discovery Grant. Coordination and communication in critical care: Assessing potential technology support. (Sanderson P, Venkatesh B)

$50,000 PA Foundation, Block Funding. (Venkatesh B, Joyce C, Kruger P)

$10,000 Australian College of Critical Care Nurses, Project Grant. Exploration of factors associated with sleep disruption. (Aitken L, Mitchell M, Venkatesh B, Duce B)

$5,000 Research Centre for Clinical and community Practice Innovation, Seed Grant. Exploration of factors associated with sleep disruption. (Aitken L, Mitchell M, Venkatesh B, Duce B, Hukins C)

$50,000 PA Foundation, New Appointment Grant. Health status and economic outcomes of critically ill trauma patients. (Aitken L, Chaboyer W, Kendall E, Schuetz M, Joyce C)
Lectures and Presentations

Professor Bala Venkatesh
Synacthen test in critical illness. International Congress of Emergency and Critical Care Medicine, Brussels.
Head injury - a look backwards. International Congress of Emergency and Critical Care Medicine, Brussels.
Hypertonic saline in neurotrauma. International Congress of Emergency and Critical Care Medicine, Brussels.
Hypertonic saline in neurotrauma. Brescia Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Society, Italy.
Metabolic monitoring in critical illness. Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine Satellite meeting.
Clearing the cervical spine. 6th Indo-Australian Critical Care Training program, Delhi.
New Adult CPR guidelines. 6th Indo-Australian Critical Care Training program, Delhi.
Blood Gas interpretation. 6th Indo-Australian Critical Care Training program, Delhi.
Biochemical Data Interpretation. 6th Indo-Australian Critical Care Training program, Delhi.
Monitoring therapies. 6th Indo-Australian Critical Care Training program, Delhi.
Head Injury- progress over the last 50 years. 6th Indo-Australian Critical Care Training program, Delhi.

Associate Professor Chris Joyce
CT scan interpretation. 6th Indo-Australian Critical Care Training program, Delhi.
Chest X-Ray interpretation. 6th Indo-Australian Critical Care Training program, Delhi.
Cardiothoracic critical care. 6th Indo-Australian Critical Care Training program, Delhi.

Professor Leanne Aitken
The challenges of achieving evidence-based practice within the intensive care setting, Free paper presented at the International Council of Nurses Annual Conference, Yokahama, Japan.
Hackwood B, Carney D, Aitken L. Developing a sustainable implementation of practice change in the ICU. Free Paper presented at the 32nd ANZICS & ACCCN Australian and New Zealand Annual Scientific Meeting on Intensive Care, Rotorua, New Zealand.

Dr David Sturgess
Histopathology, Tissue Doppler Imaging and Plasma B-Type Natriuretic Peptide in Rat Endotoxic Shock. In: ANZCA/ASA Annual Anaesthetics Registrar's Meeting; Brisbane.
Diatology: much more than iridology! In: ANZICS Queensland Annual Scientific Meeting; Sea World Resort, Gold Coast, Australia.
Management of Anaphylaxis. In: General Practice Hot Topics 2007; Hillstone, St Lucia.

Dr David Sturgess et al
Sturgess DJ, Marwick TH, Joyce CJ, Jones M, Venkatesh B. LV volumes but not filling pressure are determinants of mortality in critically ill patients. Poster presentation, International Symposium on Intensive Care and Emergency Medicine, Brussels.
Robertson TA, Zhang Q, Kruger PS, Roberts MS. Kinetics of atorvastatin and atorvastatin metabolites in critically ill patients. Presented at the combined meeting for the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT) and South East Asian Western Pacific (SEAWP) Regional Federation of Pharmacology.
**Awards**

*Dr David Sturgess*
Tess Cramond Prize, awarded for the best oral presentation, ANZCA/ASA Annual Anaesthetics Registrars’ Meeting, Brisbane.

**Public Service Relevant to Research**

*Professor Bala Venkatesh*
Chairman of Examinations committee, Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine
Chairman of Examinations, General Fellowship Examination, Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine
Convenor and PAH Course Co-ordinator, 10th Australian Intensive Care Medicine Clinical Refresher course
Board Member, Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine
Reviewer, Intensive Care Medicine
Reviewer, Critical Care
Reviewer, Anaesthesia & Analgesia
Reviewer, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care
Editorial Board, Critical Care and Resuscitation

*Associate Professor Chris Joyce*
PAH Course Co-ordinator, 10th Australian Intensive Care Medicine Clinical Refresher course
Examiner, General Fellowship Examination, Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine
Reviewer, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care

*Dr Peter Kruger*
Examiner, Primary Examination, Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine
Reviewer, European Journal of Clinical Investigation
Reviewer, Molecular Medicine
Reviewer, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care

*Associate Professor David Cook*
Medical Donor Advisor for Queensland Donate
Reviewer, Critical Care Medicine
Reviewer, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care
Reviewer, Critical Care
Reviewer, Biomed Central: Medical Research Methodology
Reviewer, Biomed Central: Medical Informatics and Decision Making

*Professor Leanne Aitken*
Reviewer, International Journal of Nursing Studies
Reviewer, European Journal of Cardiac Nursing
Reviewer, Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing
Reviewer, Journal of Clinical Nursing
Reviewer, American Journal of Critical Care
Reviewer, Journal of Advanced Nursing
A/Editor, Australian Critical Care

*Dr Leo Nunnink*
Course Examiner, 10th Australian Intensive Care Medicine Clinical Refresher course
Co-ordinator, simulation training program

*Dr James Walsham*
Course Examiner, 10th Australian Intensive Care Medicine Clinical Refresher course

*Dr Gordon Laurie*
Course Examiner, 10th Australian Intensive Care Medicine Clinical Refresher course
Co-ordinator, registrar teaching program

*Dr Anand Krishnan*
Course Examiner, 10th Australian Intensive Care Medicine Clinical Refresher course

*Dr Ros Purcell*
Organiser, Inter-hospital senior registrar educational program
The Department of Internal Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology continued to pursue important research into quality improvement science, optimisation of acute cardiac care, efficacy of chronic disease management strategies and pay-for-performance programs. In addition, the department undertook work involving evidence-based medicine as applied to geriatric medicine, use of administrative and clinical datasets in monitoring outcomes of care in acute coronary syndromes, validation of risk-adjusted mortality prediction rules based on coded data, assessment of clinician- versus manager-driven quality improvement interventions, and benefits, risk and cost-effectiveness of percutaneous coronary interventions, and audits of gastrointestinal conditions and cardiovascular risk factors in populations of intellectually disabled adults.

**Associate Professor Ian Scott**  
**Director**

**Current Research Activities**

- Systematic review of evidence for risk assessment and prophylactic interventions in perioperative medicine.
- Review of literature pertaining to policy and governance issues relating to pay-for-performance strategies as applied to the Australian healthcare system.
- Update of Cochrane systematic review of efficacy of routine invasive versus conservative management strategies in patients admitted with acute coronary syndromes.
- Retrospective cohort study of more than 3000 patients admitted with acute coronary syndromes to 21 Queensland hospitals revealing discordance between risk of death and intensity of each of six evidence-based treatments.
- Systematic meta-review of effectiveness of clinician-driven versus manager-driven quality improvement strategies in healthcare.
- Review of literature on how to overcome barriers to evidence-based, patient-centred medicine in the care of older age populations.
- Comparison of administrative with clinical data sources and risk prediction models in assessing potentially avoidable mortality in acute myocardial infarction.
- Retrospective study assessing the extent to which adding selected clinical variables can improve the discriminatory power of administrative data in predicting in-hospital death in patients with acute coronary syndromes using statistical risk prediction models.
- Review of recent studies which have assessed indications, effectiveness, safety and costs of percutaneous coronary interventions in the management of stable angina and acute coronary syndromes.
- Review of different forms of reporting treatment effects in therapeutic trials.

**Awards**

**Associate Professor Robyn Wallace**  
Recognition award from Down Syndrome Association of Queensland
Public Service Relevant to Research

**Associate Professor Ian Scott**

Editor in Internal Medicine for Internal Medicine Journal

Reviewer, Medical Journal of Australia, Evidence-based Medicine, International Journal of Quality and Safety in Health Care

Reviewer, McMaster On-line Rating of Evidence (MORE) program

Member, Collaborative for Transfer of Evidence into Practice (CTEP)

Member, Quality and Safety Board, Queensland Health

Member, Clinical Advisory Panel, Health Quality and Complaints Commission

Chair, CPIC Cardiac Collaborative, Queensland Health

Member, Better Practice Co-ordinating Committee, Royal Australasian College of Physicians

Chair, Evidence-based Medicine Working Group of the Internal Medicine Society of Australia and New Zealand

Chair, 2007 Annual Scientific Meeting Organising Committee, Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Queensland State Branch

**Associate Professor Robyn Wallace**

Health Community Council, PA (Health ministerial appointment)

Regional Disability Council (DSQ ministerial appointment)

Re-appointment to Quality Complaints Management Committee (DSQ ministerial appointment)

Honorary Fellowship to the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (FAFRM)
The research laboratory of the Liver Research Group is investigating mechanisms of hepatic fibrosis in response to chronic liver injury. After such an injury, normal liver cells are replaced by collagen-containing scar tissue, resulting in a deterioration of liver function. Hepatic fibrosis can lead to cirrhosis. Ultimately, liver transplantation may be required for patients with advanced cirrhosis. For patients with chronic liver injury, hepatic fibrosis can be a very slowly progressing disease, with some patients developing cirrhosis within 10 years, and others in 30-40 years. One focus of the research is to determine why there is such a great difference in the rate of disease progression. In particular, the group is interested in determining the relationship between body mass index, liver fat and fibrosis progression and response to treatment in chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) and other chronic liver diseases, defining the role of hepatocyte senescence, hepatic progenitor cells and the ductular reaction in promoting fibrogenesis in human liver disease.

Key achievements for the group included: an invitation to Associate Professor Andrew Clouston to present at the American Association for the Study of Liver Disease; an oral presentation by M Richardson at the European Association for the Study of the Liver; and the continuation of international collaborations with Dr Herbert Tilg, University of Innsbruck, and Dr Elizabeth Brunt, University of St Louis.

Associate Professor Julie Jonsson  
Head Liver Research Group

Associate Professor Elizabeth Powell  
Head Liver Research Group

**Current Research Activities**

**Clinical Trials**

Non-invasive assessment of hepatic steatosis by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and spectroscopy (MRS). (Powell E, Cowin G, Galloway G, Volp A, Benson M, Clouston A, McPherson S, Jonsson J)


**Other Research**

The role of steatosis in promoting cellular injury and fibrogenesis in human liver. (Powell E, Jonsson J, Clouston A)

Hepatocyte replicative arrest, hepatic progenitor cells and the ductular reaction in hepatic fibrogenesis. (Jonsson J, Clouston A, Powell E, Olynyk J, Knight B)

Role of regulatory T cells in liver transplant acceptance in children. (Ward S, Fawcett J)
Financial Support

Current NHMRC Grants
$56,625 Practitioner Fellowship. (Powell E)

$138,125 Project Grant. The role of steatosis in promoting cellular injury and fibrogenesis in human liver. (Powell E, Jonsson J, Clouston A, O’Rourke P)


Other Grants
$100,000 Sasakawa Foundation, Royal Children’s Hospital, Fellowship. (Jonsson J)

$81,000 The University of Queensland, Mayne Bequest, Fellowship. (Ward S)

$100,000 Queensland Government New Initiatives Fund, Smart State Health and Medical Research Grant. (Powell E)

$20,000 Royal Children’s Hospital. Role of regulatory T cells in liver transplant acceptance in children. (Wards S, Fawcett J)

Lectures and Presentations

Associate Professor Elizabeth Powell
The impact of obesity on antiviral responsiveness. Canadian Digestive Diseases Week/Canadian Association for the Study of the Liver Banff, Canada.

Fatty Liver Management: Diet and Pharmacotherapy. Liver Disease in Women Summit, Cleveland Clinic, USA.

Associate Professor Andrew Clouston
Telangiectatic focal nodular hyperplasia. Liver Special Interest Seminar, Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Academy of Pathology (Australasia). Sydney.


Small Biopsy Pathology Course – Liver. RCPA Board of Education (South Australia), Adelaide.


Pathology of genetic liver disease. Postgraduate Course, American Association for the Study of Liver Disease (AASLD) Liver Meeting. Boston, USA.

Meet the Professor – Liver Histology for the Clinician. American Association for the Study of Liver Disease (AASLD) Liver Meeting. Boston, USA.

Atypical and problematic patterns of inflammatory bowel disease. RCPA (Queensland) seminar and slide review. Brisbane.

Cystic lesions of the pancreas. PAH Gastroenterology Clinicopathological Meeting. Brisbane.

The ductular reaction in fibrogenesis in chronic liver disease. PAH Gastroenterology Clinicopathological Meeting. Brisbane.

The ductular reaction in fibrogenesis in chronic liver disease. QIMR Liver Group Seminar. Brisbane.

M Richardson
Progressive fibrosis in non-alcoholic steatohepatitis – association with altered regeneration and the ductular reaction, European Association for Study of the Liver Annual Scientific Meeting. Barcelona, Spain.

Awards

M Richardson
Young Investigator Award. European Association for Study of the Liver Annual Scientific Meeting. Barcelona, Spain.
The Division of Cancer Services is a comprehensive, multidisciplinary adult cancer unit. It comprises the Departments of Medical Oncology, Clinical Haematology, Radiation Oncology (encompassing the Princess Alexandra and Mater campuses) and Palliative Care. Unique features of the Division are an established intellectual environment and research culture that brings together research scientists and clinicians across disciplines, and a strong tradition of basic and clinical research. In addition, there are a range of multidisciplinary cancer clinics, a large clinical trials department and staff with national and international reputations.

The Medical Oncology Department is a tertiary-referral centre for cancer. The majority of clinics operate in a multidisciplinary format with radiation oncology, surgical and allied health services. The department has an active clinical trials program. In the last five years it has been involved in over 50 trials, conducted primarily in breast cancer, melanoma, gastroesophageal cancer, colorectal cancer, head and neck cancer, pancreatic cancer and lung cancer (in conjunction with the Department of Respiratory Medicine). There has been participation in a large number of clinical trials conducted under the auspices of national and international study groups such as the Australasian Gastro-Intestinal Trials Group and the Australian New Zealand Breast Cancer Trials Group, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG), National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Group, European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer. This research has given the department access to and experience with the latest developments in treatment regimens for cancer patients. The department has a significant history in the conduct of industry-initiated research trials, allowing the hospital and, ultimately, the patient, access to potential cutting-edge developments in cancer therapy. The department has a considerable infrastructure of clinical trial research staff and shares research nurses and data managers with the Haematology and the Radiation Oncology departments. The department has incorporated basic and translational research with cross-appointments within the hospital’s research institute.

The Australasian Germ Cell Trials group has been reinvigorated, with two clinical studies enacted (accelerated BEP, cognition study) and a further study having undergone substantial planning (seven day aprepitant protocol with BEP). The department is the leader in the PI-88 international melanoma study. In addition it is a significant Australian site of the EORTC EPOC study of preoperative chemotherapy for liver resection of colorectal metastases. A presentation was given at the plenary session of the 2007 American Society of Clinical Oncology meeting.

In conjunction with Associate Professor Mark Smithers, Melanoma Surgery, the department initiated a study of the intra-tumoral injection of coxsackie virus to elicit an immune response in metastatic disease - a first in humans. The appointment of Dr Ali Naderi, based at the Diamantina Institute, will strengthen translational research in breast cancer. The increase in clinical staff has enabled a large clinico-pathological study in breast cancer in cooperation with Dr Glenn Francis of Queensland Health Pathology Service.
Dr Alex Guminski has continued his laboratory-based research in the role of the histone deacetylase inhibitor valproic acid in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma and mechanisms of action. The project is being undertaken in the laboratory of Associate Professor Nicholas Saunders and conducted by Dr Rafael Behrig, Postdoctoral Researcher.

**Associate Professor Damien Thomson**  
**Director**

**Associate Professor Euan Walpole**  
**Director of Cancer Services, SAHS**

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**Current Research Activities**

**Clinical Trials**


A Randomised, Multicentre Phase III Study to Compare the Efficacy of Panitumumab in Combination with Chemotherapy to the Efficacy of Chemotherapy Alone in Patients with Previously Treated Metastatic Colorectal Cancer (20050181).

A Phase II Open Label, Single Arm Study To Evaluate the Efficacy, Safety, Tolerability and Pharmacokinetics of Ticilimumab in Patients with Advanced Refractory and/or Relapsed Melanoma (A3671008).

A Phase III Open Label, Randomised, Comparative Study of CP-675,206 and either Decarbazine or Temozolomide in Patients with Advanced Melanoma (A3671009).

A Phase I Study of Intra-arterial Clofazimine in Lipiodol Injection in Patients with Unresectable Primary Hepatocellular Carcinoma (PI-166 CFZ101).

Aprepitant (EMEND®) for the Prevention of Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting (CINV) Associated with Moderately Emetogenic Chemotherapy (MEC) MK869. Protocol Number: 130-00 (EMEND MK869).

The LOTESS Trial: A Clinical Study Investigating the Long Term Efficacy and Safety of Zometa® Treatment. (CZOL446EAU22) (LOTESS).

A Phase 2, Multi-Center, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Dose Finding Study To Determine Safety And Efficacy Of SCH 619734 For The Treatment Of
Chemotherapy Induced Nausea And Vomiting (CINV) In Subjects Receiving Highly Emetogenic Chemotherapy (HEC) (NK-1 (P04351)).

An Open, Parallel Group, Multicentre Randomized Trial of the Combination of PaTrin-2 and Temozolomide versus Temozolomide Alone Given Orally Daily for Five Days Every Four Weeks in Patients with Advanced Melanoma who have Not Previously Received Systemic Chemotherapy (PaTrin2).

A Phase I Study of the Pharmacokinetics of PEG-Intron, Administered Weekly in Subjects with High Risk Melanoma (PO4831).

A Phase II Study of PI-88 in Advanced Melanoma (PI-88 (PR88205)).

A Phase II Study of PI-88 with Dacarbazine in Patients with Metastatic Melanoma.

Phase III Study of Taxoprexin® Injection vs. Dacarbazine in Patients with Metastatic Malignant Melanoma (Taxoprexin (P-01-02-17)).

Phase III Randomised Trial of Concomitant Radiation, Cisplatin and Tirapazamine (SR259075) versus Concomitant Radiation and Cisplatin in Patients with Advanced Head and Neck Cancer (TRACE (EFC5512)).

Other Research - Investigator-Initiated
The Experience of Becoming a Lay Carer for a Person with Cancer. Research Project by Letitia Burridge.

The Contribution of Genotype to Cognitive Dysfunction after Cytotoxic Drug Treatment for Breast Cancer.

Highly Emetogenic Chemotherapy Diary Study.

Phase II Study of Fixed-Dose Rate Gemcitabine-Oxaliplatin Integrated with Concomitant 5FU and 3-D Conformal Radiotherapy for the Treatment of Localised Pancreatic Cancer (GOFURTGO).

Therapeutic Human Melanoma Trial of Peptide Vaccine and Interferon Beta for Overcoming Melanoma Antigen Down-Regulation (IFN Vaccine).

Efficacy Study of Synchronous Weekly Carboplatin and Radiation in Merkel Cell Carcinoma of the Skin.

Phase II Study of Weekly Oxaliplatin with Continuous Infusion 5-Fluorouracil and Concurrent Radiation for Treatment of Localised Oesophageal Carcinoma (Oxaliplatin Oesophageal).

A Randomised Phase II Study of Preoperative Chemotherapy Versus Preoperative on Therapy for Resectable Carcinoma of the Oesophagus or Gastro-Oesophageal Junction.

Valproic Acid in Recurrent Head and Neck Cancer - Assessment of Molecular Efficacy - Pilot Study.

A Clinical Trial Comparing Oral Uracil/Florafur (UFT) plus Leucovorin (LV) with 5-Fluorouracil (5-FU) plus LV in the Treatment of Patients with Stage II and III Carcinoma of the Colon (AGITG C06).

A Clinical Trial Comparing 5-Fluorouracil (5-FU) Plus Leucovorin (LV) and Oxaliplatin with 5-FU with LV for the Treatment of Patients with stages II and III Carcinoma of the Colon (AGITG C07).

A Phase II Trial Evaluating the Efficacy and Safety of Epirubicin and Cyclophosphamide (EC) followed by Docetaxel with Gemcitabine (DG) (+ Trastuzumab if HER2-positive) as Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy for Women with Large Operable or Locally Advanced Breast Carcinoma (ANZ0502).


A Randomised Phase II Study Evaluating a Weekly Schedule of Docetaxel with Cisplatin and 5-FU (wTCF) or Capecitabine (wTX) in Advanced Oesophago-gastric Cancer (ATTAX AG0603G).

Phase II Study of Cetuximab (Erbitux) plus Weekly Docetaxel Chemotherapy in Docetaxel Refractory Patients with EGFR Positive Advanced Oesophago-gastric Cancer (ATTAX2).

A Multicenter Phase III Randomized Trial comparing Docetaxel in combination with Doxorubicin and Cyclophosphamide (TAC) versus Doxorubicin and Cyclophosphamide followed by Docetaxel (AC-T) as Adjuvant Treatment of Operable Breast Cancer Her2neu Negative Patients with Positive Axillary Nodes (BCIRG 005).

Multicenter Phase III Randomized Trial comparing Doxorubicin and Cyclophosphamide followed
by Docetaxel (AC-T) with Doxorubicin and Cyclophosphamide followed by Docetaxel and Trastuzumab (AC-TH) and with Docetaxel, Platinum salt and Trastuzumab (TCH) in the Adjuvant Treatment of Node Positive and High Risk Node Negative Patients with Operable Breast Cancer containing the Her2neu Alteration (BCIRG 006).

Phase III Trial Evaluating the Role of Adjuvant Pegylated Liposomal Doxorubicin (PLD) for Women (Age 66 Years or Older) with Endocrine Nonresponsive Breast Cancer Who are Not Suitable for Being Offered a Standard Chemotherapy Regimen (IBCSG 32-05 / CASA).

Randomised Phase II-III Study of First Line Hormonal Treatment for Metastatic Breast Cancer with Exemestane or Tamoxifen in Postmenopausal Patients (EORTC 10951).

Treatment with Chemotherapy Before and After Surgery versus Surgery in Liver Metastases from Colorectal Cancer (EORTC 40983).

A Phase III Randomized, Intergroup, International Trial Assessing the Clinical Activity of STI-571 at two dose levels in patients with Unresectable or Metastatic Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumours (GIST) Expressing the KIT Receptor Tyrosine Kinase (CD117) (EORTC 62005).

A Phase III Study to Evaluate Letrozole as Adjuvant Endocrine Therapy for Postmenopausal Women with Receptor (ER and/or PgR) Positive Tumours (IBCSG 18-98 (BIG 1-98)).

An Intergroup Phase III Trial to Evaluate the Activity of Docetaxel, Given Either Sequentially or in Combination with Doxorubicin, Followed by CMF, in Comparison to Doxorubicin Alone or in Combination with Cyclophosphamide, Followed by CMF, in the Adjuvant Setting Treatment of Node-Positive Breast Cancer Patients (IBCSG 20-98 (BIG 2-98)).

A Randomized Phase II-III Study to Evaluate the Role of Mitomycin C, Avastin and Xeloda in Patients with Metastatic Colorectal Cancer (MAX (AG0501CR)).

Multicentre International Study of Capecitabine +/- Bevacizumab as Adjuvant Treatment of Colon Cancer (QUASAR2).

A Randomised Phase III Study in Advanced Oesophageal Cancer to Compare Quality of Life and Palliation of Dysphagia in Patients Treated with Radiotherapy versus Chemoradiotherapy (TROG 03.01).

A Feasibility Study to Evaluate Adjuvant Chemoradiotherapy for Gastric Cancer (TROG 03.02).

A Randomised Phase II Study of Two Regimens of Palliative Chemoradiation Therapy in the Management of Locally Advanced Non Small Cell Lung Cancer (TROG 03.07).

Post-Operative Concurrent Chemoradiotherapy versus Post Operative Radiotherapy in High-Risk Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck (TROG 05.01 “POST”).

Primary chemotherapy with Temozolomide vs radiotherapy in patients with low grade gliomas after stratification for genetic 1p loss: a phase III study (TROG 06.01 (EORTC 22033-26033)).

A Phase II Trial of Preoperative Radiotherapy with Protracted Infusion 5-Fluorouracil for Resectable Adenocarcinoma of Rectum (TROG 98.01).

Financial Support

Grants
$57,820 Cancer Council Queensland, Cancer Clinical Trial Data Manager Grant Scheme.

Other Support
$9,000 Australian New Zealand Breast Cancer Trials Group, Clinical Trial.

$3,490 Luitpold Pharmaceuticals, Clinical Trial.

$8,700 Merck Sharp & Dohme Australia, Clinical Trial.

$10,000 NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre, Clinical Trial.

$10,022 Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Clinical Trial.

$3,045 Parexel, Clinical Trial.

$31,570 Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, Clinical Trial.

$59,200 Progen Pharmaceuticals, Clinical Trial.

$28,650 Schering Plough, Clinical Trial.
Public Service Relevant to Research

**Associate Professor Damien B Thomson**

Editor: Oncology; Internal Medicine Journal

Member, ANZ Germ Cell Trials Group executive

Member, PAH Cancer Collaborative Group Management Committee

**Associate Professor Euan T Walpole**

NSW Cancer Institute External Reviewer

Deputy Chairman, The Cancer Council Queensland Medical and Scientific Committee

**Dr Alex Guminski**

Member, PAH Cancer Collaborative Group Management Committee
The Nephrology Department enjoys the best patient survival rates of any dialysis and kidney transplant centre in Australia and New Zealand. The department performs over 110 renal transplants per year, which is more than any other unit in the southern hemisphere. It cares for approximately 600 established transplant patients and 420 dialysis patients. Each year the department provides over 20,000 occasions of outpatient service. The team is heavily involved in providing education to patients, allied health professional staff, general practitioners, graduate medical students, interns, residents, registrars and both renal and non-renal specialists.

The University of Queensland Centre for Kidney Disease Research is based at the hospital’s Nephrology Department and conducts a large number of research activities at both the clinical and basic science levels. The clinical research aims to further improve outcomes for patients with chronic kidney disease and acute kidney injury.

Three years ago the department received the endorsement of Kidney Health Australia and the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology to act as the co-ordinating centre for the Australasian Kidney Trials Network (AKTN).

In 2003, the Cardiovascular, Metabolic and Renal Research Groups received funding for five years from the NHMRC as a Centre of Clinical Research Excellence (CCRE). As a further endorsement by the NHMRC, the CCRE funding has now been extended for an additional five years, until 2012.

There are over 80 projects currently under way in the department. These examine such diverse areas as: infection control; anaemia management; cardiac risk factor intervention; optimal timing of dialysis commencement; obesity and kidney disease; enhancement of dialysis adequacy; novel prevention strategies for acute renal failure; preservation of kidney function; monitoring healthcare delivery quality; optimization of the safety of anti-rejection drug protocols in transplantation; immunosuppressive drug pharmacokinetic studies; and skin cancer and lymphoma prevention in kidney transplant patients.

Over the last five years several research trials have earned national research awards including the Australian Kidney Foundation Clinical Research Award and the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology TJ Neale Award for ‘Outstanding Contributions to Nephrologic Science’. They have also prompted changes in clinical practice guidelines.

The basic science research focus of the Centre for Kidney Disease Research is the investigation of mechanisms underpinning pathological kidney cell growth and fibrogenesis with a view to developing novel therapeutic strategies for the management of acute renal failure; chronic renal scarring and failure; and renal cell carcinoma.

Professor David Johnson  
*Director of Nephrology, Chair of Medicine, Head of the Centre for Kidney Disease Research*
Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials

**Peritoneal Dialysis (PD)**

The balANZ trial - A multicentre randomised controlled trial of Balance® in Australian and New Zealand PD patients. (Johnson DW, Brown F, Woods F, Sonnenburg, K)

Predictors of peritonitis in the Australian and New Zealand PD patient populations. (Johnson DW, McDonald S, Collins J)

The effect of dialysis modality on decline of residual renal function. (Hawley CM, Petrie J, Johnson DW)

The IMPENDIA trial – Multi-center, prospective, randomized trial to demonstrate Improved Metabolic Control of PPEN Vs DDDD in DIAbetic CAPD patients. (Johnson DW)

Independent predictors of time to first peritonitis episode and peritonitis rate (and time to permanent catheter loss due to peritonitis) in the Australian and New Zealand PD patient populations. (Johnson DW)

Outcomes following catheter removal for peritonitis (including outcomes upon recommencement of PD). (Johnson DW)

Predictors of hospitalisation, catheter removal, HD transfer or death in PD patients experiencing peritonitis in the Australian and New Zealand PD patient populations. (Johnson DW)

Outcomes of Staphylococcus aureus peritonitis in the Australian and New Zealand PD patient populations. (Johnson DW)

Outcomes of Pseudomonas aeruginosa peritonitis in the Australian and New Zealand PD patient populations. (Johnson DW)

Outcomes of fungal peritonitis in the Australian and New Zealand PD patient populations. (Johnson DW)

The impact of APD versus CAPD on peritonitis in the Australian and New Zealand PD patient populations. (Johnson DW)

Predictors of recovery (and time to recovery) of dialysis-independent renal function in scleroderma renal crisis patients commencing PD or HD in Australia and New Zealand. (Johnson DW)

A systematic review of the effects of biocompatible peritoneal dialysis solutions on patient outcomes. (Johnson DW)

The effect of dialysis modality on infectious mortality in the Australian and New Zealand PD patient populations. (Johnson DW)

The effect of dialysis modality on the prevalence and incidence of hepatitis infections in the Asia-Pacific region. (Johnson DW)

Microbiology and outcomes of peritonitis in Australian peritoneal dialysis patients. (Johnson DW)

A randomised, controlled trial of exit site application of Medihoney™ Wound Gel for the prevention of catheter-associated infections in peritoneal dialysis patients (HONEYPOT trial). (Johnson DW, Hawley CM, Isbel NM)

A randomised controlled trial of oral HEMe iron polypeptide Against Treatment with Oral Controlled Release Iron Tablets for the correction of anaemia in peritoneal dialysis patients (HEMATOCRIT trial). (Johnson DW, Hawley CM)

Effect of PD modality on clinical outcomes in Australia and New Zealand. (Badve S, McDonald SP, Hawley CM, Johnson DW)

The impact of peritoneal small solute transport on peritoneal dialysis patient outcomes in Australia and New Zealand. (Johnson DW, McDonald S, Rumpsfeld M)

The impact of peritoneal transport status on subsequent haemodialysis patient outcomes in Australia and New Zealand. (Johnson DW, McDonald S, Wiggins K)

Predictors of residual renal function decline in Australian and New Zealand peritoneal dialysis patients. (Johnson DW, McDonald S, Macdonald J)

A retrospective observational cohort study assessing the clinical outcomes of amputation in dialysis patients. (Hawley C, Isbel N, Campbell SC, Johnson DW)
Haemodialysis

Nocturnal Home Haemodialysis performed alternate nightly: assessment of multiple outcomes. (Van Eps C, Hawley C, Jeffries J)

Temporary vascular access in haemodialysis: reasons for process failure in incident dialysis patients. (Hawley C, Nicholas P, Derhy A, Duke A for the Collaborative for Healthcare Improvement)

Ethanol lock therapy for the prevention of tunnelled catheter-related bacteraemia in haemodialysis patients. (Broom J, Playford G, Johnson DW, Hawley CM)

A randomised, placebo-controlled trial of oxpentifylline on haemoglobin levels in patients with erythropoietin-resistant anaemia (The HERO trial). (Johnson DW, Hawley CM)

The impact of nocturnal home haemodialysis on patient outcomes. (van Eps C, Hawley C, Isbel N, Campbell SB, Johnson DW)

Effects of Alternate Night Nocturnal Hemodialysis on Oxidative Stress and Antioxidant Enzymes. (Van Eps C, Hawley C, Jeffries J)

Nutritional status and appetite regulation in alternate night nocturnal haemodialysis. (Van Eps C, Hawley C, Jeffries J)

Bone mineral metabolism and histology in alternate nightly nocturnal haemodialysis. (Van Eps C, Hawley C, Jeffries J)

Prognostic indices in post-transplantation lymphoproliferative disorders (PTLDs) after renal transplantation. (Hourigan MJ, Mollee PN, Gill DS, Johnson DW, Gandhi MK)

Safety of immunosuppression cessation during chemotherapy for Post-Transplantation Lymphoproliferative Disorders (PTLD) in Renal Transplant Patients. (Hourigan MJ, Mollee PN, Gill DS, Johnson DW, Gandhi MK)

Contemporaneous outcomes of bacteraemias in haemodialysis patients. (Isbel N, Hawley C, Campbell SB, Johnson DW)

A prospective trial of intradermal hepatitis B vaccination in dialysis patients who have failed to seroconvert following standard subcutaneous vaccination. (Wiggins K, Van Eps C, Hothersall E, Johnson DW, Campbell SB, Isbel N, Playford G, Hawley C)

A pure red cell aplasia surveillance program in haemodialysis patients receiving erythropoietin. (Sudak J, Johnson DW)

A Double Blind, Randomised, Multicentre, PhaseIIb, Parallel-Group Study to compare the Effects of Rosuvastatin (10mg oral) with Placebo on Assessment of Survival and Cardiovascular Events When given Subjects with End Stage Renal Failure on Chronic Haemodialysis Treatment. (Isbel N, Martin A)

A randomized, placebo-controlled study to assess the effects of Cholesterol-lowering therapy with a combination of simvastatin and Ezetimibe on the Risk of Major Cardiovascular Complication Among Individuals with Chronic Kidney disease (SHARP trial). (Johnson DW, Sudak J)

The initiating dialysis early and late (IDEAL) study. (Johnson DW, Martin A)

Quality of life and alternate nightly home haemodialysis. (van Eps C, Hawley CM, Jeffries J, Johnson DW, Campbell SB, Isbel NM, Mudge DW)

A randomised, controlled, open-label, multi-centre, parallel-group study to demonstrate the efficacy and safety of RO0503821 when administered intravenously for the maintenance treatment of anaemia in patients with chronic kidney disease who are on dialysis. (Johnson DW, Sudak J)

A randomized, controlled, open-label, multi-center, parallel-group study to compare the efficacy and safety of RO0503821 with that of darbepoetin alfa administered intravenously at extended dosing intervals for the maintenance treatment of anaemia in patients with chronic kidney disease who are on hemodialysis. (Johnson DW, Edmunds J)

A Randomized Study to Evaluate the Effects of Cinacalcet Plus Low Dose Vitamin D on Vascular Calcification in Subjects with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Receiving Hemodialysis (Advance). (Hawley C, Sudak J)

Evaluation of Cinacalcet HCl Therapy to Lower Cardiovascular Events (EVOLVE). (Hawley C, Sudak J)
Transplantation
Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic investigation of free mycophenolic acid and its glucuronide metabolite in renal transplant recipients. (Staatz C, Taylor PJ, Johnson DW, Pillans PI, Tett SE)

A formula for the prediction of renal allograft function following renal transplantation. (Mudge DW, Hawley C, Isbel N, Campbell SB, Johnson DW, Nicol DL)

Outcomes associated with live donor renal transplantation in Queensland. (Kaisar MO, Campbell SB, Isbel N, Hawley CM, Nicol DL, Johnson DW)

Intravenous versus oral iron supplementation for the correction of post-transplant anaemia. (Mudge DW, Tan K, Haley CM, Campbell SB, Isbel NM, Nicol DL, Johnson DW)

A randomised controlled trial of sirolimus on skin cancer incidence in renal transplant recipients. (Campbell SB, Isbel N, Hawley CM, Nicol DL, Johnson DW)

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

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

Post Transplant Antibody Study: Does post-transplant monitoring of anti-HLA antibodies in recipients of solid organ allografts predict rejection? (Campbell SB, Isbel N, Hawley C, Johnson DW, Hogan P)

Defining the metabolic syndrome in renal transplantation. (Armstrong K, Prins J, Johnson DW, Isbel N)

Predictors of graft function in recipients of kidneys from live donors. (Hawley CM, Kearsley J, Campbell SB, Mudge DW, Isbel NM, Johnson DW, Reiger K, Preston J, Griffin A, Wall D, J Burke, McTaggart S, Frohloff G, Nicol DL)

Adiponectin in renal transplant recipients. (Kaisar MO, Armstrong K, Prins J, Johnson DW, Isbel N)

Impact of the metabolic syndrome on renal transplant outcomes. (Armstrong K, Prins J, Johnson DW, Isbel N)

Impact of Aggressive Intervention in RTR with impaired glucose tolerance on insulin resistance and atheroma burden. (Kaisar MO, Armstrong K, Prins J, Johnson DW, Isbel N)

Assessment of exercise and dietary factors associated with abnormal glucose tolerance in renal transplant recipients. (Orazio L)

Assessment of Everolimus in addition to Calcineurin Inhibitors Reduction in Maintenance Renal Transplant Recipients (ASCERTAIN). (Campbell S, Franzen K)

A Randomized, Open-Label Study to Compare the Rate of New Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer in Maintenance Renal Allograft Recipients Converted to a Sirolimus-based Regimen versus Continuation of a Calcineurin Inhibitor-based Regimen. (Campbell S, Martin A)

Identification of cardiovascular risk markers in live donors post nephrectomy: longitudinal follow-up. Focus on endothelial dysfunction, inflammation and oxidative stress. (Kaisar MO, Isbel NM, Johnson DW)

Evaluation of Nephroprotection and Efficacy as First-line Immunosuppression Trial (BENEFIT). (Campbell S, Leary D.)

A 24-month, multi-centre, randomized, open-label non-inferiority study of efficacy and safety comparing concentration-controlled Certican® in two doses (1.5 and 3.0mg/day starting doses) with reduced Neoral® versus 1.44g Myfortic® with standard dose Neoral in de novo renal transplant recipients. (Campbell S, Sonnenburg K)

A prospective, open-label, controlled, multicentre trial to assess the efficacy and safety of an induction regimen of Neoral, myfortic and corticosteroids, followed by administration of Certican together with withdrawal of Neoral and myfortic or corticosteroids and myfortic in de novo transplant recipients. (Campbell S, Leary D)

A Randomized, Open-Label Study to Compare the Rate of New Non-melanoma Skin Cancer in Maintenance Renal Allograft Recipients Converted to a Sirolimus-based Regimen versus Continuation of a Calcineurin Inhibitor-based Regimen. (Campbell S, Sonnenburg K)
**General Nephrology**

A multicentre, randomized controlled trial of the effect of cholesterol reduction on cardiovascular end-points in patients with chronic renal failure. (Neal B, Johnson DW, Pollock C, Walker R, McDonald S)

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

The impact of eGFR on referral patterns. (Noble E, Johnson DW, Isbel NM)

The role of novel markers of cardiovascular disease in chronic kidney disease: focus on adiponectin and leptin. (Kaisar MO, Johnson DW, Prins J, Isbel NM)

Opinions on the effect, content and structure of guidelines on CKD: Results of a national survey of nephrologists. (Johnson DW)

Oxidative stress and cardiovascular disease in chronic kidney disease. (Kaisar MO, Johnson DW, Isbel NM)

The use of Human Neutrophil Gelatinase-Associated Lipocalin as a predictor of contrast-induced nephropathy in critical illness. (Venkatesh B, Johnson DW)

The use of Human Neutrophil Gelatinase-Associated Lipocalin as a predictor of acute kidney injury in renal transplantation. (Johnson DW)

Irbesartan Versus Placebo in Combination with Standard Cardiovascular Protection ACE-I Therapy with Ramipril for the treatment of Albaminurina in Subjects at Elevated Cardiovascular Risk. (Isbel N, Pidcock R)

The Effect of Sulodexide in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes and Microalbuminuria. (Isbel N, Edmunds J)

The Effect of Sulodexide in Overt Type 2 Diabetic Nephropathy. (Isbel N, Edmunds J)

A Randomised, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of Cinacalcet HCl in Chronic Kidney Disease Subjects with Secondary Hyper-parathyroidism Not Receiving Dialysis Protocol 20000178. (Hawley C, Sudak J)


A Randomised Study To Assess The Safety And Achievability Of Reaching The Target HaemoGlobin And Maintaining Iron Parameters Using A Standard Dosage Regimen Of NeoRecormon® With Two Different Monitoring Schedules. (Isbel N, Edmunds J)

A Sequential Adaptive Phase II/III Multi-Centric, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Abatacept versus Placebo on a Background of Mycophenolate Mofetil and glucocorticosteroids in Subjects with Active Proliferative Glomerulonephritis due to Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). (Mudge D, Edmunds J)

An Open-Label, Phase IIIb, Multi-Centre, Randomised, Parallel-Group Study to Investigate the Efficacy and Safety of Three Dosing Schedules of Subcutaneous Dynepo in Adult Patients with Anaemia Associated with Chronic Kidney Disease who are Pre-Dialysis or Require Peritoneal Dialysis or Haemodialysis. (Isbel N, Martin A)

An Open-Label Tolerability and Safety Study of KRX-101 (Sulodexide Gelcaps) for the Treatment of Type 2 Diabetic Nephropathic Patients with Persistent Microalbuminuria in Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong. (Isbel N, Franzen K)

An open-label, randomized, multicenter, parallel group study to demonstrate correction of anemia using once-monthly subcutaneous injections of R005030821 in patients with chronic kidney disease who are not on dialysis. (Isbel N, Edmunds J)

A Phase 3, Multi-center, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Parallel-arm Trial to Determine Long-term Safety and Efficacy of Oral Tolvaptan Tablet Regimens in Adult Subjects with Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease. (Mudge D, Edmunds J)
Randomised and Multi-Center Two-Group Clinical Trial to Assess the Best Treatment for Patients with High Blood Pressure and Renal Artery Stenosis: Stenting with Anti-Hypertensive Medical Therapy, Compared to Medical Therapy alone. (Mudge D, Martin A)

Other Research

Basic Science Research

Erythropoeitin as a novel renoprotective agent in in vitro and in vivo models of acute renal failure. (Johnson DW, Vesey D, Gobe G, Endre Z)

Protective effect of Angelica sinensis on renal vascular endothelial cell damage induced by oxidative stress. (Yamada M, Vesey DA, Gobe GC Johnson DW)

Effects of medicinal plant extracts on renal cells in vitro: Potential therapeutic and toxic effects. (Wocjikowski K, Gobe G, Johnson DW)

Expression and phosphorylation of P66SHC in young and old rats subjected to oxidative stress. (Percy C, Brown L, Johnson DW, Gobe GC)

Molecular pathways in age-associated chronic renal pathologies. (Percy C, Brown L, Johnson DW, Gobe GC)

The role of protease activated receptors (PARs) in progressive renal scarring, inflammation and failure. (Vesey D, Gobe G, Johnson DW)

Strategies for modifying acute renal ischemic injury: increasing the mobilisation and maturation of endothelial progenitor cells. (Pat B, Johnson DW, Gobe GC)

Apoptosis of tubulointerstitial chronic inflammatory cells in progressive renal fibrosis after cancer therapies. (Johnson DW, Gobe GC)

Therapeutic value of orally administered silibinin in renal cell carcinoma: manipulation of IGFBP-3 levels. (Cheung C, Johnson DW)

e therapeutic application of adult mesenchymal stem cells in renal regeneration. (McTaggart S, Gobe GC, Johnson DW)

Financial Support

Current NHMRC Grants

$258,000 The Australasian Kidney Trials (AKT) Network. (Hawley CM, Johnson DW, Beller E, Hoy W)

$50,000 Kidney Health Australia. The Australasian Kidney Trials (AKT) Network. (Hawley CM, Johnson DW, Beller E, Hoy W)

$159,250 NHMRC. Identification and characterisation of the way erythropoietin protects tissue from oxidant stress. (Johnson DW, Gobe GC, Colditz P)

$155,250 The role of mycophenolate mofetil therapeutic drug monitoring in renal transplant recipients. (Staatz C, Johnson DW, Tett S, Taylor P, Lynch S)

$27,000 CCRE Grant. A randomised, open-label, prospective controlled trial of multiple risk factor intervention on atherosclerosis, vasoreactivity and cardiac ischaemia in renal transplant recipients with impaired glucose tolerance (Transplant LANDMARK Trial). (Marwick TH, Johnson DW, Isbel NM, Stowasser M, Prins JB, Coombes J)


$40,000 Project Grant. A randomized placebo-controlled study to assess the effects of Cholesterol-lowering therapy with a combination of simvastatin and Ezetimebe on the Risk of Major Cardiovascular Complication Among Individuals with Chronic Kidney disease. Johnson DW (Pollock C, Neal B, Walker R, Craig J)

$84,000 NHMRC / AHMAC / Industry. IDEAL Trial. Pollock CA. (Johnson DW, Harris DC, Cooper B)

Other Grants

$90,000 The University of Queensland. Confocal microscope. (Gobe GC, Colditz P. Johnson DW)

$30,000 PAH Private Practice Trust Fund. Ethanol lock solutions for prevention of haemodialysis catheter-associated bacteraemia. (Broom J, Playford G, Johnson DW)

$50,000 PAH Research Foundation. A randomised trial of intravenous versus oral iron supplements for post-transplant anaemia in renal transplant recipients. (Mudge DW, Johnson DW, Tan K, Hawley CM, Campbell SB, Isbel N)

$30,000 PAH Research Foundation. Erythropoietin as a novel renoprotective agent in acute kidney injury. (Johnson DW, Vesey DA, Gobe GC)

$60,000 Baxter CEC Funding. The HONEYPOT Trial. (Johnson DW, Hawley CM, Beller E)

$375,000 USD Baxter Extramural Grant. The HONEYPOT Trial. (Johnson DW, Hawley CM, Beller E)

$100,000 Roche Foundation for Anaemia Research (RoFAR). The HERO trial. (Johnson DW, Hawley CM, Beller E)

$100,000 Amgen. The HERO trial. (Johnson DW, Hawley CM, Beller E)

$20,000 Amgen. The role of darbepoietin alpha as a novel renoprotective agent in a rat model of ischaemic acute renal failure. (Johnson DW, Vesey DA, Gobe GC, Endre Z)

Other Support

$50,000 The University of Queensland. The Australasian Kidney Trials (AKT) Network. (Hawley CM, Johnson DW, Beller E, Hoy W)

$5,000 Amgen. A randomised controlled trial of oral HEMe iron polypeptide Against Treatment with Oral Controlled Release Iron Tablets for the correction of anaemia in peritoneal dialysis patients (HEMATOCRIT trial). (Johnson DW, Hawley CM, Beller E)

$600,000 Queensland Health. A pilot study of the value of multidisciplinary chronic kidney disease clinics. (Isbel NM, Johnson DW)


$48,125 Fresenius. A multicentre randomised controlled trial of Balance® in Australian and New Zealand PD patients (balANZ). (Johnson DW)

$2,225 Roche. A randomised, controlled, open-label, multi-centre, parallel-group study to demonstrate the efficacy and safety of R00503821 when administered intravenously for the maintenance treatment of anaemia in patients with chronic kidney disease who are on dialysis (BH18387). (Johnson DW)

$4,950 Roche. A randomized, controlled, open-label, multi-center, parallel-group study to compare the efficacy and safety of R00503821 with that of darbopoetin alfa administered intravenously at extended dosing intervals for the maintenance treatment of anaemia in patients with chronic kidney disease who are on hemodialysis (BH17847). (Johnson DW)

$71,000 Wyeth. A Randomized, Open-Label Study to Compare the Rate of New Non-melanoma Skin Cancer in Maintenance Renal Allograft Recipients Converted to a Sirolimus-based Regimen versus Continuation of a Calcineurin Inhibitor-based Regimen. (Campbell S)

$32,490 Novartis. A 24-month, multi-centre, randomized, open-label non-inferiority study of efficacy and safety comparing concentration-controlled Certican® in two doses (1.5 and 3.0mg/day starting doses) with reduced Neoral® versus 1.44g Myfortic® with standard dose Neoral in de novo renal transplant recipients (2409). (Campbell S)

$2,000 Novartis. A prospective, open-label, controlled, multicentre trial to assess the efficacy and safety of an induction regimen of Neoral, myfortic and corticosteroids, followed by administration of Certican together with withdrawal of Neoral and myfortic or corticosteroids and myfortic in de novo transplant recipients (Socrates). (Campbell S)

$2,000 Bristol Myers Squibb. A Sequential Adaptive Phase II/III Multi-Centre, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and
Safety of Abatacept versus Placebo on a Background of Mycophenolate Mofetil and glucocorticosteroids in Subjects with Active Proliferative Glomerulonephritis due to Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). (Mudge DW)

$23,520 Keryx. The Effect of Sulodexide in Overt Type 2 Diabetic Nephropathy. (Isbel NM)

$82,950 AstraZeneca. A Double Blind, Randomised, Multicentre, PhaseIIb, Parallel-Group Study to compare the Effects of Rosuvastatin (10mg oral) with Placebo on Assessment of Survival and Cardiovascular Events When given Subjects with End Stage Renal Failure on Chronic Haemodialysis Treatment. (Isbel NM)

$3,421 Amgen. A Randomized Study to Evaluate the Effects of Cinacalcet Plus Low Dise Vitamin D on Vascular Calcification in Subjects with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Receiving Hemodialysis (Advance). (Hawley CM)

$15,213 Amgen. Evaluation of Cinacalcet HCl Therapy to Lower Cardiovascular Events (EVLlOE). (Hawley CM)

$1,600 Roche. A Randomised Study To Assess The Safety And Achievability Of Reaching The Target HaemoGlobin And Maintaining Iron Parameters Using A Standard Dosage Regimen Of NeoRecormon® With Two Different Monitoring Schedules. (Isbel NM)

$17,226 Amgen. A Randomised, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of Cinacalcet HCl in Chronic Kidney Disease Subjects with Secondary Hyperparathyroidism Not Receiving Dialysis Protocol 20000178. (Hawley CM)


Lectures and Presentations

Professor David Johnson

Improving survival in peritoneal dialysis. Asia-Pacific Peritoneal Dialysis College Meeting, Brisbane.

Peritoneal dialysis case studies. Asia-Pacific Peritoneal Dialysis College Meeting, Brisbane.

Evidence-based peritoneal dialysis. Asia-Pacific Peritoneal Dialysis Key Opinion Leaders' Meeting, Couran Cove.


Is it old age or kidney failure? Servier General Practitioners' Weekend Symposium, Noosa.


Glucose-related complications in Peritoneal Dialysis. 6th Peritoneal Dialysis College Meeting, Seoul, Korea.

Improving survival in dialysis. 6th Peritoneal Dialysis College Meeting, Seoul, Korea.

Modifying cardiovascular risk in dialysis. 6th Peritoneal Dialysis College Meeting, Seoul, Korea.

Intensifying hypertension management. Sanofi GP Workshop, Gold Coast.

Intensifying hypertension management. Sanofi GP Workshop, Brisbane.

Why we need more clinical trials in Nephrology. IMPENDIA Asia-Pacific Meeting, Gold Coast.

HONEYPOT Trial – background, design and rationale. Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology Annual Scientific Meeting, Gold Coast.

The balANZ Trial. Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology Annual Scientific Meeting, Gold Coast.

The effect of APD versus CAPD on clinical outcomes in the Australian and New Zealand peritoneal dialysis patient population. Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology Annual Scientific Meeting, Gold Coast.

Intensifying hypertension management. Sanofi GP Workshop, Brisbane.
Quality of life considerations in dialysis modality selection. Taipei, Taiwan.

The metabolic syndrome in peritoneal dialysis patients. PD College, Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

**Bettina Douglas**

Chronic kidney disease and diabetes. Australian Diabetes Educators Association (Queensland) Workshop, Brisbane.

**Awards**

**Dr Carolyn Clark**

Richard Kemp Prize, oral presentation at the Queensland Royal Australasian College of Physicians Advanced Trainees’ Annual Scientific Meeting.

**Dr Ken Tan**

First Prize, oral presentation at the Queensland Royal Australasian College of Physicians Advanced Trainees’ Annual Scientific Meeting.

**Public Service Relevant to Research**

**Professor David Johnson**

Founding Member, Australasian Kidney Trials Network

Member, Operations Secretariat, Australasian Clinical Trials Network in Nephrology

Chair, Kidney Check Australia Taskforce

Co-Chair, Australasian Creatinine and eGFR Consensus Working Party (convened by Kidney Health Australia, Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology, Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists and Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia)

Chair, National Chronic Kidney Disease Strategy Early Kidney Disease Working Group

Member, International Society of Peritoneal Dialysis Membership Committee

Member, Clinical Practice Guidelines Steering Committee, Caring for Australasians with Renal Impairment (CARI)

Member, Registry Management Committee, Australian and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Association (ANZDATA)

Peritoneal Dialysis Project Manager, ANZDATA Registry

Australian representative, Pure Red Cell Aplasia Global Scientific Advisory Board

Member, Asia-Pacific Dialysis Research Advisory Board

Working Party Member, ANZSN CARI Guidelines for Peritoneal Dialysis Adequacy

Convenor, ANZSN CARI Guidelines for Evaluation of Renal Function

Convenor, CARI Guidelines for Peritoneal Dialysis Adequacy

Working Party Member, ANZSN CARI Guidelines for Prevention of Renal Failure Progression

Working Party Member, ANZSN CARI Guidelines for Infection Control in Dialysis Units

Working Party Member of Australian Cancer Network National Clinical Practice Guidelines for Post-Transplant Lymphoproliferative Disorder and Other Immunodeficiency-Related Lymphomas

Member, Queensland Renal Collaborative Steering Committee

Lead Investigator, balANZ trial (Asia-Pacific multicentre randomised controlled trial)

Lead Investigator, IMPENDIA trial (Asia-Pacific multicentre randomised controlled trial)

Lead Investigator, HONEYPOT trial (Australasia multicentre randomised controlled trial)

Lead Investigator, HERO trial (Australasia multicentre randomised controlled trial)

Working Party Member of Australian and New Zealand Clinical Practice Guidelines on Icodextrin Usage in Peritoneal Dialysis
Editor, Evidence-Based Nephrology (British Medical Journal series)
Editorial Board Member, Peritoneal Dialysis International
Editorial Review Board member, Haemodialysis International
Editor, Evidence-based Nephrology (part of British Medical Journal series of evidence-based medicine textbooks)
Reviewer, Lancet
Reviewer, Nephron
Reviewer, Nephrology
Reviewer, Experimental Nephrology
Reviewer, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Medicine / Internal Medicine Journal
Reviewer, Nephrology Dialysis and Transplantation
Reviewer, Kidney International
Reviewer, Journal of the American Society of Nephrology
Reviewer, Blood Purification
Reviewer, Medical Science Monitor
Reviewer, Cytokine
Reviewer, Journal of the American Board of Family Physicians
Reviewer, Australian Kidney Foundation / Kidney Health Australia grant applications
Reviewer, National Health and Medical Research Council grant applications
Reviewer, Diabetes Australia grant applications

**Dr David Vesey**
Manager, Department of Nephrology Endotoxin Testing Service
Reviewer, Nephrology
Member, Referee Panel, National Kidney Research Fund UK

**Dr David Mudge**
Co-ordinator, Postgraduate Education and Member, Scientific Programme and Education Committee, ANZSN
Member, Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee, Kidney Health Australia
Member, CARI Guidelines Steering Committee
Member, Working Party, ANZSN CARI Guidelines for Renal Vasculitis
Reviewer, Nephrology

**Dr Nicole Isbel**
Council Member, Australian and New Zealand Society of Nephrology
Member, National Vascular Disease Prevention Alliance
Member, Scientific Programme and Education Committee, ANZSN

Convenor of local organising committee, ANZSN ASM
Queensland Renal Collaborative Steering Committee Member
Member, organising committee postgraduate course
World Transplant Congress, Sydney
Chairman, CARI guideline working group on ‘Urine protein as a diagnostic test’
Member, CARI guideline on ‘Live donor renal transplantation’
Reviewer, Nephrology
Reviewer, Journal of American Society of Nephrology
Reviewer, Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation
Reviewer, American Journal of Kidney Disease
Reviewer, Cochrane Renal Group
Reviewer, NH&MRC Project Grants
Reviewer, Diabetes Australia grant applications
Reviewer, American College of Physicians, Physicians Information and Education Resource
Reviewer, Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation
Reviewer, Heamodialysis International

Dr Carmel Hawley
Board Member, Kidney Health Australia
Chair, Operations Secretariat, Australasian Kidney Trials Unit
Editorial Board Member, Nephrology
Reviewer, Nephrology
Reviewer, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Medicine / Internal Medicine Journal
Reviewer, Nephrology Dialysis and Transplantation
Reviewer, Australian Kidney Foundation / Kidney Health Australia grant applications
Reviewer, National Health and Medical Research Council grant applications

Inaugural Chair, Queensland Renal Collaborative Steering Committee
Member, Caring for Australasians with Renal Impairment (CARI ) working group for guidelines on bone disease in the pre-dialysis patient
Co-Chair, Caring for Australasians with Renal Impairment (CARI ) working group for guidelines on biochemical and haematological targets

Dr Scott Campbell
Chair, Renal Transplant Advisory Committee
Member, Dialysis Nephrology Transplant Committee
Chair, ANZDATA Registry Transplant Working Party
Member, ANZDATA Registry Steering Committee
Member, SAHS Renal Clinical Network
The Nursing Practice Development Unit builds research capacity through internal and external research partnerships and sponsorship. In 2007 it sponsored research programs in emergency nursing and has initiated planning for programs in cancer and infection control nursing. In addition, the unit hosts the internationally-recognised ‘Visiting Scholars’ program whereby visiting nurse academics work with clinical staff on clinical nursing projects.

**Dr Sarah Winch**
*Nursing Director, Research*

### Current Research Activities

**Developing Evidence-Based Workforce Models for Nursing Services in Acute Care Hospitals.** (Chaboyer W, Courtney M.D, Duffield CM, Seaton-Sykes PC, Forrester KE, Wallis MC, Holzhauser K)

**Creating a therapeutic environment: trialling a Quiet time intervention for patients in acute care.** (Gardner G, Henderson A, Eastwood M, Collins C, Osborne S)

**What change occurs to an Australian health care institution during its application for Magnet Recognition?** (Holzhauser K)

**A pilot study of the factors that influence the health promotion and risk-reduction practices of younger female survivors of breast and haematological cancers.** (McCarthy A, Winch S)

**The development of an Australian survey tool to measure nurses’ moral sensitivity and hospital ethical climate.** (Winch S, Lützén K, James K, Holzhauser K, Henderson A)

### Financial Support


### Lectures and Presentations

**Dr Sarah Winch**

**Constructing a morality of caring with home-based Carers.** Carers Australia National Executive Meeting, Brisbane.

**Transforming relationships. Lessons for carers, patients and health care professionals.** Exploring Transitions in Aged Care Home to Hospital and Hospital to Home. The University of Queensland.

### Public Service Relevant to Research

**Dr Amanda Henderson**

Member Editorial Board, *Journal of Clinical Nursing*

**Kerri Holzhauser**

Nursing Representative, Princess Alexandra Hospital Human Research Ethics Committee

Member, Editorial Board, *Australian Emergency Nursing Journal*

Assistant Editor (Queensland), *Australian Emergency Nursing Journal*
Anonymous peer review of articles in the areas of clinical practice, evidence-based practice, survey tool development and research utilising quantitative methodologies.

Member, National Institute of Clinical Studies
Emergency Care Community of Practice Research Reference Group

Dr Sarah Winch
Reviewer, Social Science and Medicine
Reviewer, Australasian Emergency Nursing Journal
Theses Marking – 1
The Nutrition and Dietetics Department has over 20 full-time equivalent dietitians who provide nutrition services to inpatients and outpatients. These patients are either referred through specialised clinics or require home enteral or parenteral nutrition. The department includes an outreach program to Charleville Health Service District. Staff are involved in teaching nutrition and dietetic students from Queensland University of Technology and Griffith University through lectures and supervised placements in the areas of clinical nutrition and food service. A research partnership was established with Griffith University’s Nutrition and Dietetic Masters students which will enhance further research activities.

The department’s research focuses on the application of clinical nutrition in the practical care of patients. This includes nutrition support in cancer, liver and renal disease, pressure ulcers, development and implementation of validated nutrition tools and assessment of nutrition requirements.

Maree Ferguson
Acting Director

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
The effects of exercise as a nursing intervention to improve general physical health status in haemodialysis patients: a pilot study. (Henson A, Finch L, Devlin J, Orazio L, Gillispite B, Hawley C, McCarthy A, Chatterton S)

Relationship between lifestyle and metabolic factors in Renal Transplant Recipients (RTR) with normal and abnormal glucose tolerance and the impact of lifestyle intervention on RTR with abnormal glucose tolerance. (Orazio L, Isbel N, Hickman I, Banks M)

Pet-assisted therapy in a hospital setting (aged care mental health): impact on mood and nutritional intakes. (Lloyd D, Vivanti A, Aliakbari, J, McGrath P)


Swallowing management and radiotherapy trial. (Riddle B, Cornwell P, Porceddu S, Ward E, Stuckey S, Davidson W)

Financial Support

Grants
$10,000 Queensland Health, Allied Health Research Grant. Relationship between lifestyle and metabolic factors in Renal Transplant Recipients (RTR) with normal and abnormal glucose tolerance and the impact of lifestyle intervention on RTR with abnormal glucose tolerance. (Orazio L, Isbel N, Hickman I, Banks M)

$4,874 Queensland Health, Community Rehabilitation EBP review grants. Evidence-based practice: Is inpatient
or outpatient counselling more effective. (Swanton T, Vivanti A, Coffey N)

$2,500 PA Foundation, Allied Heath Scholarship. Relationship between obesity, dietary intake, metabolic factors and physical activity in renal transplant recipients. (Orazio L, Isbel N, Hickman, I Banks M)

$12,000 State Cancer Care Funding Initiative, Allied Health Cancer Care Initiative - Resource and/or Guideline Development. Development of training modules for the dissemination of evidence-based practice guidelines for nutritional management of patients receiving radiation therapy. (Davidson W, Hill J, Isenring E)

Lectures and Presentations

Azmat Ali
Nutrition in liver disease. Nutrition and dietetic masters students, Griffith University.

How to deliver parenteral nutrition. Toowoomba and Darling Downs Health Service District.

Nutritional considerations in Liver disease. Toowoomba and Darling Downs Health Service District.

Workshop on total parenteral nutrition. Sponsored by PKF.

Liver lecture. 3rd year Nutrition and Dietetic students, QUT.

Role of Dietician in ICU. 3rd year Radiography students.

S Bhatt
Role of the dietician as multi professional input in patient care. 4th year Pharmacy students, The University of Queensland.

Wendy Davidson
Enteral and Parenteral Nutrition Support Lecture. 3rd year Nutrition and Dietetic students, QUT.

Nutritional management of patients with Cancer Lecture 3rd year Nutrition and Dietetic students, QUT.

Emily Power

Angela Vivanti
Clinical symposium: Arthritis. Year 2 MBBS students, The University of Queensland.

Current research in dietetics at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. Griffith University.

Awards

Azmat Ali
Advanced Clinician Level 4 Allied Health Conditional Clinical Advancement Scheme, Queensland Health

Helen Porteous
Encouragement Award. Using the Heart Wise Dietary Habits Questionnaire as a tool for nutrition education at cardiac rehabilitation in a public hospital. Australian Cardiac Rehabilitation Association Conference, Hobart

Angela Vivanti
Advanced Accredited Practising Dietitian

Advanced Clinician Level 5 Allied Health Conditional Clinical Advancement Scheme, Queensland Health

Public Service Relevant to Research

Wendy Davidson
Organising Committee, Australian and New Zealand Head and Neck Society, Annual Scientific Meeting, Brisbane

Reviewer, Nutrition and Dietetics

Member, Radiation Therapy Nutrition Steering Committee, Dietitians Association of Australia

Maree Ferguson
Reviewer: Nutrition and Dietetics; Journal of the American Dietetic Association; Journal of Human Nutrition and Dietetics

PhD thesis review, Merrilyn Banks, QUT

Honours Thesis review, Rebecca Ramsey, QUT

Member, Malnutrition guidelines steering group, Dietitians Association of Australia

Adjunct Associate Professor, QUT and Griffith University
Angela Vivanti
Reviewer, Nutrition and Dietetics
Princess Alexandra Hospital Allied Health Research Committee
Member, Malnutrition guidelines steering group, Dietitians Association of Australia
Member, Aged Care Expert reference group, Joanna Briggs Institute
Member, Cochrane review team: Protein and energy supplementation in elderly people at risk of malnutrition. Metabolic and endocrine disorders group

Cochrane review referee: Wounds group
Scientific Program Committee, Dietitians Association of Australia Conference, May 2008
Honorary Fellow, School of Public Health QUT
Adjunct Lecturer, School of Public Health, Griffith University
The Occupational Therapy Department aims to improve or maintain performance in activities of daily living that may be affected by injury, illness or treatment procedures. Through developing research capacity and strength in a variety of clinical areas, the occupational therapists at the hospital are a major contributor to the clinical knowledge base. They are creating a strong research profile nationally and internationally, and enhancing evidenced-based clinical decision-making locally.

Research activity during the year concentrated in the areas of: brain injury rehabilitation, spinal cord injury research; aged care assessment and management; hand and upper limb rehabilitation; cancer; and cardiac services. Highlights included the award of an Australia Research Council Linkage grant for a multidisciplinary project on the transition from hospital to home after brain injury. Staff disseminated their research outcomes through publication in peer-reviewed journals and by presenting at key national rehabilitation and occupational therapy conferences. Currently, the department supports five postgraduate research students conducting research in the fields of brain injury, cancer and hand therapy.

Mary Whitehead
Director

Dr Jenny Fleming
Conjoint Senior Research Fellow

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
Evaluation of rehabilitation strategies for prospective memory in individuals with traumatic brain injury. (Fleming J, Shum D, Strong, J)


A randomised control trial investigating the effects of group education and support in reducing cancer-related fatigue and improving quality of life in patients undergoing radiotherapy. (Purcell A, Fleming J, Haines T, Burmeister, B)

Other Research
A research intervention to enhance the well-being and psychosocial outcomes of day hospital patients with acquired brain injury based on ICF ‘environment’ framework. (Fleming J, Kuipers P, Foster M)

A randomised control trial of metacognitive contextual interventions for individuals with acquired brain injury in the community. (Ownsworth T, Fleming J, Shum D, Kuipers P)

Intervention formats for improving role participation following acquired brain injury: A randomised controlled trial. (Ownsworth T, Shum D, Fleming J, Kendall M)
Test-retest reliability of the Comprehensive Assessment of Prospective Memory with a normative sample. (Fleming J, Shum D, Strong J, Chau L, Lee J)


Predictors of prospective memory performance in adults with traumatic brain injury. (Fleming J, Riley L, Gill H, Gullo M, Strong J, Shum D)

Behaviours and cognitive processes underlying fitness to drive in on-road assessments. (Weir N, Griffin J, Fleming J)

Allied health professionals’ perspectives about the presence, assessment and management of risk when providing rehabilitation to clients with acquired brain injury in home and community settings: A qualitative investigation. (Mooney O, Doig E, Fleming J)

Self-identified goals and the ability to set realistic goals following acquired brain injury. (Turner B, Ownsworth T, Turpin M, Fleming J)

Helping people with traumatic brain injury and their families adjust to driving cessation. (McKenna K, Fleming J, Liddle J, Turpin M, Weir N, Whitelaw P)

An investigation of the service and support needs of individuals with acquired brain injury and their families and carers during and after transition from hospital to the community. (Worrall L, Fleming J, Cornwall P, Haines T, Ownsworth T, Kendall M, Chenoweth L)


Past and current leisure activities of individuals in a brain injury rehabilitation unit. (Braithwaite H, Fleming J, Gustafsson L, Griffin J)

Wearing of splints post-discharge: factors contributing to sustainability of use following brain injury. (Fleming J, Copley J, Worley L, Moes L, Griffin J, Kuipers K)

Does individualised hand splinting reduce spasticity after traumatic brain injury. (Copley J, Fleming J, Griffin J)

Activities of daily living in clients with a dual diagnosis of spinal cord injury and traumatic brain injury. (Price G, Fleming J, Gruss N, O’Connor T)

Goal setting and attainment by individuals in spinal cord injury rehabilitation using the Canadian Occupational Performance Measure. (Dawson C, Gustafsson L, Fleming J, Price G)


Investigations of care requirements of people with brain tumour. (Haines T, Cornwall P, Fleming J, Olsen S, Omerod A)

Evaluation of a multidisciplinary outpatient rehabilitation programme for patients with chronic heart failure. (Gumley K, Shazad J, Fleming J, Coffey N)

How effective are occupational therapists in equipping people who have had a stroke, and their carers, to manage the affected upper limb upon discharge from inpatient rehabilitation? (Miller A, Robinson M, Gustafsson L, McKenna K, Bower K)

Facilitation of self management of the upper limb following a stroke. (Bower K, Hoffmann T, Gustafsson L)

An investigation of clients’ experiences of an upper limb treatment group. (Moran M, Turpin M, Kayssar M, Black A, Turner S)

The evaluation of multi-disciplinary goals and goal-setting: Processes in an adult rehabilitation setting. (Cornwell P, Fleming J, Haines T, Leech E)
Effects of prism adaptation on space perception following chronic and reversible cortical lesions. (Mattingly J, Eramudugolla R, Irvine D, Boyce A)

**Financial Support**

**Grants**


$18,400 The University of Queensland School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Rehabilitation Research Grant. Does individualised hand splinting reduce spasticity after traumatic brain injury? (Copley J, Fleming J, Weir N)

$18,608 The University of Queensland School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Rehabilitation Research Grant. Helping people with traumatic brain injury and their families adjust to driving cessation. (McKenna K, Fleming J, Turpin M, Liddle J, Weir N)


$15,000 Southern Area Health Service, SAHS Cancer Clinical Network Training & Development Programme. Investigations of care requirements of people with brain tumour. (Haines T, Cornwell P, Fleming J, Olsen S, Omerod A)


$15,000 Griffith University, NHMRC Application Assistance. Intervention formats for improving role participation following acquired brain injury: A randomised controlled trial. (Ownsworth T, Shum D, Fleming J)

$33,000 PAH Cancer Collaborative Group. A randomised control trial investigating the effects of group education and support in reducing cancer-related fatigue and improving quality of life in patients undergoing radiotherapy. (Purcell A, Haines T, Fleming J, Burmeister B)

**Lectures and Presentations**

**Jodie Carolan, Geoff Lau**

Evidence-based practice in everyday clinical practice: strategies for change in a tertiary Occupational Therapy Department. Yeppoon, Queensland, Occupational Therapy State Conference, Paper presentation.

**Dr Jenny Fleming**

The occupational therapy role with a client with brain injury. The University of Queensland final year Human Movement Studies. (Invited lecture)

Self-awareness in brain injury rehabilitation, Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service, Brisbane. (Invited presentation)


**Amanda Purcell**

A randomised control trial investigating the effects of group education and support in reducing cancer-related fatigue and improving quality of life in patients undergoing radiotherapy. Occupational Therapy State Conference, Yeppoon, Queensland.

**Public Service Relevant to Research**

**Dr Jenny Fleming**

Associate Editor, Brain Impairment Journal
Information gained with the Queensland Eye Bank is used to improve eye banking and transplantation.

A study of the risk associated with excluding donors who have lived in countries where there have been confirmed cases of variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease has been accepted for publication in Cornea. This study illuminates the balance required between risk of disease transmission and the loss of eye donors for transplantation.

A review of the use and future value of the Australian Organ Donor Register for eye donation has been undertaken and is awaiting final ethical approval for release of information. This study demonstrates how the number of registrations is small in relation to the number of eye donors. The percentage decreases for donors over 65 years of age, the age group from which the majority of donors arise. The work highlights the differences between organ and eye donation in regard to the use of the donor register. The study will be valuable in providing evidence for health management of this sector.

Dr Peter Madden
Scientific Director Queensland Eye Bank

Current Research Activities

Freezing of the cornea. Cryopreservation offers an almost unlimited storage life for corneas, corneal cell layers and cells, allowing easy transport and tissue-typed donor banks. Corneal cell layers are a useful model for cryopreservation of more organised cell layers or organs. This study will investigate low temperature storage and cellular tolerance.

Endothelial culture. Transplantation of cell layers rather than the whole thickness of the cornea is increasingly favoured. Human corneal endothelial cells will be separated from the cornea by various mechanical and enzymatic methods. The cells are to be cultured on various substrates to see if an effective layer can be established that could be used for transplantation.

Next of kin approach technique. Eye, tissue and organ donation rely on approach with next of kin for approval. External training for this delicate task focuses on face-to-face interviews, whereas most approaches take place by telephone. This study is to: analyse the advantages and disadvantages of telephone interview; sequence essential components; compare aspects with telephone surveys; and analyse aspects of role play for training. The outcome is to improve telephone technique and training.

Endothelial flat-mount analysis. The endothelium is vital in corneal clarity. The tissue that remains from the donor cornea following removal of the central corneal transplant is of value to try to predict how the transplant might progress. In the study, corneal rims of this type are to be fixed and the endothelium flat-mounted so that the cell size and shape can be accurately determined to attempt to predict transplant outcome. The use of an automated method to analyse cell shape is important as traditional methods are too time consuming. The study is to try to improve current methods of endothelial cell size and shape analysis.
Australian Organ Donor Register Success. The Australian Organ Donor Registry is the national registry for registering intent to donate organs, eyes and tissue for transplantation following death. The registry is mainly used by the Eye Banks. Although the number, age and sex of registrants are known, there is little information regarding the success of using the register and its particular value to eye donation. This report calculates the success of potential donors being on the register and the value of this registration.

Selecting corneal cells by differential freezing. Freezing of cells can select populations by differential damage due to cell size or characteristics, or perhaps by the freeze-shock changing growth characteristics. Corneas and corneal cells will be frozen and those cells that survive cultured to investigate if cell growth is altered.

Fuchs’ endothelial dystrophy. Fuchs’ endothelial dystrophy progressively causes loss of corneal endothelium function and an opaque cornea. The changes of endothelial attachment is not well understood. Tissue removed from these cases will be investigated to see if more can be learnt about the disease process.

Multiphoton microscope. The multiphoton microscope is a microscope that uses a laser to send two or more different wavelength photons to meet at the same point and combine to make an image. This reduces background glare and can allow high resolution imaging of living tissue. In collaboration with Professor Roberts at the PAH, the microscope is to be used in several ways. This part is to view the corneal endothelium: 1) to view the cell structure, 2) to see what happens when different solutions and 3) to see how small drug particles penetrate the cells.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Dr Peter Madden
National Clinical Task Force on Organ and Tissue Donation
Pathology Queensland

Pathology Queensland provides an effective and comprehensive pathology service for clinical and commercial trials, as well as research projects conducted both internal and external to the hospital. Comprehensive services provided on-site include haematology, chemical pathology, microbiology and anatomical pathology. Services provided off-site include immunology.

Dr Glenn Francis  
Director

Current Research Activities

ICU MRSA Screening; Comprehensive investigation into ICU MRSA surveillance screening. (Henderson B, Looke D, Faoagali J)

Candida / Aspergillus Study; Candida & Aspergillus from BC or Sterile Sites including BW stored and added to NOSO list. (Lye G, Faoagali J)

Endoscope Lancer Fibrodryer. (Monaghan W, Faoagali J, Foxcroft L)

ICU Candida study. (Playford G, Faoagali J)

ICU MRSA Study; Infection control, ICU and the laboratory are reviewing the sensitivity and specificity of the routine screening swabs for MRSA in the laboratory for inter-hospital transfers to ICU. (Kleinschmidt S, Lidstone C, Infection Management Unit)

Lacto Probiotics & VRE; Does probiotic yoghurt inhibit the growth of vancomycin resistant enterococci? (Redmond A)

Biofilms; The effect on bacterial biofilm of endoscopic sinus surgery for chronic rhinosinusitis. (Lidstone C, Thanh Hai PV (UQ), Faoagali J)

Staphylococcal endocarditis; Investigation into endocarditis cases caused by staphylococcal organisms (Mabbett A, Faoagali J)

AGAR Surveillance Studies, AGAR Staph Awareness Study; Australian Group for Antimicrobial Resistance conducts surveillance testing on a variety of organisms to study resistance trends Australia-wide. (PAH Microbiology Staff, Infection Management Unit, Australian Group Antimicrobiol Resistance members)

Concurrent urine/ blood culture Ecoli isolates; Examination of virulence factors in invasive E coli isolates. (Faoagali J, Schembri M, Totsika M, PAH Microbiology staff)

MRSA contamination of staff accoutrements; Investigation of the contaminated state of various uniform accessories (for example ties, name badges) with MRSA. The investigation involved staff in the wards at PAH. (Gunasekara S)

Novel nanoparticle-based biosensor technology for multiplexed detection of methylation profiles in breast cancer metastases. (Trau M, Brown M, Al: Francis G)

Phenotypic/genotypic profiling and outcome correlation in breast cancer. (Francis G)


Prediction of lymph node status in breast cancer. (Francis G)

Semiautomated tissue microarrayer. (Francis G, Stein S)

Breast Cancer database project. (Francis G, Stein S)


High-through-put tissue analysis of novel candidate biomarkers of breast cancer progression. (Beadle G, Upton Z, Leavesley D; AI: Mengerson K, Francis G)

Public Service Relevant to Research

Clinical Trial Co-ordinators Meeting

Pathology Queensland Meeting attended by all PAH Clinical Trial Co-ordinators
The Pharmacy Department was heavily involved in numerous Drug Use Evaluations conducted within the hospital by pharmacists who are completing postgraduate studies as well as by undergraduate students. The department also has an appointed Drug Use Evaluation pharmacist.

The department has a number of pharmacists who work in clinical trials, with a specialist pharmacist involved in 110, an infectious diseases specialist pharmacist involved in six, and oncology pharmacists involved in 40. Pharmacy responsibilities with clinical trials include preparation and dispensing, stock control, invoicing, and reviewing new trial protocols.

Lynette Loy  
Director

Current Research Activities

Other Research
Warfarin education DVD. (Swan B)
Warfarin calculator – Clinicians views. (Winckel K)
Comparison of Prescribing criteria in Hospitalised Australian Elderly. (Winckel K)
Potassium minibag trail in ICU. (Badman B)
Evidence-Based Prescribing of Antiemetics in Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting. (Sandhu G, Ng K, Yung E, Wojewoda D, Weir J)

Financial Support

Grants
$4,500 Allied Health Cancer Care Training and Development: State Cancer Care funding initiative, Postgraduate Scholarship. Postgraduate certificate in Oncology/Palliative Care. (Weir J)
$22,000 Allied Health Cancer Training Funding: State Cancer Care funding initiative, Project Grant. To develop, evaluate and implement a competency framework for Pharmacists working in cancer care in Queensland Health hospitals. (Carrington C, Weir J, Smith P)

$2,843 Queensland Health, Allied Health Postgraduate scholarship. Allied Health Postgraduate scholarship. (White L)

$320 DBL, Fund for conference expenses. DBL Development Grant. (Mann J)

$320 DBL, Fund for conference expenses. DBL Development Grant. (Chan J)

$2,843 Queensland Health, Allied Health Postgraduate scholarship. (Donegan E)

$5,000 SHPA, Renal Pharmacist Grant. Janssen Cilag Renal Pharmacist Grant. (Sturtevant J)

Lectures and Presentations

B Badman
Cardiac arrest, continuing education for pharmacists, Brisbane.
Head injury, SHPA critical care seminar, Melbourne.
J Chan
Stained, old and torn. How reliable is decision support for everyday nursing, Sydney.

Lynette Loy
Pharmacy Assistants and Technicians (Allied Health Forum), Brisbane.
Hospital Pharmacy Services (Novartis-Sandoz), Gold Coast.
Building General Level Skills (Australian Director of Pharmacy Conference), Melbourne.

J Mann
A Blue Herron: when paracetamol is not paracetamol. Sydney.

S Mould
Sugar high - a case of too much drink and drugs. Sydney.

J Semmler
Translation of a local campaign into a national initiative - pharmacy technicians making a difference. Sydney.
Aseptic manufacturing training workshop, Townsville.

J Sturtevant
How to get published. SHPA seminar, Brisbane.
Amgen Meeting, National Renal Symposium, Sydney.
Chronic Renal Failure (The University of Queensland Postgraduate Clinical Pharmacy), Brisbane.

B Swan
A new clinical system for effective discharge planning. Sydney.
How to write an abstract. SHPA seminar, Brisbane.

K Winckel
Osteoporosis. Society of Hospital Pharmacists continuing Education session.
Horizontal Integration between quality use of medicines and multi-professional education: The University of Queensland experience. Monash and Kings Pharmacy Education Symposium, Prato, Italy.
Research conducted through the Physiotherapy Department continued to outstrip previous years’ accomplishments in terms of both publications and research grants attained. The year saw the commencement of an NHMRC project grant, attainment (as a co-investigator) of two Australia Research Council Linkage grants and a $1.2 million Federal Department of Health and Ageing tender. Articles have been published in leading journals such as Medical Journal of Australia, Journals of Gerontology Medical Sciences, and Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. Research strengths in the areas of gerontology, oncology, neurology, and health service delivery have continued to expand.

Kathy Grudzinskas
Director

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
Multi-media patient education for prevention of in-hospital falls. (Haines T, Hill K, McKenna K, Brauer S, Oliver D)

Mobile gait analysis unit and DVD exercise intervention for people discharged from hospital. (Haines T, Jasiewicz J, Urry S, Russell T, Brauer S)

The Effect of Introducing Detailed Upper and Lower Anchor-Point Descriptors on Measurement of Health-Related Quality of Life using the EQ-5D: A Randomised Crossover Trial. (McPhail S, Haines T, Beller E)

The Use of Anchor-Point Descriptors to Reduce Response Shift in Patients with Lower Limb Osteoarthritis: A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial. (McPhail S, Haines T, Beller E)

Exercise for enhancing health following surgery for breast cancer. (Haines T, Sinnamon P, Wetzig N, Lehmann M, Walpole E, Pratt T)

Other Research

Falling for misconceptions in elder rehabilitation. (Haines T, McPhail S, Varghese P)

Patient perceptions of the effect of inpatient falls on health-related quality of life. (McPhail S, Haines T)


Identifying care requirements of people following treatment for brain tumour. (Haines T, Cornell P, Olson S, Fleming J, Ormerod A)

Financial Support

Current NHMRC Grants
$400,000 Commonwealth Government of Australia, Project Grant (Tender). An individualised, facilitated and sustainable approach to implementing the evidence in preventing falls in residential aged care facilities. (Hill K, Moore K, Haines T, Robinson A, Brauer S, Nitz J)
$160,000 Project Grant. Multi-media patient education for prevention of in-hospital falls. (Haines T, Hill K, McKenna K, Brauer S, Oliver D)

Other Grants
$166,000 MBF Foundation, Project Grant. Respiratory rehabilitation or self management for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease: What is the best management approach? (Vicenzino B, Chang A, Haines T, Jackson C, Yang I, Nitz J, Darnell R, Low-Choy N)


$20,000 Queensland Health - Statewide Allied Health Cancer Care, Project Grant. Identifying care requirements of people following treatment for brain tumour. (Haines T, Cornwell P, Olson S, Fleming J, Ormerod A)

$15,000 Queensland Health - Statewide Allied Health Cancer Care, Project Grant. Exercise for enhancing health following surgery for breast cancer - 12 month follow-up to a randomised controlled trial. (Haines T, Sinnamon P, Wetzig N, Lehmann M, Walpole E, Pratt T)

$31,000 Queensland Health Allied Health Advisory Unit Community Rehabilitation Grant Scheme, Project Grant. Determinants of successful community transition for individuals with acquired brain injury and their families. (Fleming J, Cornwell P, Haines T, Kendall M)

$60,000 Queensland Health Patient Safety Centre – Falls injury prevention collaborative, Project Grant.

Evaluation of Low-Low beds for prevention of in-hospital falls. (Haines T, Bell R, Varghese P)

$2,500 Queensland Health, Southern Area Health Service, Evidence-Based Practice Review Grant. Review in the field of patient safety post hospitalisation (falls). (Erwin S, Haines T)

$2,500 Queensland Health, Southern Area Health Service, Evidence-Based Practice Review Grant. Review in the field of patient exercise post hospitalisation. (Lane P, Haines T)

$2,500 Queensland Health, Southern Area Health Service, Evidence-Based Practice Review Grant. Reviews in the field of compression post lower limb amputation. (Batten H, Drew N, MacGregor K, McKay S, Burgess K)

$2,500 Queensland Health, Southern Area Health Service, Evidence-Based Practice Review Grant. Review of proxy reporting of health-related quality of life in older adults. (McPhail S, Lane PV)

$2,500 Queensland Health, Southern Area Health Service, Evidence-Based Practice Review Grant. Review of generic health-related quality of life instruments as a primary outcome measure in physiotherapy. (McPhail S, Bekavac R)

$2,500 Queensland Health, Southern Area Health Service, Evidence Based Practice Review Grant. Review of effective strategies to promote new learning in patients with dementia. (Prescott C, Dolecka U)

$2,500 Queensland Health, Southern Area Health Service, Evidence Based Practice Review Grant. Evidence based practice grant for review of motor learning approach for treatment of chronic low back pain. (Passier L, Windred T)

$46,000 PA Foundation, Project Grant. Advancing ankle fracture assessment. (Haines T, Jasiewicz J, Schuetz M, Urry S, Fleming J, Cornwell P)

$12,500 The University of Queensland Early Career Researcher Grant, Project Grant. Biopsychosocial model of cancer related fatigue. (Haines T)
Lectures and Presentations

Terry Haines
Facilitating research in the clinical setting. Queensland.

The future of falls prevention in hospitals – are we all falling for misconceptions? Queensland.

Generating research in the clinical setting and what it can tell us about current neurological physiotherapy practice. Queensland.

KTEP: The exercise choice of the digital generation. Queensland.

Terry Haines, P Bew, J Nitz, N Low Choy
A randomised controlled trial of the effects of circuit training with frail, elderly hospital inpatients on balance and functional mobility. Queensland.

J Clarke, G Morrison, S Kuys, J Clarke, P Bew, T Haines
Intensity of Inpatient Stroke Rehabilitation on Balance and Functional Outcome. New South Wales.

S McPhail
The role of physiotherapy in the treatment of arthritis. Queensland.

Anchor Point Stabilisation: Another Piece of the Puzzle. Queensland.

S McPhai, T Windred
Canine vestibular disease: a case study. Queensland.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Dr Terry Haines
NHMRC project grant review panel member, Geriatrics/Nursing/Other panels

External reviewer for project grant applications, The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation

Reviewer, Journal of Clinical Epidemiology

Reviewer, Age and Ageing

Reviewer, Clinical Rehabilitation

Reviewer, Australasian Journal on Ageing

Reviewer, Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

Reviewer, Disability and Rehabilitation

Reviewer, Journal of Rehabilitation Medicine
The Queensland Liver Transplant Service and Hepato Pancreatico Biliary (Surgery) (HPB) units continue to deal with patients of all ages presenting with a diverse range of hepatic, biliary and pancreatic disorders.

The service’s activity for the year has been seriously affected by a national downturn in the number of organ donors. This situation has become the focus of a government-funded task force to analyse and address the causative factors behind the downturn.

Nonetheless, the service continues to participate in international multicentre trials of new immunosuppressive agents. Additionally, the HPB unit has become a major contributor to a NHMRC-funded study in the area of aetiological factors related to pancreatic cancer, which is being led by the Epidemiology Unit at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research. A collaboration established with the Hepatology Department and the Therapeutics Research Unit, headed by Professor Michael Roberts, is investigating new methods of assessing functional liver reserve. This is a significant clinical problem, highlighted by the increasing number of cirrhotic patients who develop liver cancers. It can be difficult to determine whether these patients have sufficient reserve to tolerate the removal of the cancerous part of the liver.

Professor Stephen Lynch
Director
The Spinal Injuries Unit, along with the Transitional Rehabilitation Program and the Spinal Outreach Team, make up the Queensland Spinal Cord Injuries Service. The combined service has developed a unique continuum for the acute care, rehabilitation and ongoing management of individuals with spinal cord injuries, representing a best practice model in this field. All three components of the service have active and expanding research programs.

### Spinal Injuries Unit

Research activities in the Spinal Injuries Unit have included the exploration of staff attitudes, comfort, knowledge and behaviours regarding ‘Professional Boundaries’ in collaboration with the Transitional Rehabilitation Program. In addition, an evaluation was undertaken of a neurogenic bowel program for patients with spinal cord injuries.

**Dr Tim Geraghty**

*Director*

### Current Research Activities

**Clinical Trials**

*The Regeneration of Human Spinal Cord Injuries with Olfactory Glial Cells – A Phase 1 Trial.* (Geraghty T, Perry C, Licina P, Nowitzke A, Féron F, Urquhart S, Davies W, Fronke P, Mackay-Sim, A. Collaboration with Griffith University)

**Other Research**

*Professional Boundaries: Staff knowledge, comfort, attitudes and behaviour.* (Fronke P, Kendall M, Ungerer G, Geraghty T, Malt J)


*Factors that affect the outcomes of ventilator-dependent patients with Spinal Cord Injury: a retrospective analysis.* (Eugarde E, Geraghty T, New A)

### Lectures and Presentations

**Elisabeth Vale, Alison Liley, Sue Cumming, Ros Louw, Ros Dalton, Glenda Henderson, Cheryl Hooper**

*The patient journey: The social work contribution to quality patient care. Social work Students from The University of Queensland.*

**Ellen Eugarde, J Harper, J Malt, M Serafin, J Blizzard, Alison New, Dr Tim Geraghty**

*Evaluation of a new program for the management of neurogenic bowel in people with spinal cord injury. Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Annual Scientific Meeting, Sydney, Australia.*

**Geraghty T, New A, Eugarde E**

*Demographics and outcomes of people with ventilator-dependent tetraplegia: a retrospective review. Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Annual Scientific Meeting, Sydney, Australia.*
The development of a clinical neuropsychology service at the Queensland Spinal Injuries Unit: addressing the complex needs of dual diagnosis patients. Australia and New Zealand Spinal Cord Society, Annual Scientific Meeting, Sydney, Australia.

Patricia Fronek

Delivery of Professional Boundary Training to QSCIS staff (One day workshop). State-wide roll out of Professional Boundary Training to Queensland Health professionals across the state and community agencies including the MS Society, as part of the Community Rehabilitation Workforce Project.

Counselling for Health and Capacity Challenges. Masters of Counselling, The University of Queensland.


Social work and Spinal Cord Injury. Delivered at The University of Queensland to social work students and faculty members from the Seoul Digital University, South Korea, (Invited lecture).

Patricia Fronek, Sue Booth
Social Work and Spinal Cord Injury. Delivered to social work students and faculty members from the Polytechnique University, Hong Kong, in conjunction with The University of Queensland.

Public Service Relevant to Research
Dr Tim Geraghty
Member, Scientific Program Committee, Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine

Member, Steering Committee, Australasian Spinal Cord Injury Network

Spinal Outreach Team
The Spinal Outreach Team supports people with spinal cord injury, their families and service providers throughout Queensland. It is part of the unique continuum of care model of the Queensland Spinal Cord Injuries Service. Consultancy and early intervention services are provided by a team of physiotherapists, occupational therapists, social workers and a clinical nurse. Together they aim to enhance access to specialist spinal cord injury services for people living outside Brisbane and prevent the human and financial costs of complications. These aims are achieved through service provision, education, training, evaluation and research.

Core research objectives include understanding, and addressing the consequences of, long-term spinal cord injury, as well as reducing the incidence, severity and life impact of secondary complications. Research conducted also explores the factors which impede or facilitate societal participation for people with spinal cord injury who are recently discharged from hospital, and seeks to gain insight into the role played by significant others in the lives of people with spinal cord injury.

A major research achievement for the year was the completion of the fourth of five years of data collection in the Long Term Outcomes in the spinal cord injury study. This is a longitudinal study involving annual in-depth telephone interviews with 270 participants with spinal cord injury.

Kiley Pershouse
Manager
Current Research Activities
Outcomes in long-duration spinal cord injury: Documentation of multiple integrated trajectories of wellbeing and comparative analysis of outcome measures. (Amsters D, Pershouse K, Barker R (James Cook University), Kuipers P (Flinders University), Kendall M)

Lectures and Presentations

Joanne Ede
Prescribing Shower Seating for People with Spinal Cord Injury. 9th Occupational Therapy Australia State Conference, Yeppoon, Queensland.

Carey Bayliss, D Bertotti, S Tweedy, G Ungerer

Carey Bayliss, Nicola Hunter
Connecting Health Professionals across the Miles: Using the SPOT Interdisciplinary Pain Screening Tool with clients with spinal cord injury throughout Queensland. 7th National Allied Health Conference, Hobart, Tasmania.

Julie Ladhams
The Clinical Nurse in The Spinal Outreach Team: The Use of the ICF to Focus on Client Outcomes. Australasian Rehabilitation Nursing Association Conference, Brisbane, Queensland.

Lucy Maugham, O Mason, Kiley Pershouse, Carey Bayliss
Managing people with spinal cord injury and skin breakdown, the positives and pitfalls, across the continuum. Pressure Ulcer Collaborative Forum, Brisbane, Queensland.

Dr Ruth Barker, Delena Amsters, Kily Pershouse, Melissa Kendall

Nicola Hunter
Minimizing the Impact of Upper Limb Hypertonicity – A Case Based Discussion. Australian and New Zealand Spinal Cord Society Annual Scientific Meeting, Sydney, Australia.

Lucy Maugham, P Slattery, Dr Tim Geraghty, Dr Ruth Barker

Lucy Maugham
Physiotherapy Management of People with Spinal Cord Injury. Griffith University, School of Physiotherapy and Exercise Science, Gold Coast, Queensland.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Kiley Pershouse
Invited to participate in the Consensus Conference on the ‘ICF Core Sets for Spinal Cord Injury’, a joint project of the Swiss Paraplegic Research, ICF Research Branch at Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich and World Health Organisation, Nottwil, Switzerland

Member, Princess Alexandra Hospital Allied Health Research Committee

Delena Amsters
Reviewer, Disability and Rehabilitation
Transitional Rehabilitation Program

The Transitional Rehabilitation Program (TRP) provides post-primary rehabilitation services for people with spinal cord injuries who have undergone inpatient rehabilitation in the Spinal Injuries Unit. The program forms an integral part of the Queensland Spinal Cord Injuries Service. Rehabilitation services are provided in the community in clients’ homes or in the home-like setting of TRP accommodation. It is designed to smoothly relocate patients from the hospital setting to the community during the final weeks of rehabilitation.

Research highlights have included the completion of data collection for a major qualitative study looking at friendships following spinal cord injury. The program was also successful in publishing papers that related to collaborative and service-based research endeavours.

Greg Ungerer
Manager

Current Research Activities

Other Research
Social support following spinal cord injury: A qualitative examination of friendships. (Kendall M, Kendall E)

Professional boundaries: Development and evaluation of an intervention to address staff knowledge, comfort, attitudes and behaviour. (Fronk P, Kendall M, Ungerer G, Malt J, Eugarde E, Geraghty T)

Dual diagnosis traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury: A study investigating demographic factors and outcomes. (Tadros M, Geraghty T, Kendall M)

Long term outcomes of the use of intermittent clean self-catheterisation following spinal cord injury. (Eugarde E, Geraghty T, Kendall M)

Lectures and Presentations

Sue Booth
Case Management within a Transitional Rehabilitation Program. Griffith University Social Work, Brisbane.

Melissa Kendall
Philosophies for disability work: Inclusion, valued social roles and the environment. CRWP Training and Development Officers, Brisbane.

Transition from hospital to home, discharge planning and the continuum of care. QUT Nursing, Brisbane.

Transition from hospital to home: Bridging Gaps in the Rehabilitation Continuum. The University of Queensland Physiotherapy, Brisbane.

Greg Ungerer
Physical Activity Across the Lifespan for People with Neurological Conditions. Australian Physiotherapy Association Conference, Neurology Special Interest Group, Cairns.

Role of Physiotherapy in Rehabilitation for People with Spinal Cord Injury. The University of Queensland Human Movements, Brisbane.

Melissa Wallace
Spinal Cord Injury and the Role of the Occupational Therapist. The University of Queensland Occupational Therapy, Brisbane.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Melissa Kendall
Member, Princess Alexandra Hospital Allied Health Research Committee

Member, Queensland Spinal Cord Injury Service Research Committee

Member, Steering Committee Outcome Measures Project for Community-Based Rehabilitation Teams

Reviewer, National Ethics Form Development, Phase 2

Reviewer, Disability and Rehabilitation

Reviewer, Clinical Rehabilitation
Mater Centre

The Mater Radiation Oncology Centre operates as part of the Southern Area Radiation Oncology Service, based at Princess Alexandra Hospital. Fifteen hundred courses are delivered each year and the centre is equipped with four linear accelerators that treat 150-160 patients per day. The referral base is broad and patients attend not only from the Mater campus but also from Princess Alexandra Hospital, Toowoomba, Darling Downs, Gold Coast and Ipswich. Off-site clinics are run in Toowoomba, Logan and Ipswich, and there is participation in multidisciplinary clinics at the Gold Coast via teleconferencing. The centre is the Southern Area’s sole provider of radiation oncology services for gynaecology oncology, paediatric oncology and orbital brachytherapy.

A new radiation oncology information system is currently being rolled out at both campuses which provides a complete information system with scheduling, notes, record and verify, data base and image management.

A close collaboration has been developed with oncologists on the Mater site. Multidisciplinary clinics are held in breast, gynaecology, paediatrics, skin, lung, gastrointestinal and genitourinary malignancy. There has been a strong emphasis on clinical research and teaching and the multidisciplinary management of patients with cancer.

Associate Professor Michael Poulsen
Director
**Current Research Activities**

**Clinical Trials**

A randomised trial of involved field radiotherapy versus involved field radiotherapy plus chemotherapy for Stage I – II low grade follicular lymphoma (TROG 99.03).

Tumour volume as an independent prognostic factor in patients with non-small cell lung cancer (TROG 99.05).

A prospective non-randomised study of chemotherapy and radiotherapy for Osteolymphoma (TROG 99.04).

A randomised trial of preoperative radiotherapy for stage T3 adenocarcinoma of rectum (TROG 01.04).

A randomised clinical trial of surgery versus surgery plus adjuvant radiotherapy for regional control in patients with completely resected macroscopic nodal metastatic melanoma (TROG 02.01).

A phase III study of Cisplatin, Tirapazamine and radiation vs. Cisplatin and radiation in locally advanced head and neck cancer (TROG 02.02).

A randomised phase III study comparing radical chemo/radiotherapy versus radiotherapy alone in the definitive management of localised muscle invasive TCC of the urinary bladder (TROG 02.03).

A randomised phase III study in advanced oesophageal cancer to compare quality of life and palliation of dysphagia in patients treated with radiotherapy versus chemo-radiotherapy (TROG 03.01).

A randomised trial investigating the effect on survival and PSA control of different durations of adjuvant androgen deprivation in association with definitive radiation treatment for localised carcinoma of the prostate (RADAR) (TROG 03.04).

A phase III study of regional RT in early breast cancer (NCIC MA20) (TROG 03.05).

A phase III study of the Timing of Intervention with Androgen Deprivation in prostate cancer patients with a rising PSA (TOAD) (TROG 03.06).

A randomised phase II trial comparing 2 high-dose palliative chemoradiotherapy regimens in patients with locally advanced non-small cell lung cancer (TROG 03.07).

A phase III international randomised trial of Single vs. Multiple Fractions for Re-Irradiation of Painful Bone Metastases (TROG 03.08).

A paired double blind randomised comparison of Cavilon Durable Barrier Cream (CDBC) to 10% Glycerine (Sorbolene) cream in the prophylactic management of post-mastectomy irradiation skin care (Cavilon) (TROG 04.01).

Post-operative Concurrent Chemo-Radiotherapy vs. Post-operative Radiotherapy in High-Risk cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck (POST) (TROG 05.01).

A phase I study of synchronous weekly carboplatin and radiation in Merkel Cell Carcinoma of the skin – a collaborative study between Brisbane, Melbourne and Newcastle departments (Merkel Cell).

Efficacy Study of Synchronous Weekly Carboplatin and Radiation in Merkel Cell Carcinoma of the Skin.

Hypofractionated Radiotherapy for the Palliation of Patients with Advanced Head and Neck Cancer who are Unsuitable for an Attempt at Curative Treatment (Palliative H&N) (Merkel Cell Ph II).

Dexamethasone for the Radiation-Induced for Pain Flare following Palliative Radiotherapy for Bone Metastases – A Phase II Study (Dex for Mets).

**Financial Support**

**Current NHMRC Grants**

$61,670. Can the needs of caregivers of patients with advanced cancer be improved by using a GP Caregiver Needs Toolkit? (Mitchell G, Poulsen M, Walpole E)

$63,000 Grant. QUARTZ randomised trial. (Holt T)

**Other Grants**

$15,450 PAH Cancer Collaborative Group Grant. Cochrane Review Related activities. (Hickey B, Lehman M)

$18,000 TROG, Grant. QUARTZ trial.

$84,000 Queensland Cancer Council, Grant. Clinical trials support.
Awards

Lisa Roberts
Robert Bourne Travelling Grant Award to study Image Guided Radiotherapy in Canada

Lectures and Presentations

Pauline Rose
Poster presentation: Implementation and Evaluation of a Model of Person-Centred Nursing Care in Radiation Oncology. CNSA/MOGA Conference, Melbourne.

Associate Professor Michael Poulsen
Merkel Cell Carcinoma - Achieving Optimal Outcomes. 9th Annual Scientific Meeting for ANZHNS, Brisbane.
NAHS Breast Cancer - it still matters. Symposium with NAHS and QCAT, Townsville Hospital.

Dr Kumar Gogna & Adrian Gibbs
Set up of prostate gold seed brachytherapy. Introductory teaching session, Uro-Oncology Group, Newcastle

Phoebe Darch, Alicia McCarthy & Laurie Sedgman
Developing a Paediatric Support Group at the Mater Radiation Oncology Department. 4th Annual Scientific Meeting of Medical Imaging & Radiation Therapy.

Megan Carroll
Radiation Therapy for the Treatment of Plantar Fasciitis. 4th Annual Scientific Meeting of Medical Imaging & Radiation Therapy and Annual Radiation Therapy Weekend Conference.

Bronwyn Hilder
Two for the Price of One (Prone Breast Treatment of Bi-lateral Breast carcinomas). 4th Annual Scientific Meeting of Medical Imaging & Radiation Therapy.

Prop-ping at the Mater (development of the Rapid Palliative Response Process), 4th Annual Scientific Meeting of Medical Imaging & Radiation Therapy.

Carolyn Astill
Changing to the 5 field Prostate Technique at the Mater: Annual Radiation Therapy Weekend Conference.

Lisa Roberts & Bronwyn Hilder

Tim Deegan

Carole Brady
What is Radiation Therapy, Hot new Technology, The role of Oncology Nursing Staff in a radiation therapy department. Nurses Cancer Course, Cancer Council of Queensland

Public Service Relevant to Research

Associate Professor Michael Poulsen
Examiner, Radiation Oncology for the RANZCR
Education Officer, State Branch of the RANZCR
Chairman, Quality Improvement Committee of the RANZCR
Member, Training Program Advisory Committee for the RANZCR

Dr Tanya Holt
Member, Training Program Advisory Committee for the RANZCR
Examiner, Radiation Oncology for the RANZCR

Dr Kumar Gogna
Board Member, RANZCR
Member, Working party for Guidelines for managing locally advanced prostate cancer (Cancer Council)
Mentoring Uro-Oncology Group Townsville, Seed Brachytherapy Programme

Adrian Gibbs
Mentoring Uro-Oncology Group Townsville, Seed Brachytherapy Programme

Dr Ramsay
Member, Medical Scientific Advisory Committee for the Queensland Cancer Council
Dr Hickey
Member, Cochrane Review

Pauline Rose
Member, Cancer Nurses Society of Australia (CNSA) Education Committee 2007/08

Lisa Roberts
Member, Overseas Assessment Panel for Radiation Therapists
Member, Australian Institute of Radiography Queensland Branch Committee
Member, National symposium organising committee on Image Guided Radiation Therapy (Guest speakers from the Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto were invited. Over 100 delegates attended the two day session at the PA Hospital to discuss the implementation of IGRT)

Carole Brady
Member, Medical Technologists Board of Queensland Supervised Practice Committee
Member, Cancer Australia’s National Reference Group for Head and Neck Cancer

Kacy Baumann
President, Data Management Workshop Committee for TROG Conference
The Princess Alexandra Hospital Radiation Oncology Centre completed its sixth year of service in 2007. As in previous years, there have been significant increases in both workload and staffing. Activity in clinical research studies has been high despite only 64 patients out of 1109 (6%) entering into trials. This decrease represents the closure to accrual of several highly successfully recruiting studies. Four new trials commenced under the aegis of the Trans-Tasman Radiation Oncology Group (TROG), with recruitment expected to increase substantially in 2008.

The delivery of radiation treatments at the Princess Alexandra Hospital has been significantly enhanced with the activation of the third linear accelerator. This new machine is equipped with Image Guided Radiotherapy technology which involves the production of high-resolution images of anatomy surrounding a tumour. This allows more accurate targeting of radiation treatment. The centre will be able to treat from 25 to 30 more patients per day.

The Director of Radiation Oncology, Associate Professor Bryan Burmeister, completed his thesis entitled ‘The role of radiation therapy in the management of carcinoma of the oesophagus – a personal experience over 15 years’ as part of his MD degree. Associate Professor Burmeister was also the recipient of an Australia Day Certificate of Achievement. This award was granted for his tireless efforts to improve the prognosis and quality of life of patients with cancer through the enthusiastic involvement in TROG and other research activities.

*Associate Professor Bryan Burmeister*

*Director, Radiation Oncology*
**Current Research Activities**

**Clinical Trials**

A Randomised Multicentre Trial of Involved Field Radiotherapy versus Involved Field Radiotherapy plus Chemotherapy for Stage I-II Low Grade Follicular Lymphoma (TROG 99.03 (ALLG NHLL05)).

A Prospective, Non-Randomised Study of Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy for Osteolymphoma (TROG 99.04).

Tumor Volume as an Independent Prognostic Factor in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (TROG 99.05).

A Randomised Trial of Involved Field Radiotherapy versus Involved Field Radiotherapy plus Chemotherapy for Stage I-II Low Grade Follicular Lymphoma (TROG 99.03 (ALLG NHLL05)).

A Randomised Clinical Trial of Surgery versus Surgery plus Adjuvant Radiotherapy for Regional Control in Patients with Completely Resected Macroscopic Nodal Metastatic Melanoma (TROG 02.01).

A Randomised Phase III Study in Advanced Oesophageal Cancer to Compare Quality of Life and Palliation of Dysphagia in Patients Treated with Radiotherapy versus Chemoradiotherapy (TROG 03.01).

A Feasibility Study to Evaluate Adjuvant Chemoradiotherapy for Gastric Cancer (TROG 03.02).

A Randomised Trial Investigating the Effect on Biochemical (PSA) Control and Survival of Different Durations of Adjuvant Androgen Deprivation in Association with Definitive Radiation Treatment for Localised Carcinoma of the Prostate (TROG 03.04 (RADAR)).

A Phase II Study of Idarubicin-Based Combined Modality Therapy in Primary Central Nervous System Lymphoma (TROG 01.02) (TROG 01.02 (ALLG LY04)).

A Randomised Trial of Preoperative Radiotherapy for Stage T3 Adenocarcinoma of the Rectum (TROG 01.04).

A Randomised Trial of Post Operative Concurrent Chemoradiotherapy versus Post Operative Radiotherapy in High-Risk Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck (TROG 05.01 (POST)).

A Feasibility Study to Evaluate Adjuvant Chemoradiotherapy for Gastric Cancer (TROG 03.02).

A Randomised Phase II Study of Two Regimens of Palliative Chemoradiation Therapy in the Management of Locally Advanced Non Small Cell Lung Cancer (TROG 03.07).

A Randomised Phase II Study of of Biochemical (PSA) Control and Survival of Different Durations of Adjuvant Androgen Deprivation in Association with Definitive Radiation Treatment for Localised Carcinoma of the Prostate (TROG 03.04 (RADAR)).

A Phase III Study of Radiation Dose Escalation and Fractionation in Women with Non-low risk Ductal Carcinoma in situ (DCIS) of the Breast (TROG 07.01 (DCIS)).

A Phase III Multi-Centre Randomised Controlled Trial to Assess Whether Optimal Supportive Care Alone (Including Dexamethasone) is as Effective as Optimal Supporting Care (Including Dexamethasone) plus Whole Brain Radiotherapy in the Treatment of Patients with Inoperable Brain Metastases from Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (TROG 07.02 (QUARTZ)).


A Phase III Randomised Trial of Concomitant Radiation, Cisplatin and Tirapazamine (SR259075) versus Concomitant Radiation and Cisplatin in Patients with Advanced Head and Neck Cancer (TRACE [EFC5512]).

A Randomised Phase III Trial of the Trans Tasman Radiation Oncology Group in Collaboration with Fisher and Paykel Healthcare - Project in Pipeline.
Phase II Study of Fixed Dose Rate Gemcitabine-Oxaliplatin Integrated with Concomitant 5FU and 3-D Conformal Radiotherapy for the Treatment of Localised Pancreatic Cancer (GOFURTGO).

Human Papillomavirus in Oropharyngeal Carcinoma: Prognostic Significance and Interaction with Radiation Therapy.

Efficacy Study of Synchronous Weekly Carboplatin and Radiation in Merkel Cell Carcinoma of the Skin.

Phase II Study of Weekly Oxaliplatin with Continuous Infusion 5-Fluorouracil and Concurrent Radiation for Treatment of Localised Oesophageal Carcinoma.

Pilot for a Randomised Comparison of Anastrozole Commenced Before and Continued During Adjuvant Radiotherapy for Breast Cancer versus Anastrozole and Subsequent Anti-Oestrogen Therapy Delayed Until After Radiotherapy. [Study of Anastrozole and Radiotherapy Sequencing Pilot]. (STARS (Pilot)).

A Randomised Phase II Study of Preoperative Chemotherapy Versus Preoperative on Therapy for Resectable Carcinoma of the Oesophagus and Gastro-Oesophageal Junction.

CT-PET-guided Management of the Neck following Definitive (Chemo) Radiotherapy in Regional Node Positive Head and Neck Cancer Patients.


Enhancing Health after Surgery for Breast Cancer.

Cancer-related fatigue: Contributing Factors and Effects in Patients Undergoing Chemotherapy and Radiation Therapy Treatment.

A Randomized-control Trial Investigating the Effects of Group Education and Support in Reducing Cancer-related Fatigue and Improving Quality of Life in Patients Undergoing Radiotherapy.

Hitting a moving Target – Do implanted gold seed fiducial markers help? A Study of Prostate Motion and Accuracy of External Beam Radiation Therapy Delivery in Patients with Prostate Cancer Receiving Three Dimensional Conformal External Beam Radiotherapy.


EBP Review – Evaluation of Immobilization Devices and Techniques Used to Improve the Accuracy of Radiotherapy Treatment of Head and Neck Cancers.

**Financial Support**

**Current NHMRC Grants**

$69,300 Grant. Randomised clinical trial of surgery versus surgery plus adjuvant radiotherapy for regional control in patients with completely resected macroscopic nodal metastatic melanoma (TROG 02.01). (Burmeister B)

Other Grants

$15,000 Strengthening Cancer Care Infrastructure Support for Clinical Trials (TROG 03.07). (Burmeister B)

Smart Health Research Grant, Grant. (Porceddu SV)

$158,000 The Cancer Council Queensland, Multi-state Grant. (Porceddu SV)

$15,000 Strengthening Cancer Care Infrastructure Support for Clinical Trials (TROG 05.01). (Porceddu SV)

$24,500 Cancer Clinical Network Allied Health AHS Cancer Care Initiative, Research Grant. (Purcell A)

$35,000 PAH Cancer Collaborative Group, Practitioner Fellowship. (Purcell A)

$21,131 PAH Cancer Collaborative Group, PhD Scholarship. (Riddle B)

$155,000 Queensland Health Southern Area Allied Health Cancer Care Initiative Research Scheme, Grant. (Sinnamon P)

$4,000 PAH, Rainbow Travelling Scholarship. (Glyde A)

$4,000 PAH, Rainbow Travelling Scholarship. (Ferrari J)
Lectures & Presentations

**Associate Professor Sandro V Porceddu**

Update of the POST Study: Randomised Phase III trial comparing post-operative radiotherapy to post-operative chemo-radiotherapy in high-risk skin cancer of the head and neck. ANZ Head and Neck Society conference (Invited speaker).


RANZCR Faculty of Radiation Oncology representative at the American Society of Radiation Therapeutic Oncology (ASTRO) meeting, Los Angeles, USA.

**Amanda Purcell**

Sick and tired of treating Sick and Tired People? Occupational Therapy Australia Queensland conference.

**Thanh Bui**


Conformal Radiotherapy in the treatment of Anal Carcinoma. PAH Week 2007, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane.

**Amelia Campbell**


**Janet Ferrari**

A Year of Change at the PAH. Queensland Radiation Therapy Weekend, Mooloolaba, Queensland.

**Elizabeth Brown**

Evaluation of immobilization devices and techniques used to improve the accuracy of radiotherapy treatment of head and neck cancers. AH EBP conference, Logan, Brisbane.

Public Service Relevant to Research

**Associate Professor Bryan Burmeister**

Chair of Scientific Committee and President-elect, Trans Tasman Radiation Oncology Group

Chair of Queensland Co-operative Oncology Group, the Queensland Cancer Council

Member, Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee

Member, Scientific Advisory Committee, Australasian Gastro-intestinal Trials Group

Member, Colorectal Guidelines Working Party, Australian Cancer Network

Member, Melanoma Guidelines Working Party

Member, Faculty of Radiation Oncology Research Committee, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists

Member, Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee (PET review), Australian Department of Health and Ageing

**Dr Jennifer A Harvey**

Member, Management Committee, Queensland Co-operative Oncology Group

Member, Trans Tasman Radiation Oncology Group

Member, ANZ Breast Cancer Trials Group

**Dr Margot Lehman**

Member, Executive Committee, Faculty of Radiation Oncology Genito-urinary Interest Group

**Associate Professor Sandro V Porceddu**

Board Member, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists, Faculty of Radiation Oncology

Board Member, Trans Tasman Radiation Oncology Group

Member, Executive Committee, ANZ Head and Neck Society

Member, Head and Neck Cancer National Reference Group Working Party, Cancer Australia
Member, Tripartite Committee, Radiation Oncology, Physics & Radiation Therapy

Member, Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Skin Cancer Working Party, Australia Cancer Network:

Member, Princess Alexandra Hospital Cancer Collaborative Group

Australian Sarcoma Study Group Management Advisory Committee

Dr Andrew Pullar
Member, Paediatric Radiation Oncology Special Interest Group

Bena Riddle
Portfolio leader, Speech Pathology Australia Continuing Professional Development, Queensland Branch

Jennie Baxter
Chairman, Radiation Therapy Advisory Panel – Australian Institute of Radiography

Tripartite Committee, Radiation Oncology, Physics & Radiation Therapy

Quality and Professional Development National Advisory Group
Current Research Activities

Snoring analysis during diagnostic sleep studies in an attempt to develop portable, minimally invasive, auto-analysing diagnostic techniques for sleep-disordered breathing.

Assessment of interhemispheric EEG asynchrony in obstructive sleep apnoea. (Collaboration with Department of Engineering, The University of Queensland).

Screening of community populations with Type 2 diabetes: utility of questionnaires and a Type 4 monitoring device (ApneaLink).

Validation of ApneaLink as a screening device in patients with suspected obstructive sleep apnoea.

Assessment of a simple clinical sign (Mallampati Class) in screening sleep clinic patients for severe obstructive sleep apnoea or ruling out obstructive sleep apnoea.

Use of autotitrating CPAP in the home as a means of determining optimal CPAP settings, compared to attended laboratory polysomnography.

Measurement of the autonomic effects of Obstructive Sleep Apnoea.

Relationships in the co-occurrence of Insomnia and Obstructive Sleep Apnoea.

Mechanism of sleep disordered breathing in patients with end-stage renal failure on haemodialysis.

Randomised controlled trial of Nasal sesame oil (Nozoil) in the management of nasal symptoms associated with CPAP for obstructive sleep apnoea.

Using components of bacteria to treat asthma and allergies.

Effects of allergens on dendritic cell function in asthma.

Airway epithelial cell function in COPD and asthma (collaboration with Dr Ian Yang, The Prince Charles Hospital).

Host defence against virus infection in asthma.

Cardiac risk factors and regulation of inflammation in COPD.

Innate immune function in children with chronic productive cough (collaboration with Dr Anne Chang, Royal Children’s Hospital, Brisbane).
A Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel Study of a Once Daily Dosing of EPI-12323 versus Placebo in Symptomatic Moderate to Severe Asthmatics on Low-Dose Inhaled Corticosteroids and Long-Acting Beta-Agonists (Protocol No.: EPI-12323/201).

Correlation between COPD, soluble receptor for advanced glycation end products and cardiovascular disease.

International, randomised, open-label, Phase 3 trial of Paclitaxel/Carboplatin plus PF 3512676 versus Paclitaxel/Carboplatin alone as first-line treatment of patients with advanced non-small cell lung cancer.

A Phase 1 trial of radiation dose escalation using accelerated concomitant boost radiotherapy concurrently with weekly carboplatin/paclitaxel in patients with good performance status and Stage IIIA/B non-small cell lung cancer.

A multi-centre Phase 3 randomised, double-blind placebo controlled study of the cancer vaccine Stimuvax (L-BLP25 or BLP25 liposome vaccine) in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) subjects with unresectable stage III disease.

A Phase 2 Trial of concurrent chemotherapy with Intravenous Cisplatin and Vinorelbine and radiotherapy followed by consolidation chemotherapy with oral Vinorelbine in locally-advanced non-small cell lung cancer.

Effect of pleuroscopic pleurodesis on chest wall and diaphragm displacement and function. (collaboration with Dr Peter Eastwood, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Dr Stephen Morrison, Royal Brisbane Hospital, Dr John Coucher, Radiology, Princess Alexandra Hospital)

Effect of pleuroscopic drainage on exercise dyspnea and cardiorespiratory physiology in patients with pleural effusion (collaboration with Professor Lewis Adams, Griffith University, Gold Coast)

CT assessment of diaphragm mechanics in patients with pleural effusion.

Pulmonary hypertension and echocardiographic assessment of the right ventricle with exacerbations of COPD. (collaboration with Professor Tom Marwick, Cardiovascular Imaging Group)

Intermittent exercise training. (collaboration with Dr Norm Morris and Prof Lewis Adams, Griffith University, Gold Coast)

Lung disease in diabetes with and without diastolic dysfunction. (collaboration with Dariusz Korzyk, Cardiology)

Exubera® (Insulin dry powder pulmonary inhaler) vs. Avandia® as add-on therapy vs. Exubera in patients with Type 2 diabetes.

Bleomycin lung toxicity and MUC-1: to determine the usefulness of the immunologic tumour marker MUC-1 in predicting the development of bleomycin lung toxicity and lung function changes. (collaboration with Departments of Immunology, Haematology and Oncology)

Public Service Relevant to Research

Associate Professor John Armstrong

Member, Sleep Laboratory Accreditation Panel

Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand and Australasian Sleep Association

Member, Brisbane South Respiratory Services Advisory Committee

Member, Alert Doctors Strategy Steering Committee

Member, Medical Assessment Tribunals

Q-Comp (Workers’ compensation regulatory authority)

Associate Professor Charles Mitchell

Chair, Anti-Smoking Committee, Queensland Cancer Fund

Chair, Queensland Health Medication Safety Implementation Group

Member, Clinical Examinations Committee, Australian Medical Council

Member, Queensland Health Drug Advisory Committee


Member, Committee of Management of Australian and New Zealand Association of Medical Education
Member, Curriculum and Training Program Working Group, National Prescribing Service

Member, Physician Educator Program Planning Group, Royal Australasian College of Physicians.

Vice President, Asthma Foundation of Queensland.

Professor John Upham
Member, Education and Research Committee, Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand.

Member, National Health & Medical Research Council, Career Development Awards Assessment panel

Member, Australian Lung Foundation National Council.

Member, Asthma Foundation of Queensland, Medical Advisory Committee.

Member, Asthma Foundation of Queensland, Research Advisory Committee.

Dr Geoffrey Eather
President, Thoracic Society of Queensland

President, Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (Queensland Branch)

Dr Craig Hukins
Conference Chair, Australasian Sleep Association

Member, Conference Organising Committee, Sleep 2007 Congress

Member, Conference Organising Committee, Sleep & Breathing Congress 2007

Member, Sleep Curriculum Development Committee, ASA/TSANZ

Dr Michelle Murphy
Secretary/Treasurer, Thoracic Society of Queensland

Secretary/Treasurer, Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (Queensland Branch)

Brett Duce
Member, Queensland Health CPAP Program Executive Committee

Brenton Eckert
Member, Spirometry Training, TSANZ

Skye McLennan
Regional Board Representative, ANZSRS

Dr Luke Garske
Member, Curriculum Development Committee, TSANZ

Faculty member, TSANZ thoracoscopy course
To advance the undertaking of practice-based research by clinicians in 2007 the Social Work Department established
contact with Dr Pam McGrath, NHMRC Senior Research Fellow and International Program of Psycho-Social Health
Research Director. Dr McGrath led a professional development session that addressed the topic of practice-based
research.

It is expected that the first collaborative research project will begin in 2008, involving a social work practitioner and Dr
McGrath. Such research will complement the projects referred to in this report.

Sue Cumming
Director

Current Research Activities
Professional Boundaries: The design and evaluation of a psychoeducational intervention for the
multidisciplinary team to improve knowledge, comfort, experience and ethical decision-making. (Fronek P,
Kendall M, Ungerer G, Eugarde E, Malt J, Geraghty T)

Financial Support
Grants
$1,971 PAH, Allied Health Research Grant.
Professional Boundaries: The design and evaluation of a psychoeducational intervention for the
multidisciplinary team to improve knowledge, comfort, experience and ethical decision-making. (Fronek P,
Kendall M, Ungerer G, Malt J, Eugarde E, Geraghty T)

$2,605 PAH, Rainbow Travelling Scholarship.
Benchmarking Social Work Services in inpatient, transition and community acquired brain injury
services. (Liley A)

$24,000 PAH, Research Grant. Life Reflections A Patient Biography Service. (Searles S, Reymond E, Kirkup D,
Israel F)

Lectures and Presentations
Patricia Fronek
Too hot to Handle: Professional Boundaries, ANZSCoS
(Australia and New Zealand Spinal Cord Society) Annual
Scientific Conference, Sydney.

Social Work and Spinal Cord Injury. Delivered at The
University of Queensland to social work students and
faculty members from the Seoul Digital University,
South Korea (Invited lecture).

Disability lecture COUN7015. Counselling for Health
and Capacity Challenges. Masters of Counselling, The
University of Queensland.

Spinal Cord Injury Response: a Cross Government
Collaboration. Program and Service Development for
the Human Services, School of Social Work and Applied
Human Science, The University of Queensland, Masters
Program (Invited lecture).

Professional Boundary Training, QSCIS staff (One day
workshop). State-wide roll out of Professional Boundary
Training to Queensland Health professionals across
the state and community agencies including the
Multiple Sclerosis Society, as part of the Community Rehabilitation Workforce Project.

Patricia Fronk & Sue Booth
Social Work and Spinal Cord Injury, lecture to Social Work students and faculty members from the Polytechnique University, Hong Kong, in conjunction with The University of Queensland.

Alison Liley
Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit, Princess Alexandra Hospital, lecture to Social Work students and faculty members from the Polytechnique University, Hong Kong, in conjunction with The University of Queensland.

Elisabeth Vale, Alison Liley, Sue Cumming, Ros Louw, Ros Dalton, Glenda Henderson & Cheryl Hooper
The patient journey. The social work contribution to quality patient care. Social Work Students from The University of Queensland.

Catherine Walsh
Communication in the Hospital. Monthly presentation to hospital Volunteers.

Grief and Loss within the Hospital. Presentation to Pharmacy Department.

Angela Tonge & Catherine Walsh
The Role of Social Work in the ICU. Presentation to the Radiography Department.

Bereavement Care in ICU. Series of 8 presentations to ICU nurses.

The Role of Social Work in the ICU. Presentation to ICU Registrars.

The Role of Social Work in the ICU. Presentation to new graduate nurses and those about to commence as part of their orientation program.

Shayna Kulman-Lipsey & Janine Jeffreys
Community supports services and Communicating your healthcare wishes - Advance Health Directives. Presentations delivered throughout the course of the year as part of the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program.

Margo Newman
Carers in Australia. Filmed for online Masters of Medicine (GP), Discipline of General Practice, School of Medicine, The University of Queensland. Invited lecturer.

Glenda Henderson
The Role of Social Work in Cancer Services. Presentation to new graduate nurses.

Presentation to PAH Palliative Care Education Group.

Public Service Relevant to Research
Sue Cumming
President, Australian Association of Social Workers,
Research activities in 2007 continued to build on the two main areas of research interest: acquired brain injury (in particular stroke, brain injury, neurosurgery and Parkinson’s disease); and head and neck cancer. This year has seen continued research partnerships with other clinical hospital units such as Radiation Oncology, and with Speech Pathology departments at local, national and international levels. Keen interest from department staff to instigate and actively participate in research projects has seen a further increase in: the number of research projects initiated; the employment of dedicated research assistants; clinician involvement in research; and a growing number of postgraduate students based at the hospital, and supervised by the Research Fellow. Conference presentations and publications arising from research have helped to build on the existing national and international profile, including presentations at three national conferences.

These developments have been led and co-ordinated by the conjoint research fellow, Dr Petrea Cornwell, with support from the senior staff of the department. Petrea has continued to foster the existing strong links and extensive collaborations with The University of Queensland’s Division of Speech Pathology, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences and the affiliated on-site Motor Speech Research Centre. Stronger links have been forged between the conjoint research fellows in Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy also based at the hospital. These collaborations have resulted in the development of multidisciplinary research projects, joint supervision of postgraduate students, and a successful funding application during the year. Additionally, the department continues to benefit from the research contributions made by our advanced clinicians. The department has a key role in allied health research planning and co-ordination, for the Division of Clinical Support Services, with Dr Jenny Lethlean chairing the Princess Alexandra Hospital Allied Health Research Committee.

Wendy McCallum
Director

Dr Petrea Cornwell
Research Fellow
Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
Evaluation of heat and moisture systems (HME) as a treatment option in pulmonary rehabilitation after total laryngectomy or pharyngectomy (Hancock K, Cahill L, Cornwell P, Parkin M, Coman W).


Other Research
An investigation of the service and support needs of individuals with acquired brain injury and their families and carers during and after transition from hospital to the community. (Worrall L, Fleming J, Cornwell P, Haines T, Ownsworth T, Kendall M, Chenoweth L)

From hospital to home: transition experiences and outcomes for individuals with acquired brain injury. (Turner B, Fleming J, Ownsworth T, Cornwell P)


Understanding the differential impact of acoustic speech parameters on the severity of motor speech disorders: effects on speech intelligibility and naturalness. (Cornwell P, McAuliffe M)

The evaluation of multidisciplinary goals and goal setting processes in an adult rehabilitation setting. (Cornwell P, Fleming J, Haines T, Leach E)


The impact of cervical spinal injury on communication: A physiological, acoustic and perceptual analysis. (MacBean N, Ward E, Cahill L, Geraghty T, Hukins C, Murdoch B, Solley M)

Articulatory Function in Adults following Traumatic Brain Injury. (Kuruvilla M, Murdoch B, Goozee J, Addis P, Hazelton R)

Assessing acquired neurogenic communication disorders online: A telerehabilitation application. (Hill A, Theodoros D, Ward L, Russell T)

High level language impairments following primary cerebellar ischaemic lesions. (Whelan B, Murdoch B, Cahill L, Hall G)

Articulatory function in adults following cerebrovascular accident. (Chen Y, Murdoch B, Goozee J)

Formatting written health information for people with aphasia. (Rose T, Worrall L)

A neurophysiological investigation of linguistic deficits associated with traumatic brain injury. (Whelan B, Murdoch B)

State-of-the-art physiological and neurophysiological assessment of articulatory function in adults with apraxia of speech: Pathway to more efficacious treatment for speech disorders following left hemisphere stroke. (Goozee J, Murdoch B, Bartle C)

Hemispheric contribution to language: A divided visual field investigation of semantic processing following unilateral lesion. (Smith E, Copeland D, Chenery H)

Speech and language functions subsequent to mild traumatic brain injury. (Wong M, Whelan B, Murdoch B)


Quality of life, cost effectiveness, survival and functional outcomes following differential management of laryngeal cancer. (Coman W, Cahill L, Hancock K, Ward L, Cornwell P)

Reliability and validity of the Dysphagia Outcome and Severity Scale and the Swallowing Performance Scale for the head and neck cancer population. (Boo P, Cornwell P, Riddle B)

Investigations of care requirements of people with brain tumour. (Haines T, Cornwell P, Fleming J, Olsen S, Omerod A)

Physiological investigation of laryngeal dysfunction following carotid endarterectomy. (Murdoch B, Cornwell P, Cahill L, McGahan T, Gibbs H)
Abdominal Binders – giving breath and voice to people who have suffered a spinal cord injury. (Wadsworth B, Haines T, Paratz J, Cornwell P)

**Financial Support**

**Grants**

$5,862 The University of Queensland, Start–up Grant. Towards an understanding of the motor speech disorders: A parametric acoustic approach to classifying the dysarthrias. (Cornwell P, McAuliffe M)


$5,000 Southern Area Health Service, SAHS Cancer Clinical Network Training and Development Programme. Investigations of care requirements of people with brain tumour. (Haines T, Cornwell P, Fleming J, Olsen S, Omerod A)

$2,000 Clinical Support Services, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Allied Health Research Scholarship. Swallowing outcomes in head and neck cancer patients receiving non-surgical treatment regimens. (Riddle B, Cornwell P, Porceddu S, Stuckey S, Ward E, Davidson W)

$2,000 Speech Pathology Australia, Clinical Research Grant. Swallowing outcomes in head and neck cancer patients receiving non-surgical treatment regimens. (Riddle B, Cornwell P, Porceddu S, Stuckey S, Ward E, Davidson W)

$21,131 Cancer Collaborative Group, PhD Scholarship. Swallowing outcomes in head and neck cancer patients receiving non-surgical treatment regimens. (Riddle B, Cornwell P, Porceddu S, Stuckey S, Ward E, Davidson W)

$2,297 Clinical Support Services, Princess Alexandra Hospital Health Service District, Evidence-based Practice Grants. Does behavioural voice therapy improve functional voice in patients with dysphonia acquired from vocal misuse and/or abuse? (Cook R, Cornwell P)

$6,000 PAH Foundation, Project Grant. Advancing ankle assessment to enhance fracture management. (Haines T, Jasiewicz J, Condie P, Fleming J, Cornwell P)

$1,664 Queensland Health Community Rehabilitation Workforce Project, Project Grant. What are the best speech pathology intervention methods or approaches to improving communication in patients presenting with right hemisphere syndrome following CVA or ABI? (Lethlean J, Smith L)

$2,500 Southern Area Health Service, Evidence-Based Practice Grant. Does the use of microfacial stimulation by speech pathologists for the remediation of facial nerve palsy result in greater recovery of facial movement/tone? (Watter K, Lethlean J, Addis P)

$6,000 NAHBC Tracheostomy Benchmarking Project, Benchmarking Project Grant. Identifying slow to wean tracheostomy patients: an NAHBC investigation of factors that delay or facilitate decannulation. (Duggan B, Read K, Grudzinskas K)

**Lectures and Presentations**

*Dr Petrea Cornwell*


Qualitative research: When the numbers don’t add up. The University of Queensland Physiotherapy Research Meeting, Brisbane, Queensland. (Invited speaker)

*Dr Petrea Cornwell, Emma Leach, Dr Jennifer Fleming & Dr Terrence Haines*

Patient-centred goal-setting within an inpatient stroke rehabilitation unit: exploring the practicalities. The Best of Worlds: Partnerships in Rehabilitation Conference, Melbourne, Australia.

*Dr Petrea Cornwell, Joanne Seah & Bena Riddle*

Dysphagia and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD): a clinical investigation. Speech Pathology Australia National Conference, Sydney, Australia.

*Emma Leach, Petrea Cornwell, Dr Jenny Fleming & Dr Terry Haines*

Approaches to goal-setting within an inpatient stroke rehabilitation unit: consensus or conflict. 30th Annual Brain Impairment Conference. The Australian Society for the Study of Brain Impairment, Brisbane, Australia.
Bena Riddle, Dr Petrea Cornwell, Associate Professor Sandro Porceddu, Dr Stephen Stuckey, Elizabeth Ward & Wendy Davidson

Documenting the outcomes of swallowing function following altered fractionation radiotherapy: a prospective study 2007-2009. Australia and New Zealand Head and Neck Society Annual Scientific Meeting, Brisbane, Australia.

Bena Riddle, Kelli Hancock, Jane White & Ann-Louise Morton


Ben Turner, Dr Jenny Fleming, Dr Petrea Cornwell


Deborah Theodoros, Rachel Wenke, Dr Petrea Cornwell

The impact of intensive treatment on non-progressive dysarthric speakers: a pilot study. International Dysarthria Conference, Sheffield, UK.

Rachel Wenke, Deborah Theodoros, Dr Petrea Cornwell

Effects of Lee Silverman Voice Treatment® on non-progressive dysarthria. International Association of Logopaedics and Phoniatrics Conference, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Public Service Relevant to Research

Dr Petrea Cornwell

Scientific Review Committee, Speech Pathology Australia National Conference

Reviewer, Brain Impairment

Reviewer, New Zealand Journal of Speech and Language Therapy

Reviewer, Asia Pacific Journal of Speech, Language and Hearing

Reviewer, Neuropsychiatric Disease and Treatment

Reviewer, Speech Pathology Australia Clinician and Student Research Grants

Dr Jennifer Lethlean

Reviewer, PA Foundation Allied Health Research Scholarships

Chair, Allied Health Research Committee, Princess Alexandra Hospital

Reviewer, Scientific Review Panel of the PAHHSD Human Research Ethics Committee
The Therapeutics Research Unit continued to study the spectrum of therapeutics including: the chemistry of drugs (including drug design and natural products); the effects drugs have on the body (pharmacology and toxicology); the effects the body has on drugs (pharmacokinetics and drug delivery); through to how drugs can be best used to treat disease (drug delivery and quality use of medicines). The wide range of sources of research funding reflects the broad approach to therapeutics. Sources include the National Health and Medical Research Council, Queensland Government Innovation Projects Fund, Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital Foundation, Queensland Smart State Foundation, the Australian Research Council, the pharmaceutical industry, the PA Foundation and The University of Queensland.

The year was marked with a number of milestones. Firstly, the Unit Director, Professor Michael Roberts, was awarded the RAND medal for outstanding contribution to the disciplines of clinical and experimental pharmacology or toxicology, nationally or internationally. This is a biannual award conferred by the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists. Professor Roberts was also elected a Fellow of the Australian College of Pharmacy. In addition, he was a co-chair of two U.S. conferences: The Gordon Research Conference, ‘Barrier Function of Mammalian Skin’ held on Rhode Island, and the International Skin Pharmacology Meeting on Frontiers in Skin Science, held in Washington D.C. A number of staff were invited to present at these two meetings. The unit was fortunate to recruit Dr Washington Sanchez, and to develop a close affiliation with Dr Luis Vitetta. Dr Sanchez has assisted greatly in work with human multiphoton microscopy studies on skin. Dr Vitetta - together with Dr Geoff Mitchell from General Practice, Professor Janet Hardy from Palliative Care, Miss Heidi Holt and Mr Søren Pedersen postgraduate pharmacy students from Norway and Denmark - have also made a great contribution to the unit’s work looking at improving outcomes for palliative care patients.

The unit was saddened to lose two invaluable and longstanding staff, Dr Sheree Cross and Mrs Narelle Walker.

Professor Michael Stephen Roberts
Director
Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
A phase II randomised controlled trial of atorvastatin therapy in intensive care patients with severe sepsis. (Roberts MS, Kruger P, Venkatesh B, Bellomo R, Kostner K, Cooper D)

Pharmacokinetics and liver vascularity. (Roberts MS, Hung D, Crawford D, Fletcher S, Macdonald G, Fawcett J)

Management of burn injury: fluid dynamics and antibiotic pharmacokinetics. (Cross S, Lipman J, Dalley M, Venkatesh B, Roberts MS)

Targeted drug delivery by topical application. (Cross S, Anissimov Y, Roberts MS, Sanchez W, Soyer P)

Relationship between melanosome distribution and skin colour. (Roberts MS, Zvyagin AV, Anissimov YG, Govindarajan R, Loy CJ)

Topical peptide delivery for cosmetic and therapeutic benefits. (Roberts MS, Anissimov YG, Govindarajan R, Loy CJ)

Modelling of transdermal transport using computational molecular simulation. (Jepps OG)

Other Research
International Needle-free Vaccination alliance (INVax). (Kendall M, Frazer I, Roberts M)


Micronanoporation patches for minimally invasive and targeted delivery of genes and drugs to skin cells: from concept to technology platform. (Kendall MA, Roberts M)

Improving palliative care outcomes. (Roberts MS, Mitchell G, Vitetta L, Hardy J)

Financial Support

Grants
NHMRC, Research Grant A phase II randomised controlled trial of atorvastatin therapy in intensive care patients with severe sepsis. (Kruger P, Venkatesh B, Bellomo R, Kostner K, Cooper D, Roberts MS)

NHMRC, Research Grant Pharmacokinetics and liver vascularity. (Roberts MS, Hung D, Crawford D)

NHMRC, Research Grant Continuing Research Fellowship (Includes NHMRC Fellowship Industry Support Enhancement). (Roberts MS)

NHMRC, Research Grant Management of burn injury: fluid dynamics and antibiotic pharmacokinetics. (Cross S, Venkatesh B, Roberts MS, Lipman J)

NHMRC, Research Grant Targeted drug delivery by topical application. (Cross S, Anissimov Y)

$75,000 ARC, Fellowship / Discovery Grant Modelling of transdermal transport using computational molecular simulation. (Jepps OG)

Other Support
$1,240,519 (total project investment with partner funding $3.5 million) Queensland Government Innovation Projects Fund. International Needle-free Vaccination alliance (INVax). (Kendall M, Frazer I, Roberts M)

$81,045 The University of Queensland Major Equipment and Infrastructure Grant, Grant. Real-time Luminescence Lifetime Imaging System. (Zvyagin A, Plakhotnik T, Meredith P, McIntyre T, Rubinsztein-Dunlop H, Lu M, Xu G, Roberts M)

$220,000 ARC Discovery. Micronanoporation patches for minimally invasive and targeted delivery of genes and drugs to skin cells: from concept to technology platform. (Kendall MA, Roberts M)

$200,000 ARC. Relationship between melanosome distribution and skin colour. (Roberts MS, Zvyagin AV, Anissimov YG, Govindarajan R, Loy CJ)

$249,000 ARC. Topical peptide delivery for cosmetic and therapeutic benefits. (Roberts MS, Anissimov YG, Govindarajan R, Loy CJ)

Lectures and Presentations
Professor Michael Roberts

Is the patient taking the tablets? 3rd Pharmaceutical Science World Congress, Amsterdam (Invited Chairperson).

When are dose administration aids of benefit? 3rd Pharmaceutical Science World Congress, Amsterdam
Therapeutics – Making a difference. Public Lecture for PA Foundation; Princess Alexandra Hospital (Invited Lecturer).

Strategies to maximise and assess skin penetration. Gordon Research Conference on Barrier Function of Mammalian Skin, Salve Regina, USA (Invited Chairperson).


A multiphoton approach to therapeutics. 47th Annual PAH Week Research Symposium - State of the Art at PAH: Cutting Edge Technology in Clinical and Translational Research (Invited Lecturer).


Multiphoton imaging of zinc oxide nanoparticle penetration into human skin in vivo and in vitro. 2nd Advanced Optical Imaging Workshop, University of Melbourne (Invited Lecturer).

Awards

Professor Michael Roberts

ASCEPT (Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists) RAND Medal for outstanding contribution to the disciplines of clinical and experimental pharmacology or toxicology nationally and internationally

Public Service Relevant to Research

Professor Michael Roberts

Member, NHMRC Project Grant Review committees

Member, NHMRC Advisory Committee on Health and Nanotechnology

Member, NZ HMRC Project Grant Review Committee

Member, Program Committee for 3rd Pharmaceutical Science World Congress Conference

Member, Australian Drug Evaluation Committee (Pharm) Committee

Member, Australian Government’s Advisory Group on Chemical Safety

Member, Pharmaceutical Subcommittee of the Australian Drug Evaluation Committee
The Princess Alexandra Hospital Tumour Tissue Bank continues to grow, with the number of donated tissue samples from patients reaching 3600 in 2007. Established in 1991, the Bank now holds tumour specimens from 42 different tumour types, with matched normal tissues totalling 42,000 individual specimens.

By providing tissue samples and clinical data, the Bank continued to support cancer research groups on campus, as well as researchers throughout Queensland and interstate. It remains the largest such Bank in Australia, with the largest diversity of samples.

The Bank continues to exist on funding from private donations and the corporate sector, and provides all of its services to researchers at no charge (http://tumourtissuebank.com/).

Dr Emma Woodall moved from her position as Tumour Tissue Bank Coordinator to a pure research position within the group. Amy Chiang has been appointed to the Coordinator’s position.

Professor David Gotley

Director
The Vascular Medicine Department provides a clinical service in the diagnosis and management of arterial, venous and lymphatic diseases. Research activities include investigation of vascular diagnostic techniques and participation in clinical trials. Teaching activities include teaching of medical students: FRACP part 1 candidates, radiology and vascular surgery registrars and vascular scientists.

Associate Professor Harry Gibbs  
Director

Current Research Activities

Clinical Trials
Boehringer Ingelheim, RE-COVER (1160.53) A phase III, randomised, double-blind, parallel-group study of the efficacy and safety of oral dabigatran etexilate (150 mg bid) compared to warfarin (INR 2.0-3.0) for six month treatment of acute symptomatic venous thromboembolism, following initial treatment (5-10 days) with a parenteral anticoagulant approved for this indication.

Boehringer Ingelheim, REMEDY (1160.47) A phase III, randomised, multicenter, double-blind, parallel-group, active controlled study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of oral dabigatran etexilate (150 mg bid) compared to warfarin (INR 2.0-3.0) for the secondary prevention of venous thromboembolism.

Bosentan Patient Registry.
Inferior Vena Cava Registry and Database.
Nuvello, NAPA-2 A Phase 3, Multicenter, Multi-National, Randomised, Partial Double-Blind, Placebo- Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Alfimeprase in Subjects With Acute Peripheral Arterial Occlusion (HA004).

NHMRC, ASPIRE - (ASApirin to prevent REcurrent venous thromboembolism). A multi-centre, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial examining the efficacy and safety of low-dose aspirin after initial oral anticoagulation to prevent recurrent venous thromboembolism.

Bayer Healthcare, Einstein-VTE treatment study 11702. Oral direct factor Xa inhibitor rivaroxaban in patients with acute symptomatic deep-vein thrombosis and/or pulmonary embolism.

Bayer Healthcare, Einstein-Extension Study 11899. Once-daily direct factor Xa inhibitor rivaroxaban in the long-term prevention of recurrent symptomatic venous thromboembolism in patients with symptomatic deep-vein thrombosis or pulmonary embolism.

Financial Support

Grants
$2,150 NHMRC, Project. ASPIRE. (Gibbs H, Sanderson U, Boylan T)

$33,000 Sanofi-Aventis, National Coordinators of Observational Audit. (Gibbs H, Collins R)

Other Support
$16,171 Boehringer Ingelheim. Re-cover Clinical Trial. (Gibbs H, Sanderson U, Boylan T)

$6,390 Boehringer Ingelheim. Remedy Clinical Trial. (Gibbs H, Sanderson U, Boylan T)
$22,960 Bayer Healthcare. Einstein VTE Clinical Trial. (Gibbs H, Sanderson U, Boylan T)

Bayer Healthcare. Einstein Extension Clinical Trial. (Gibbs H, Sanderson U, Boylan T)

Lectures and Presentations


RD Collins, Associate Professor Harry Gibbs, J Gibbs

Associate Professor Harry Gibbs, R Collins, J Gibbs

SC McKenzie, D Legget, M Neels, J Harper, Associate Professor Harry Gibbs

SC McKenzie, D Legget, M Neels, J Harper, Associate Professor Harry Gibbs

Associate Professor Harry Gibbs H. Gibbs, Renea Collins, J Gibbs

Renée Collins, J Gibbs, Associate Professor Harry Gibbs
Implementation of a Nurse Specialist Model of Care Improves Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis Rates in Medical and Surgical Patients.


Public Service Relevant to Research

Associate Professor Harry Gibbs
Advisor, Board of International Union of Angiology
Reviewer, Primary Intention Journal
Reviewer, International Angiology Journal

Ursula Sanderson
Member, Australasian Health and Research Data Managers’ Association
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# Students supervised at the Princess Alexandra Hospital


Hughes A, Smithers BM, Thomas J, Martin I, Gotley DC, Barbour AP. 2007. Surgery for early esophageal adenocarcinoma: Analysis of lymphatic spread and


Poulsen M, Porceddu SV, Kingsley PA, Tripcony L, Coman W. 2007. Locally advanced tonsillar squamous cell...


Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology 28: 107-108.


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kit for tacrolimus quantification by HPLC-MS/MS: a multicentre validation. Therapeutic Drug Monitoring 29: 508.


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Hanekom L, Wahi S, Jenkins C, Leano R, Marwick TH. 2007. Use of myocardial deformation to predict follow-up left ventricular function in asymptomatic severe mitral regurgitation. Heart Lung and Circulation, 16(2):S64.

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### Committees

#### Allied Health Research Committee

- Dr Jennifer Lethlean, Chair
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- Ms Judith Coombes, Pharmacy
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- Ms Kirsty Davidson, Radiation Therapy
- Dr Jenny Fleming, Conjoint research position in Occupational Therapy PAH/UQ
- Ms Sue Foss, Prosthetics & Orthotics
- Dr Terrence Haines, Conjoint research position in Physiotherapy PAH/UQ
- Ms Melissa Kendall, Transitional Rehabilitation Program & Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service
- Ms Kiley Pershouse, Spinal Outreach Team
- Ms Angela Vivanti, Research & Development Dietitian

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- Associate Professor Devinder Gill, Chair
- Ms Elaine Beller, Director, Biostatistics
- Professor Ian Frazer, Director, Diamantina Institute
- Ms Areti Gavrilidis, Business Manager, Centres for Health Research
- Dr Terry Haines, Conjoint Research Fellow
- Associate Professor Sandro Porceddu, Radiation Oncology
- Professor John Prins, Chair, Centres for Health Research
- Associate Professor Nicholas Saunders, Diamantina Institute
- Associate Professor Mark Smithers, The University of Queensland Department of Surgery
- Associate Professor Damien Thomson, Director, Medical Oncology

#### Human Research Ethics Committee

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- Ms Jennifer Fleming, Research
- Dr Karam Koster, Research
- Ms Jan Maxwell, Lay Woman
- Ms Eleanor Milligan, Ethicist
- Dr John North, Professional Care
- Dr Richard Roylance, Professional Care
Mr Colin Sutcliffe, Lay Male
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Ms Nancy Marinovich, Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper
Ms Simone Plunkett, Marketing Manager
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# Staff

## Academic Unit in Geriatric Medicine

- **Professor Len Gray**, Director, Academic Unit in Geriatric Medicine, School of Medicine, The University of Queensland
- **Dr Salih Salih**, Lecturer in Geriatric Medicine, The University of Queensland; Geriatrician, Princess Alexandra Hospital
- **Dr Paul Varghese**, Director of Geriatric Medicine
- **Dr David Lie**, Director, Aged Care Mental Health Service
- **Phil Aitken**, Senior Geriatrician
- **Glenise Berry**, Senior Lecturer
- **Dr Catherine Travers**, Research Fellow
- **Dr Olivia Wright**, Research Officer
- **Audra de Witt**, Research Nurse
- **Bonnie Pimm**, Research Nurse
- **Cressida Bradley**, Research Nurse
- **Jessica Brands**, Research Assistant
- **Rochelle Vincent**, Research Assistant
- **Susan Austin**, Project Officer, School of Medicine, The University of Queensland

## Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service

- **Raymund Quinn**, Manager
- **Melissa Kendall**, Research and Development Officer
- **Areti Kennedy**, Project Officer, Pathways Home
- **Diane Clarke**, Project Officer, Pathways Home
- **Elissa Morriss**, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator
- **Judy Roser**, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator
- **Susan Gauld**, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator
- **Gina Black**, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator
- **Clarissa Wilson**, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator
- **Claire Schirmman**, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator
- **Sharon Smith**, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator
- **Ann Lancaster**, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator
- **Suzanne Wright**, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator
- **Marie Hollingworth**, Rehabilitation Co-ordinator

## Aged Care Mental Health Service

- **Dr David Lie**, Director
- **Carolyn Coombes**, Team Leader
- **Janet Meadows**, Nurse Unit Manager
- **Dr Jeannette Best**, Visiting Medical Officer
- **Dr Sandra Thomson**, Visiting Medical Officer
- **Dr Helen Siddle**, Visiting Medical Officer
- **Dr Quay Tran**, Visiting Medical Officer
- **Natasha Squelch**, Clinical Trial Co-ordinator, Research Assistant
- **Rebecca Parker**, Occupational Therapist, Benchmarking Project Officer, Research Assistant
- **Susan Austin**, Project Officer, Research Assistant
### Alcohol and Drug Assessment Unit

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Nurse Manager</td>
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<td>Jane Tucker</td>
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<td>Dr Jason Connor</td>
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<td>Ms Nell Pegum</td>
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### Audiology Department

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<tr>
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<td>Evelyn Towers</td>
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<td>Megan Haynes</td>
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<td>Tracey Ross</td>
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<td>Jillian Sellars</td>
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<td>Audiologist</td>
<td>Katie Stapleton</td>
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### Breast and Endocrine

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<tr>
<td>Alternating Chairman</td>
<td>Associate Professor Ian Bennett</td>
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<td>Dr Neil Wetzig</td>
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### Cardiology Department

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<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Dr Paul Garrahay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor of Medicine</td>
<td>Professor Tom Marwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Cardiac Pacing and</td>
<td>Dr John Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electrophysiology</td>
<td>Associate Professor Gerald Kaye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff Cardiologist</td>
<td>Dr Richard Lim</td>
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<td>Dr Sudhir Wahi</td>
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<td>Dr Dariusz Korczyk</td>
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<td>Dr Paul Gould</td>
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<td>Manager, Clinical Research Co-ordinator</td>
<td>Cindy Hall</td>
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<td>Clinical Nurse, Clinical Trials</td>
<td>Clare O’Neill</td>
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<td>Clinical Nurse, Clinical Trials</td>
<td>Ruth Calvert</td>
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<td>Enrolled Nurse, Clinical Trials</td>
<td>Desiree Gifford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visiting Cardiology Interventionalist</td>
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<td>Dr Jeffrey Franco</td>
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### Cardiovascular Imaging Research Group

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Professor Tom Marwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leader, Lipid Research group</td>
<td>Associate Professor Karam Kostner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leader, Valve Research</td>
<td>Dr Sudhir Wahi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-Doctoral Fellow</td>
<td>Dr James Sharman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-Doctoral Fellow</td>
<td>Dr Tony Stanton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Research Officer, Sonographer</td>
<td>Brian Haluska</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Officer, Sonographer</td>
<td>Rodel Leano</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Officer, Sonographer</td>
<td>Carly Jenkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Officer, Sonographer</td>
<td>Leanne Jeffriess</td>
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</table>
Joseph Brown, Research Assistant / Database Supervisor, Sonographer
Helen Branagan, Research Nurse
Melody Downey, Research Nurse

Azette Rafei, Research Nurse
Valda Cross, Research Nurse
Rowena Braaksma, Research Nurse

Clinical Pharmacology Department

Dr Peter Pillans, Director
Dr Anton Ghiculescu, Registrar
Paul Taylor, Senior Scientist

Paul Salm, Scientist
Mike Franklin, Scientist (Seconded)

Diabetes and Endocrinology

Dr Anthony Russell, Director
Dr Ross Cuneo, Endocrinologist
Dr Emma Duncan, Endocrinologist
Dr Elke Hendrich, Endocrinologist
Dr Emily Mackenzie, Endocrinologist
Associate Professor David McIntyre, Endocrinologist
Dr Trisha O'Moore-Sullivan, Endocrinologist
Professor John Prins, Chair, Centres for Health Research
Dr Margaret Williamson, Senior Visiting Endocrinologist
Dr Michelle Leong, Endocrinologist
Dr Michael Keogh, Endocrinologist
Dr Brian Hirschfeld, Diabetologist
Dr Alan Stocks, Emeritus Physician
Dr Kim Ku, Advanced Endocrine Trainee
Dr Judy Hadwen, Advanced Endocrine Trainee
Dr Clair Sullivan, Chief Medical Registrar
Dr Janelle Nisbet, Research Fellow
Dr Cynthia Ong, Research Fellow
Dr Liza Phillips, Research Fellow

Sally Skuthorpe, Nurse Unit Manager
Denise Bennetts, Diabetic Educator
Roisin Warwick, Diabetic Educator
Tien-Wen Tsai, Diabetic Educator
Maryanne Humphries, Diabetic Educator
Angela Pearsall, Diabetic Educator
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Sue Armstrong, Clinical Trials Co-ordinator
Dayl Kelly, Clinical Trials Administrator
Helen Legood, Clinical Trials Co-ordinator
Jane Wallace, Clinical Trials Co-ordinator
Elizabeth Graveson, Enrolled Nurse
Elizabeth Smith, Enrolled Nurse
Vivian Sloan, Dietician
Eugenie Nicolandis, Podiatrist
Damian Clark, Podiatrist
Michelle Furlong, Psychologist
Cherie’Lee Ingerson, Administration Officer
Pam Smith, Administration Officer
Diamantina Institute for Cancer, Immunology and Metabolic Medicine

Professor Ian Frazer, Director
Professor Tom Gonda, Deputy Director

Cancer Biology
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Cell Cycle Group
Dr Brian Gabrielli, Research Leader
Dr Heather Beamish, Senior Research Staff
Dr Frankie Stevens, Senior Research Staff
Dr Sandra Pavey, Senior Research Staff
Maria Somodevilla-Torres, Research Staff

Molecular Oncogenesis Group
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Dr Liang Zhao, Senior Research Staff
Dr Carolyn Hyde, Senior Research Staff
Jane Sun, Research Staff
Ben Wilson, Research Staff
Ehsan Nourbakhsh, Research Staff
Henry Tang, Research Staff

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Dr Annika Antonsson, Senior Research Staff
Dr Jiezhong Chen, Senior Research Staff
Dr Kong-Nan Zhao, Senior Research Staff
Dr Bo Li, Senior Research Staff
Rachel Murphy, Research Staff
Liz Payne, Research Staff
Annie Keleher, Research Staff
Terry Spurr, Research Staff
Denise McMillan, Research Staff
Melinda Burgess, Research Staff
Xiao Wang, Visiting Researcher

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Liliana Endo-Munoz, Senior Research Staff
Dr Raphael Erlich, Senior Research Staff
Dr Zoulika Kherrouche, Senior Research Staff
Dr Alex Guminski, Senior Research Staff
Alison Dahler, Research Staff
Ngari Teakle, Research Staff
Andrew Cumming, Research Staff
Danny Rickwood, Research Staff

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Dr Xiaosong Liu, Senior Research Staff
Dr Stephen Mattarollo, Senior Research Staff
Dr Eva Kovacs, Senior Research Staff
Dr James Pang, Senior Research Staff
Claire Hyde, Research Staff
Allison Choyce, Research Staff
Joanne Dyer, Research Staff
Tim Weir, Research Staff
Yvonne Gautam, Research Staff
Yang Wu, Research Staff
Dr Merja Ruutu, Visiting Scientist

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Professor Matthew Brown, Research Leader
Dr Gethin Thomas, Senior Research Staff
Dr Patrick Danoy, Senior Research Staff
Dr Linda Bradbury, Senior Research Staff
Tracy Doan, Research Staff

Research - Key to Health Translating Science into Better Health
Alison Dowling, Research Staff
Kate Addison, Research Staff
Jacquie Taylor, Research Staff

**Dendritic Cell Biology Group**
Professor Ranjeny Thomas, Research Leader
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Dr Saparna Pai, Senior Research Staff
Dr Shayna Street, Senior Research Staff
Dr Brendan O’Sullivan, Senior Research Staff
Dr Christelle Capini, Senior Research Staff
Dr Tony Kenna, Senior Research Staff
Dr Kristy Edgtton, Senior Research Staff
Anita Gibson, Research Staff
Marion Brunck, Research Staff
Joyce Cotterall, Research Staff
Emily Duggan, Research Staff
Shannon Flynn, Research Staff

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Associate Professor Edith Gardiner, Research Leader
Dr Emma Duncan, Senior Research Staff
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Rena Hirani, Research Staff
Alisa Poh, Research Staff

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Professor John Prins, Research Leader
Dr Ingrid Hickman, Senior Research Staff

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Dr Graeme Macdonald, Senior Research Staff
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Dr Tony Bachmann, Senior Research Staff
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Dr Ibtissam Abdul Jabbar, Support Staff
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Michelle Kappler, Animal Technician
Rebecca Coulter, Animal Technician
Claudia Cuera, Animal Technicians
## Division of Diagnostic Radiology

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<tr>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate Professor, Chair / Director</td>
<td>Stephen Stuckey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deputy Director</td>
<td>Mark Benson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deputy Director</td>
<td>John Harper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Director</td>
<td>John Andersen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Director</td>
<td>Susanne Jeavons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radiologist</td>
<td>Mark Burgin</td>
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<td>Yu Ming Tang, Visiting Medical Officer</td>
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## Emergency Department

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<td>Director</td>
<td>Phillip Kay</td>
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<td>Mitchell, Clinical Nurse Consultant</td>
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<td>Davis, Acting Clinical Nurse Consultant (Chair Research Portfolio, Nursing)</td>
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<td>Cambourne, Acting Nurse Educator</td>
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<td>Acting Nurse Coordinator, Trauma Registry</td>
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<td>Ward, Acting Clinical Nurse Co-ordinator, Trauma Registry</td>
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<td>Hammond (Rose), Research Officer</td>
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## Gastroenterology and Hepatology Department

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Graeme Macdonald</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Director Endoscopy</td>
<td>Luke Hourigan</td>
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<td>Leisa Barrett</td>
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<td>Consultant</td>
<td>Neville Sandford</td>
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---

**Research - Key to Health Translating Science into Better Health**
Dr Charles Steadman, Consultant Physician
Dr Katherine Stuart, Consultant Physician
Dr Peter Whiting, Consultant Physician
Dr Earl Williams, Senior Gastro Registrar and Clinical Hepatology Fellow
Dr Linda Fletcher, Senior Scientist
Dr Kim Bridle, Scientific Research Staff
Dr Mandy Heritage, Scientific Research Staff
Dianne Jones, Scientific Research Staff
Therese Murphy, Scientific Research Staff
Dr Claudia Popa, Scientific Research Staff
Dr Stuart McPherson, Fellow in Hepatology and Medical Education
Dr Malcolm Barnes, Interventional Endoscopy Fellow
Dr James Daveson, Advanced Trainee
Dr Linus Chang, Advanced Trainee
Fiona Giddens, Clinical Trials
Alison Cunnington, Clinical Trials
Geraldine Lipka, Clinical Trials
Leigh Horsfall, Clinical Trials
Leona Burke, Clinical Trials
Jo Sexton, Hepatitis C Shared Care Co-ordinator
Ester Drommel, Queensland Bowel Cancer Screening Program
Caroline Hills, Queensland Bowel Cancer Screening Program

Haematology Department (Clinical and Laboratory)

Associate Professor Devinder Gill, Director Clinical Haematology; Chair Cancer Collaborative Group; Deputy Director Queensland Health Pathology Services
Dr Robert Bird, Director of Haematology, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Pathology Queensland; Senior Lecturer The University of Queensland
Dr Paula Marlton, Senior Staff Haematologist; Head of Leukaemia and Lymphoma Services and Deputy Director Haematology, Pathology Queensland, Princess Alexandra Hospital; Senior Lecturer The University of Queensland
Dr Anthony Mills, Staff Haematologist; Senior Lecturer The University of Queensland
Dr Peter Mollee, Staff Haematologist Princess Alexandra Hospital, Senior Lecturer The University of Queensland
Associate Professor Maher Gandhi, Staff Haematologist; Senior Lecturer The University of Queensland
Associate Professor Peter Woods, Staff Haematologist; Senior Lecturer The University of Queensland
Russell Saal, Chief Scientist, Haematology, Queensland Health Pathology Services
Karen Grimmett, Supervising Scientist - Special Investigations Section, Haematology Pathology Queensland
Dr Catherine Cheung, Post Doctorate Research Scientist
Dr Mark Bentley, Visiting Medical Officer
Dr Helen Wordsworth, Visiting Medical Officer
Associate Professor Andrew Perkins, Visiting Medical Officer
Megan Ellis, Tissue Bank Manager, Research and Tissue Bank Assistant
Andrea Shaw, Sample Co-ordinator, Research and Tissue Bank Assistant
Charlie Mongey, Sample Bank Technician, Research and Tissue Bank Assistant
Adam Stoneley, Supervising Data Manager, Shared Staff with Medical Oncology
Janelle Barboza, Data Manager, Shared Staff with Medical Oncology
Janelle Meakin, Shared Staff with Medical Oncology
Louise Knopp, Shared Staff with Medical Oncology
Harbans Gill, Data Manager, Shared Staff with Medical Oncology
Tanya Graham, Research Nurse, Shared Staff with Medical Oncology
Jennifer Suffolk, Shared Staff with Medical Oncology
Mary Ashmead, Shared Staff with Medical Oncology
Paul Baxter, Shared Staff with Medical Oncology
Sharon Cox, Shared Staff with Medical Oncology
Hypertension Unit

Associate Professor Michael Stowasser, Director; Co-Director, Endocrine Hypertension Research Centre and Associate Professor, The University of Queensland School of Medicine
Diane Cowley, Hypertension Nurse
Christine Ossenberg, Hypertension Nurse
Yvette Jeske, Research Assistant
Livia Kelemen, Research Assistant
Corwin Willy, Research Assistant
Emeritus Professor Richard Gordon, Honorary Research Consultant, Endocrine Hypertension Research Centre, The University of Queensland School of Medicine, Greenslopes and Princess Alexandra Hospitals
Associate Professor B Mark Smithers, Surgeon, The University of Queensland Department of Surgery, Princess Alexandra Hospital
Dr James Sharman, NHMRC Research Fellow, Clinical Centre of Research Excellence in Cardiovascular Disease and Metabolic Disorders, Princess Alexandra Hospital
Dr David Duffy, NHMRC Research Fellow, Department of Epidemiology and Population Health, Queensland Institute of Medical Research
Dr Grant Montgomery, Department of Epidemiology and Population Health, Queensland Institute of Medical Research
Dianne Robson, Hypertension Nurse, Hypertension Unit, Greenslopes Private Hospital
Cynthia Kogovsek, Hypertension Nurse, Hypertension Unit, Greenslopes Private Hospital

Infection Management Services

Dr Michael Whitby, Director
Dr David Looke, Consultant
Dr Wendy Munckhof, Consultant
Dr Geoffrey Playford, Consultant
Dr Brian Dwyer, Visiting Medical Officer, Infection Management Services
Dr Jennifer Broom, Visiting Medical Officer, Infection Management Services
Dr David Jardine, Senior Medical Officer, Sexual Health
Dr Cheryn Palmer, Senior Medical Officer, Sexual Health
Dr Tony Morton, Consultant Statistician
Dr Keat Choong, Advanced Trainee
Dr Kate Adams, Advanced Trainee
Gayle Clement, Nurse Unit Manager, Ward SD
Fiona Fullerton, Acting Clinical Nurse Co-ordinator, Infection Control
Belinda Henderson, Acting Clinical Nurse Co-ordinator, Infection Control
Catherine Watson, Acting Clinical Nurse Co-ordinator, Infection Control
Peter Gallagher, Nurse Unit Manager, Alternate Site Infusion Service
Dee Archbold, Nurse Unit Manager, Sexual Health
Gail Neilson, Supervising Pharmacist, ASIS
Barbara Johnson, Clinical Trial Co-ordinator, Infection Management Services
Sean Unwin
Gail Neilson
Intensive Care Unit

Associate Professor Chris Joyce, PhD, Director
Professor Bala Venkatesh, MD, Director of Research
Professor Leanne Aitken, Chair Critical Care Nursing
Dr David Cook, PhD, Senior Staff Specialist
Dr David Fraenkel, Senior Staff Specialist
Dr Peter Kruger, Staff Specialist
Dr Amod Karnik, Staff Specialist
Dr Ros Purcell, Staff Specialist
Dr Leo Nunnink, Staff Specialist
Dr Wayne Kelly, Visiting Medical Officer
Dr David Sturgess, Research Fellow
Nicola West, Nurse Unit Manager
Samantha Clayton, Nurse Unit Manager
Benjamin Hackwood, Acting Nurse Unit Manager
Michael Abbey, Clinical Nurse Consultant
Sharon Wetzig, Clinical Nurse Consultant
Danielle Griffiths, Acting Clinical Nurse Consultant
Fiona Jennings, Acting Clinical Nurse Consultant
Alison Juers, Nurse Educator
Cheryl Buschel, Nurse Educator
Jane-Louise Cook, Nurse Educator
Leanne Jack, Clinical Nurse Researcher
Debbie Carney, Clinical Nurse Researcher
Lydia Gawa, Research Assistant
Eleanor Rose, Research Assistant
Liz Burmeister, Research Assistant
Jean Helyar, Research Co-ordinator
Benjamin Mackie, Research Co-ordinator
Sally Gipps, Research Co-ordinator
Professor Wendy Chaboyer, Visiting Scholar, Griffith University
Dr Marion Mitchell, Visiting Scholar, Griffith University

Internal Medicine and Clinical Epidemiology

Associate Professor Ian Scott, Director
Dr Graham Hall
Associate Professor Robyn Wallace
Dr Su Mein Yeoh
Dr Catherine Yelland
Associate Professor Peter Pillans
Kim Johns, Research Assistant
Michelle Winning, Research Assistant
Melodie Downey, Research Assistant
Mark Jones, Research Assistant

Liver Research Group

Associate Professor Julie Jonsson, Head
Associate Professor Elizabeth Powell, Head
Associate Professor Andrew Clouston, Senior Staff
Dr Scott Ward, Senior Staff
Helen Barrie, Research Staff
Phoebe Thwaites, Research Staff
Leigh Horsfall, Research Staff
Leona Burke, Research Staff
Medical Oncology / Division of Cancer Services

Associate Professor Damien Thomson, Director
Associate Professor Euan Walpole, Senior Medical Oncologist, Director of Cancer Services, Southside Area Health Service
Dr Helen Mar Fan, Medical Oncologist
Dr Natasha Woodward, Medical Oncologist
Dr Alex Guminski, Medical Oncologist
Dr Elizabeth McCaffrey, Medical Oncologist
Dr Warren Joubert, Medical Oncologist
Dr Victoria Atkinson, Medical Oncologist
Adam Stoneley, Research Unit Co-ordinator
Mary Ashmead, Research Nurse
Janelle Meakin, Data Manager
Nancy D’Arcy, Data Manager
Jenny Suffolk, Research Nurse
Leah Peut, Research Nurse
Sharon Cox, Data Manager
Louise Knop, Data Manager
Paul Baxter, Research Nurse
Kim Wright, Data Manager
Susan Arnold, Research Nurse
Janelle Barboza, Data Manager
Dr Keith Horwood, Medical Oncologist, Visiting Medical Officer
Dr Maree Colosimo, Medical Oncologist, Visiting Medical Officer

Nephrology Department

Professor David Johnson (MB BS FRACP, PhD), Director of Nephrology; Chair of Medicine; Head of the Centre for Kidney Disease Research
Dr Scott Campbell (MB BS, FRACP, PhD), Deputy Director
Associate Professor Carmel Hawley, Consultant Nephrologist
Dr Nicole Isbel, Consultant Nephrologist
Associate Professor David Mudge, Consultant Nephrologist
Dr David Vesey, Senior Research Scientist, Renal Research Laboratory
Dr Euan Noble, Chief Renal Registrar
Dr Ann-Maree Craven, Renal Registrar
Dr James Macdonald, Renal Registrar
Dr Carolyn Clark, Renal Registrar
Dr Jeremy Frazier, Renal Registrar
Dr Ken Tan, Renal Registrar
Omar Kaisar, Renal Research Fellow
Alison Martin, Nurse Unit Manager, Renal Clinical Research Unit
Joanna Sudak
Kirsten Franzen
Kylie Hurst, Data Manager, Renal and Renal Transplant Unit
Daniel Follett, Data Manager Assistant, Renal and Renal Transplant Unit
Rachel Pidcock
Diana Leary
Jennifer Edmunds
Karen Sonnenburg
Linda Orazio
Bettina Douglas, Dialysis & Transplantation Nurse Practitioner, Adjunct Senior Lecturer, School of Nursing and Midwifery, The University of Queensland
Dr John Burke, Visiting Consultant Nephrologist
Dr James Petrie, Visiting Consultant Nephrologist
Dr Troy Kay, Visiting Consultant Nephrologist
Dr Steven McTaggart, Visiting Consultant Nephrologist
Dr Carolyn van Eps, Visiting Consultant Nephrologist
Dr Omar Kaisar
Nursing Practice Development Unit

Dr Sarah Winch, Nursing Director, Research
Dr Amanda Henderson, Nursing Director, Education
Ms Kerri Holzhauser, Nurse Researcher
Ms Eleanor Milligan, Clinical Ethics Co-ordinator
Emma Eaton, Nurse Educator
Alison Trivella, Nurse Educator

Michelle Twentyman, Nurse Educator
Joy Wilson, Nurse Educator
Jessica Schluter, Nurse Researcher
Tim Michaux, Executive Support Officer
Marguerite Baker, Executive Support Officer

Nutrition and Dietetics Department

Merrilyn Banks, Director (Seconded)
Maree Ferguson, Acting Director
Nora Ramos, Senior Dietician-Nutritionist
Winsome Abbott, Senior Advanced Level Dietician-Nutritionist
Azmat Ali, Acting Team Leader, Senior Dietician-Nutritionist

Wendy Davidson, Acting Team Leader, Senior Dietician-Nutritionist
Angela Vivanti, Research and Development, Dietician-Nutritionist
Linda Orazio, Dietician-Nutritionist

Occupational Therapy

Mary Whitehead, Director
Geoff Lau, Acting Director
Dr Jenny Fleming, Conjoint Senior Research Fellow, PAH/UQ
Elizabeth Caldwell, Evidence-Based Practice Champion
Jodie Carolan, Evidence-Based Practice Champion
Nicole Weir, Rehabilitation
Janelle Griffin, Rehabilitation
Kylie Bower, Rehabilitation
Julie-Anne Ross, Rehabilitation
Glenda Price, Spinal Injuries Unit
Mary Little, Hands and Plastics
Amanda Purcell, Cancer Services

Nicole Coffey, Cardiology
Cecile Prescott, Rehabilitation
Penny Whitelaw, Researcher
Annette Fisher, Researcher
Angela Boyce, Researcher
Mary Kayssar, Researcher
Laura Worley, Researcher
Emmah Doig, Researcher
Ben Turner, Researcher
Hannah Gill, Researcher
Celeste Glasgow, Researcher

Ophthalmology

Dr Peter Madden, Scientific Director Queensland Eye Bank
**Pathology Queensland**

Dr Glenn Francis, Director Pathology Queensland  
Princess Alexandra Hospital, Deputy Director Pathology Queensland  
Goce Dimeski  
Dr Joan Faoagali  
Wayne Monaghan  
Dr Robert Bird  
Dr Guy Lampe,  
Jake Farr-Wharton

**Pharmacy Department**

Lynette Loy, Director  
Cindy Mortimer, Drug Use Evaluation Pharmacist  
Robyn Hurley, Clinical Trials Pharmacist

**Physiotherapy Department**

Kathy Grudzinskas, Director  
Cherie Hearn, Assistant Director  
Dr Terry Haines, Conjoint Research Fellow  
Steven McPhail, Project Officer  
Paul Lane, Project Officer / Research Assistant  
Nampech Goeldner, Research Assistant  
Michelle Bennett, Research Assistant  
Joel Dunstan, Research Assistant

**Queensland Liver Transplant Service**

Professor Stephen Lynch, Director  
Professor Jonathan Fawcett, Deputy Director  
Dr Anthony Griffin, Senior Staff Specialist, Transplant Surgeon  
Associate Professor Daryl Wall, Department of Surgery / Surgery Specialties, Surgeon  
Dr Shinn Yeung, Hepatobiliary Surgeon  
Dr Kellee Slater, Hepatobiliary Surgeon  
Glenda Balderson, Scientific Director

**Queensland Spinal Cord Injuries Service**

Dr Tim Geraghty, Director, Rehabilitation Physician  
Dr William Davies, Visiting Medical Officer; Physician; Rehabilitation Physician  
Dr Susan Urquhart, Senior Medical Officer, Rehabilitation Medicine  
Dr Wilbur Chan, Part Time Staff Specialist, Rehabilitation Physician  
Dr Robyn Wallace, Part Time Staff Specialist, Rehabilitation Physician  
Alison New, Nurse Unit Manager  
Tricia Fronke, Senior Social Worker  
Josh Simmons, Acting Senior Physiotherapist  
Glenda Price, Senior Occupational Therapist  
Karleigh Kwapis, Clinical Neuropsychologist  
Ellen Eugarde, Research Nurse
Spinal Outreach Team
Kiley Pershouse, Manager
Delena Amsters, Research Officer
Sarita Schuurs, Research Assistant
Joanne Ede, Occupational Therapist
Nicola Hunter, Occupational Therapist
Julie Ladhams, Clinical Nurse
Carey Bayliss, Physiotherapist
Lucy Maugham, Physiotherapist
Dr Ruth Barker, Allied Health Honorary Associate

Transitional Rehabilitation Program
Greg Ungerer, Manager
Melissa Kendall, Research and Development Officer
Sue Booth, Social Worker
Kirsten Whitby, Social Worker
Bronwyn Makris, Physiotherapist
Jennifer Campbell, Physiotherapist
Rachael Speare, Physiotherapist
Melissa Wallace, Occupational Therapist
Margaret Garde, Occupational Therapist
Annette Fisher, Occupational Therapist
Jodie Harper, Clinical Nurse
Sharon Mortensen, Clinical Nurse

Radiation Oncology - Mater Centre
Associate Professor Michael Poulsen, Director
Dr Guy Bryant
Associate Professor Jonathan Ramsay
Dr Kumar Gogna
Dr Judy Cox
Dr Tanya Holt
Dr Andrew Pullar
Dr Tiffany Daly
Dr Tao Mai
Dr Jamie Evans, Registrar
Dr Sid Baxi, Registrar
Dr Caroline Round, Registrar
Dr Jeremy Tey, Registrar
Simon McQuitty, Director, Radiation Therapy Services
Adrian Gibbs, Principal Physicist
Pauline Rose, Nurse Unit Manager
Kacy Baumann, Clinical Trials Co-ordinator
Adrienne See, Clinical Trials Co-ordinator
Narelle Wallace, Clinical Trials Quality Assurance Co-ordinator

Radiation Oncology – Princess Alexandra Hospital Centre
Associate Professor Bryan Burmeister, Director
Dr Jennifer A Harvey, Radiation Oncologist
Dr Margot Lehman, Radiation Oncologist
Dr Tao Mai, Radiation Oncologist
Associate Professor Sandro V Porceddu, Radiation Oncologist
Dr Andrew Pullar, Radiation Oncologist
Jennie Baxter, Director, Radiation Therapy Services
John Doody, Principal Physicist
Respiratory and Sleep Medicine

Associate Professor John Armstrong, Director
Professor John Upham
Associate Professor Charles Mitchell
Dr Geoffrey Eather
Dr Luke Garske
Dr Craig Hukins

Dr Michelle Murphy
Dr Khoa Tran
Brett Duce
Brenton Eckert
Margaret Dauth, Research Assistant

Social Work

Sue Cumming, Director
Margo Newman, Aged Care
Patricia Fronek, Rehabilitation and Disability
Sherryl Searles, Cancer, Oncology and Cardiac
Angela Tonge, Trauma and Critical Care
Patricia Harrower, Aged Care
Simone Cahill, Cancer Services (Since August 2007)

Catherine Martin, Chronic Diseases (Since September 2007)
Dr Margaret Shapiro, Director Postgraduate Research Studies, School of Social Work and Applied Human Sciences, The University of Queensland
Dr Cheryl Tilse, Senior Lecturer, School of Social Work and Applied Human Sciences, The University of Queensland

Speech Pathology

Wendy McCallum, Director
Dr Petrea Cornwell, Research Fellow, The University of Queensland / Princess Alexandra Hospital
Kelli Hancock, Senior Speech Pathologist, Acute, and Advanced Clinician
Paula Addis, Acting Senior Speech Pathologist, Geriatric and Rehabilitation Unit and Advanced Clinician
Brooke Duggan (nee Houghton), Acting Senior Speech Pathologist, Acute

Dr Jenny Lethlean, Advanced Clinician, Rehabilitation
Maura Solley, Advanced Clinician, Acute
Carly Freebairn (nee Jarman)
Kelly Read
Bena Riddle
Aimee Turner
Michaela-Mary Oliver, Research Assistant
Therapeutics Research Unit

Professor Michael Stephen Roberts, Director
Dr Sheree Cross, Honorary Research Fellow
Dr Yuri Anissimov, Honorary Research Consultant
Dr Michael Whitehouse, Honorary Research Consultant
Dr Owen Jepps, ARC APD Fellow
Dr Julie Stokes, Postdoctoral Fellow
Dr Yuhong Zou, Postdoctoral Fellow
Dr Peyman Asadian, Visiting Fellow
Dr Andrew Dally, Postdoctoral Fellow
Dr Jeff Grice, Postdoctoral Fellow
Dr Tom Robertson, Postdoctoral Fellow
Dr Yuri Dancik, Postdoctoral Fellow
Dr Washington Sanchez, Postdoctoral Fellow
Dr Yasuko Koda, Postdoctoral Fellow
Dr Julijana Nikolovski, Research Assistant
Dr Paul Masci, Research Officer
Xin Liu, Postdoctoral Fellow
Jenny Ordono, NHMRC Research Assistant
Alex Khlentzos, Research Assistant
Tracy Masse, Visiting Scholar
Silke Dincher, Visiting Scholar
Farnaz Monajemzadeh, Visiting Scholar
Heidi Holt, Visiting Scholar
Søren Pedersen, Visiting Scholar
Susan Gayadat, Visiting Scholar
Audrey Gierden, Visiting Scholar
Brett McWhinney, Consultant Research Officer
Narelle Walker, Executive Secretary

Tumour Tissue Bank (Metastasis Research Laboratory)

Professor David Gotley, Director
Amy Chiang, Co-ordinator
Betty Menzies, Data Base Manager

Vascular Medicine

Associate Professor Harry Gibbs, Director
Renea Collins, Clinical Nurse Consultant VTE Prevention
Ursula Sanderson, Clinical Trial Co-ordinator
Tui Boylan, Clinical Trial Co-ordinator
Natalie Gerns, Clinical Trial Co-ordinator
Rebecca Hetherington, Senior Vascular Scientist
Susan Gibb, Senior Vascular Scientist
James Maunder, Vascular Scientist
Alice Wuensche, Vascular Scientist
Rachel Morrison, Vascular Scientist
Carissa Ceccato, Vascular Scientist
Soraya Elliot, Director’s Secretary
Gene Paton, Administrative Assistant
### PhD Completions

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Clarke, Daniel</td>
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<td>Colley, Rachel</td>
<td>So, Albertina Dr</td>
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<td>MacBean, Naomi</td>
<td>Vivanti, Angela</td>
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<td>Putral, Lisa</td>
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### PhD Commencements

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<td>Volp, Kym</td>
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### PhD In Progress

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<td>Fung, Lin</td>
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<td>Gannon, Orla</td>
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<td>Charlton, Hayley</td>
<td>Glasgow, Celeste</td>
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<td>Cheung, Vivian</td>
<td>Gonda, Judy</td>
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### Masters Completions

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### Masters In Progress

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<td>Cannon, Marianne</td>
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<td>Chen, Yueh</td>
<td>Redfern, Clare</td>
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<td>Giles, Nichole</td>
<td>Tung, John Paul</td>
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<td>Guidi, Robyn</td>
<td>Unwin, Sean</td>
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<td>McErlean, Deanne</td>
<td>Usriansyah, Usriansyah,</td>
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<td>Wadsworth, Brooke</td>
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<td>Nguyen, Thien</td>
<td>Whelan, Jane</td>
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<td>Nicker, Lindy</td>
<td>Zhao, X</td>
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### Other

| Allam, Lee (Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy) | Squelch, Natasha (Doctor of Clinical Psychology and Clinical Neuropsychology) |
| Bell, Rhiannon (Doctor of Clinical Psychology) | Stathan, Dixie (Doctor of Clinical Psychology) |
| Chang, Tina (Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy) | Weir, Janet (Postgraduate Certificate in Oncology/Palliative Care) |
| Donegan, Elizabeth (Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy) | White, Lucy (Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy) |
| Pegum, Nell (Doctor of Clinical Psychology) |                           |
| Rahathungoda, Nimali (Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy) |                           |
| Sandhu, Geeta (Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy) |                           |
Centres for Health Research

Professor John Prins, Chair
Areti Gavrilidis, Business Manager
John Meyer, Acting Business Manager (July - November)
Renae Miles, Marketing Co-ordinator and Executive Support Officer
Georgina Gill, Project Officer
Jan Singleton, Executive Support Officer, Cancer Collaborative Group
Dianne Mew, Business Support Officer, Contracts (from May)
Marita Cummings, Business Support Officer, Contracts (to May)
Gwynneth Petrie, Chair, Human Research Ethics Committee
Sharon Knight, Ethics Manager (from June)
Anne Walsh, Ethics Manager (April - June)
Sheran Pavey, Acting Ethics Manager (January - April)
Helen Banks, Executive Support Officer, Ethics

L to R: Areti Gavrilidis, John Prins

Back Row L to R: Sharon Knight, Renae Miles, Areti Gavrilidis, Jan Singleton
Front Row L to R: Dianne Mew, Georgina Gill, Helen Banks
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
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<tr>
<td>ALLG</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGITG</td>
<td>Australasian Gastro-Intestinal Trials Group</td>
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<td>Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AKT</td>
<td>Australasian Kidney Trials</td>
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<td>AKTN</td>
<td>Australasian Kidney Trials Network</td>
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<td>ALLG</td>
<td>Australasian Leukemia and Lymphoma Group</td>
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<td>Acute Myeloid Leukaemia</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANZCA</td>
<td>Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARC</td>
<td>Australian Research Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARHR</td>
<td>Australian Rotary Health Research</td>
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<td>ARTHFA</td>
<td>Arthritis Foundation Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>AUGM</td>
<td>Academic Unit in Geriatric Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCRE</td>
<td>Centre of Clinical Research Excellence</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDER</td>
<td>Centre for Diabetes and Endocrine Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>CICR</td>
<td>Centre for Immunology and Cancer Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>CRIUSA</td>
<td>Cancer Research Institute USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>DART</td>
<td>Diabetes Australia Research Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOSH</td>
<td>Geriatric Outcomes Study in Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>GPRWMF</td>
<td>Garnett Passe and Rodney Williams Memorial Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHF</td>
<td>National Heart Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>NHMISC</td>
<td>New Hampshire Miscellaneous Sponsor</td>
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<td>NHMRC</td>
<td>National Health and Medical Research Council</td>
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<td>NICS</td>
<td>National Institute of Clinical Studies</td>
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<td>PAH</td>
<td>Princess Alexandra Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCFA</td>
<td>Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>PTLD</td>
<td>Post-transplant lymphoproliferative disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>QCFN</td>
<td>Queensland Cancer Fund Network</td>
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<td>QIMR</td>
<td>Queensland Institute for Medical Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>QUT</td>
<td>Queensland University of Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>RACP</td>
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<td>RLCMRF</td>
<td>Rebecca L Cooper Medical Research Foundation</td>
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<td>UQ</td>
<td>University of Queensland</td>
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<td>WEHI</td>
<td>Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WELLAU</td>
<td>Wellcome Trust Australia</td>
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</table>
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The PA Foundation raises funds for world-class health and medical research conducted at the Princess Alexandra Hospital Campus for better health outcomes, treatment, prevention and cure of disease.

We award grants to established or new researchers, new appointees, nurses and allied health workers.

The level of research projects funded depends entirely upon the level of philanthropic funds raised. The more money we raise, the more research we fund.

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For more information on research grants and fundraising activities, call us on **07 3240 2359** or visit [www.pafoundation.org.au](http://www.pafoundation.org.au)