## CONTENTS/

### EXECUTIVE REPORTS
- Head of Cluster, Professor Andrew Kaye 3
- Head of Department of Medicine (RMH/WH), Professor Terence O’Brien 3
- Head of Department of Surgery, Professor Andrew Kaye 4
- Head of Department of Radiology, Professor Patricia Desmond 5
- Head of Department of Psychiatry, Professor John Tiller 5

### TRIBUTES
- Tribute to Professor Graham Brown 7
- Vale Robert Nicholas (Nick) Christopher, BA, MBA (1947 – 2008) 8

### AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS
- The Richard Larkins Prize 9

### EDUCATION
- Doctor of Medicine Program (MD) 10
- Masters Program 10
- Doctor of Philosophy Program (PhD) 11
- Honours Projects 2008 13
- AMS Projects 08/09 14
- Student Completions (Department of Medicine (RMH/WH) 14
- Clinical School Report 14

### RESEARCH REPORTS
- Arthritis and Inflammation 15
- Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health 17
- Barwon Psychiatric Research Unit 20
- Brain Tumour Laboratory (Department Of Surgery) 25
- Cancer Signalling Research Laboratory 26
- Centre for Clinical Research Excellence in Infectious Diseases 29
- Clinical Genetics 30
- Clinical School, Royal Melbourne Hospital 32
- Colon Cancer, Department Of Surgery (Western Hospital) 35
- Epilepsy and Neuropharmacology 36
- Gastrointestinal Cancer Group 44
- International and Immigrant Health Research Group 45
- Lifestyle Medicine 47
- Lung Disease Research Group 52
- Malaria 54
- Orygen Youth Health Research Centre 57
- Osteoporosis and Bone Health Research Group 65
- Prostate Cancer Research Laboratories 69
- Radiology 70
- Rheumatoid Arthritis and Cardiovascular Disease 77

### ACTIVITIES
- Student Association Report 78
- Clinical School 79
- Staff and Students 79
- Cluster Seminar Series 81

### PUBLICATIONS
- 84
Head of Cluster, Professor Andrew Kaye

The Royal Melbourne Hospital/Western Hospital Cluster comprises the Departments of Medicine, Surgery, Psychiatry, and Radiology at The Royal Melbourne Hospital and The Western Hospital, as well as the Clinical School. The aims of the Cluster as an organisation are to optimise the academic activities involving both teaching and research, and enhance our interactions with the Faculty and University, as well as with the host hospitals, The Royal Melbourne Hospital and the Western Hospital. During 2008/2009, the departments within the Cluster have strengthened their collaborations involving a wide range of research programs, including cancer, epilepsy, neuro-oncology, cerebrovascular disease, imaging and neuro-immunology.

Improved communication and collaborations have resulted in a record recruitment of post-graduate research students at Honours, Masters and Doctorate levels, and also in obtaining research funding from national government bodies as well as philanthropic organisations. The Cluster has unified the administrative processes, improving our support of research students, and streamlining other essential administrative processes that underpin the functions of each of the departments.

Involvement of the Clinical School within the Cluster has been critical to optimising teaching at the undergraduate level, and also developing post-graduate teaching programs organised by each of the University departments.

Over the next few years, the development of the Comprehensive Cancer Centre in Parkville will offer considerable opportunities for each of the departments within the Cluster, and the Cluster will also be involved with the planning in the redevelopment of The Royal Melbourne Hospital on its present site.

Head of Department of Medicine (RMH/WH), Professor Terence O’Brien

2008 was an extraordinary year as the Department underwent major personnel and structural changes, faced many challenges, and experienced great sadness but also tremendous individual and collective successes.

At the beginning of 2008 Professor Graham Brown stepped down from his position as James Stewart Professor of Medicine and Head of Department of Medicine (RMH/WH) to concentrate his efforts as Professor of Global Health and Head of the Nossal Institute. Professor Brown led the Department for eight years, since 1 April 2001. During this time he provided outstanding leadership and hard work to grow the Department and create a culture of quality, productivity and collaboration. The quality, quantity and breadth of the achievements of Department groups and members highlighted in this annual report are a tangible manifestation of the success of his stewardship. Under his leadership the Department has grown to be one of the largest and most successful in the University, and arguably the strongest Department of Medicine in the country. As an illustration, in 2001 the annual Department Budget was $5.9M; by 2007 it had grown almost three fold to $15.5M; in 2000 there were approximately 80 non-casual staff employed; by 2007 this number had grown to 109, plus almost 100 students. In 2000 the total research income brought by the Department totalled $14,720,533, making the revenue the second highest for any Department or School in the Faculty (after the School of Population Health). However, facts and figures alone don’t do justice to what Graham has been as a Head of Department. He is a man with the rare ability to combine strong and decisive leadership with a personal touch that made every member of the Department feel valued. It did not matter whether you were a senior academic, post-docs, research assistant, administrative staff member or student, Graham would make time in his busy schedule to sit down at morning tea and get to know you, find out what you were working on, how it was going, and what football team you barracked for! This collegiate attitude, coming from the top, is one of the reasons why this Department has been such a successful and enjoyable environment in which to work. I am very confident that the foundations we have all built under Graham’s leadership and mentorship are so strong, that the Department will continue to thrive into the future. On behalf of the whole Department I wish to thank Graham for his service to the Department, and wish him all the best for his next career challenge - turning the Nossal Institute into just as much a success as he has made this Department. Please see a tribute to Professor Brown by his long-time friend and colleague at Royal Melbourne Hospital, Associate Professor David Russell later in this report.

A/Professor Geoff McColl also left the Department in 2008 to take up the key leadership position as Professor of Medical Education and Head of the Medical Education Unit in the University of Melbourne School of Medicine. In this role Geoff will be charged with the responsibility for development and implementation of the new post graduate Doctor of Medicine course, which is part of the new Melbourne Model. Dr Joseph Torresi also left the Department in 2008 to take up a position at the Austin Hospital and was subsequently promoted to Principal Fellow with title of Associate Professor. We congratulate Graham, Geoff and Joe on their new appointments, and thank them for their invaluable contributions to our Department, the University, and the Royal Melbourne Hospital over many years. Professor Brown’s laboratory continues to be based in the Department of Medicine (RMH/WH) headed up by Dr Michael Duffy.

Another significant change in the research personnel of the Department was the completion of the Cooperative Research Centre for Chronic Inflammatory Diseases (CRC-CID) which had been headed up by Professor John Hamilton and Professor Gary Anderson. This CRC, which focused on our Department for the entire seven years duration, had been extremely successful in terms of generating important new research, training students and initiating new collaborations. The benefits from CRC will continue to be experienced by the Department and the University for many years to come, and will be translated into improvements in patient care. A number of long standing members of the Department left to pursue their careers elsewhere. These include John Flack (Chairman and CEO), Robyn McLachlan (Chief Operations Officer), Susan Cumming (Education Officer), Graham Burns (Finance and Administration manager), Melissa Coyle (Office Manager). We thank them all for their tremendous contribution to the Department and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

On November 15 2008 Mr Nick Christopher passed away after a short illness. Nick had been the Manager of the Department of Medicine (RMH/WH) from 2001 till 2008 when he was appointed to the position as the inaugural Manager of the RMH/WH combined University Departments Clinical Cluster. Despite taking on this new major professional challenge, Nick had continued to perform all of his old duties as manager of the Department of Medicine. His loss...
resulted in great personal sadness for the members of the Department and our Fellows, as well as many others across the University and Hospitals. Many were helped by Nick over his years of service, and there was a collective feeling of loss for an extremely valued colleague and friend. Please see Nick Christopher’s obituary later in this report. Through the very difficult time for the Department during Nick’s illness, and following his death, it was very gratifying to see the way Department members pulled together, supported each other and selflessly took on extra duties to keep the Department running. While every Department member contributed in large and small ways, I wish to particularly thank Lorraine Parker, supported by Lyn Kims, who effectively took on the role as Department Manager.

To Honour the memory of Mr Nick Christopher the Department Executive decided to name the PhD support scholarships after him. These scholarships were Nick’s initiative and reflected his passion that the Department support the most talented students to undertake their studies in our Department. There are two “Nick Christopher Scholarships” to be awarded each year. Each scholarship provides students with a $6000 top up in addition to their competitive scholarship, plus a certificate and name on the Honour board. The scholarships are awarded on the basis of merit. One scholarship is automatically awarded to the winner of the Larkin’s Prize for the top Honours student in the Department, from the previous honours year, if they choose to stay on and undertake their PhD with us. Very pleasingly the winner of the 2008 Larkin’s Prize, Mubing (Erika) Duan, decided to do this, starting her PhD in 2009 supervised by Professor Gary Anderson. The second scholarship is competitive, chosen by the Scholarship Committee of the Department. To be eligible the applicant needs to enrol in a PhD in the Department and have a competitive scholarship. The criteria for selection combines academic performance, publication record, extra curricular activities associated with medical research, community leadership, a demonstrated commitment to a career in medical research, and subsequent recommendation by external referees. The committee received a number of outstanding applications, and in the end was unable to decide between two. As a result, the 2009 scholarship will be shared with Amelia Koe (supervised by Dr. Nigel Jones) and Jenny Gianoudis (supervised by Dr. Rob Daly).

2008 saw the implementation of University geographic clusters. The Department of Medicine became part of the Royal Melbourne and Western Cluster, joining with Surgery, Radiology and Psychiatry to form a large administrative and collaborative University presence within the Royal Melbourne and Western Hospitals. On an academic level this has had great benefits, as outlined by Professor Andrew Kaye in his Chair of Cluster Executive Report. Some tangible examples of this include a joint seminar program, a joint Honours Program, and joint PhD Research Higher Degree Committee, with a synergised approach to access equipment and funding applications. As a result of the increased interaction between the University departments, a number of new collaborative approach projects have been established and research funding grant applications applied for. Additionally, expertise within University departments is now being shared across departments. I have no doubt as the cluster integration progresses the outputs of all our research will improve even further in terms of quality, quantity and relevance to human diseases.

I wish to conclude by highlighting some of the research successes of the Department over 2008. Department staff and students have produced 121 peer reviewed publications, 11 reviewed articles, 4 editorials and 2 book chapters. These articles cover the broad spectrum of biomedical research relevant to human diseases. The nature of publications reflects the particular focus of the Department on Translational Research, bridging advances in basic science, with clinical research to improve patient outcomes. The Department had a very successful year in winning competitive research grants. This included Department members being Chief Investigators on 18 NHMRC project grants awarded in 2008 (total grant funding of the Projects $9,656,559), two ARC Discovery Grants and a NHMRC Development Grant as well as many other national and international competitive research grants as detailed in this report. In addition, Department members were highly successful at attracting commercial and government contract research income. The total research income for the Department was $14,720,533.

It is also very pleasing to be able to highlight the number of PhD, MD, Honours and AMS students that graduated from the Department during 2008 (See Education section of this report for details).

We congratulate all these students and their supervisors on their successful completion of their research degrees which I have no doubt will represent important milestones in their future careers.

I thank and congratulate all members of the Department on what has been an incredibly challenging but highly successful 2008, and I look forward to even greater outcomes together in the years to come.

Head of Department of Surgery, Professor Andrew Kaye

The Department of Surgery at The Royal Melbourne Hospital forms the focus for academic activities in surgery for The University of Melbourne and The Royal Melbourne Hospital and Western Hospital. Members of the department are involved in research and in both undergraduate and post-graduate teaching in surgery. These activities are undertaken both within the department, and more broadly on the hospital campuses.

The year 2008 was particularly successful for the Department of Surgery, with senior academic and laboratory staff receiving substantial NHMRC research funding, as well as funding from other research and philanthropic organisations. Dr. Hong-Jian Zhu had previously attracted $1.1 million worth of NHMRC research funds for the Department and the University, and in 2008, he was successful with further grants. Associate Professor Russell Gruen obtained a $5 million research grant from the Victorian Neuroscience Institute to progress the Global Evidence Mapping Initiative for brain and spinal trauma. He also obtained funding from the NH-MRC for an Early Career Grant. Dr. Rod Luwor was awarded the Winter and Glover Fellowship in Cancer Research from The University of Melbourne and Dr. Tanya Yuen, PhD student, was awarded the prestigious Sir John Loewenthal Surgical Training Scholarship. Dr. Ben Namdarian, PhD student, was awarded the Gordon Clunie Surgical Prize for Best Presentation at the Research Week Forum at Melbourne Health.

Dr. Andrew Morokoff, Neurosurgeon, was recruited to the position of Senior Lecturer. He had previously undertaken his PhD in the Department of Surgery at The Royal Melbourne Hospital and had subsequent training in neuro-oncology at Harvard and
During 2008, the Department continued to focus specifically on the study of oncogenesis, and development of new therapies for cancer. The Department has special interest in brain cancer, prostate cancer and colorectal cancer. Over many years, there has been a close relationship between members of the Department of Surgery and those in the Department of Medicine undertaking epilepsy research. In the past, this has been mostly at the clinical research level and based on the very successful epilepsy surgery program headed by Professor Terry O’Brien. However, during 2007, it became evident there were considerable synergies at the laboratory research level, particularly related to work that had been undertaken by Dr. Ulrike Novak studying the ADAM proteins. Although this work had been mostly related to ADAM proteins and the control of cellular proliferation of development, it was recognized that these proteins might also play an important role in epilepto-genesis.

A joint program between the departments was developed, and following the retirement of Dr. Novak, the activities of her laboratory have been transferred into the Brain Tumour Therapeutic Efficacy, $500k AUD. Dr Moffat was also a successful epilepsy surgery program.

The highlight was the publication of the "Epithet Stroke Trial" results in Lancet Neurology.

In 2008, a $180,000 unrestricted educational grant was obtained from industry. This was used to organize a most successful international neurosurgery conference in October, when over a 100 registrants and six leading international neurosurgeons and research scientists attended the conference. We congratulate Dr Stefan Heinze and Dr Eddie Lau on their appointments to Clinical Associate Professor and look forward to their future contributions.

The Department at the Royal Melbourne has welcomed the implementation of geographic university clusters and has benefited from the facilitated collaboration with the Departments of Medicine, Surgery and Psychiatry that has enabled. Highlights of the year include an evening at "The Italian" restaurant to celebrate staff successes and to tangibly thank the honorary staff. We were pleased to be joined by the Head of the Melbourne Medical School Professor James Best, and his wife Professor Doris Young.

We said farewell and thank you to Dr. Kate Drummond was appointed the Research Domain Coordinator for Cancer at The University of Melbourne and joined the department as a Senior Lecturer.

The Department’s teaching activities continued at the undergraduate and postgraduate level, with close collaboration with the Clinical School. The Department continued to organize regular meetings of the surgical teachers and Heads of the Departments of Surgery at The Royal Melbourne Hospital and Western Hospital. The Department organizes the monthly Surgical Forums and clinical audits for the Section of Surgery at The Royal Melbourne Hospital, as well as a monthly Journal Club.
development of this centre for the next five years.

The Department’s Albert Road Clinic is a private psychiatric teaching facility and has continued highly regarded for students in training and clinical experiences with patients with high prevalence disorders. It is also the centre for the Victorian ECT Training program which is the largest such program in the country, and has been a major driver of improved standards.

Major staffing changes have included the retirement of Professor Sidney Bloch from St Vincent’s Hospital, though he will have some continued links with the Department with his Emeritus Professor status. Professor Graham Burrows has contributed enormously to mental health in Australia, community mental health, patient organisations and in pharmacotherapy and clinical research. He retired from Austin Health at the end of 2008. An enormously energetic man, he contributed greatly to psychiatry and our community, and will be very much missed. He will however continue in a clinical and teaching role at The Melbourne Clinic.

The move towards clusters with the new Faculty structure has been a major change for the Department which has always had a centralised organisation based at the Royal Melbourne Hospital. The quite complex devolution of the Department into the three clusters has been a protracted and sensitive process but it is working well. The move at the Royal Melbourne Hospital cluster is more advanced than at the St Vincent’s cluster, or at Austin Health, though all are progressing. Professor David Castle is heading up the St Vincent’s Hospital cluster. The cluster development at Royal Melbourne Hospital has been extraordinarily positive, not only moving to secure better relationships between the academic departments and Melbourne Health, but also looking to collaborate to a greater extent within research domains as these evolve.

The Department has been active in its clinical, teaching, and research programs as well as having success with research grants. It presently has 38 PhD students, and has attracted a total of $11.1m in research income, of which $3.5m was from Australian competitive grants. In the last year 301 publications have been produced.

The University has appointed Professor Ian Everall as the new Cato Chair of Psychiatry, and it is hoped that he will be able to take up this position towards the end of 2009. This new appointment should facilitate a continuation of constructive collaboration within the Royal Melbourne Hospital cluster.
TRIBUTES/

Tribute to Professor Graham Brown

In 2008, Professor Graham Brown stood down as Head of Department of Medicine and James Stewart Professor and he now leads the Nossal Institute for Global Health. Long time friend and colleague, Associate Professor David Russell, wrote his tribute.

Professor Graham Brown was appointed as James Stewart Professor of Medicine and Head of the Department of Medicine of the University of Melbourne on 1 April 1999. Professor Brown held this position for nine years, until March 2008 when he was appointed as the Foundation Director of the Nossal Institute for Global Health and the Foundation Chair in Global Health, University of Melbourne.

Graham graduated in 1970 with 1st Class Honours in Medicine from the University of Melbourne and the Royal Melbourne Hospital Clinical School. Graham obtained his MRACP in 1974 and his FRACP in 1978. In 1983 he also became a Fellow of the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine and a Fellow of the Australasian College of Tropical Medicine. Graham’s unique medical career has spanned nearly 40 years of clinical medicine and basic and clinical research, both nationally and internationally. Graham’s commitment to public health, particularly in developing countries, has been extraordinary and inspiring. In the first seven years after graduating in his training as a physician he worked as a relieving specialist physician and even paediatrician in the Public Health Department of Papua New Guinea, and between 1975-1977 was a lecturer in Medicine at the University of Dar Es Salaam in Tanzania.

Graham’s early exposure to public health in developing countries had a profound influence on his medical training and his career. His love of Infectious Diseases influenced his PhD project at the WEHI between 1981-1983, and his dominant 30 year research career in cell biology in malaria and vaccine development. Graham’s association with the WEHI commenced in 1978 as a Senior Research Officer and subsequently he became the Head of the Immunoparasitology Unit between 1992 and 1997. Graham’s love of infectious diseases culminated in 1996 with the Royal Melbourne Hospital being selected as the inaugural Victorian Infectious Diseases Service after the closure of Fairfield Hospital.

Graham’s research career has been extraordinary publishing over 200 papers in peer reviewed journals and writing three text books. He has supervised 15 PhD or MD students, and over 30 Advanced Trainees in Infectious Diseases. He sits on numerous Editorial Boards, national and international committees, university committees and several NHMRC and WHO committees. He is a much sought after Key Note speaker at national and international meetings.

Graham has been honoured with numerous Awards including the distinguished Eric Suzman Prize of the RACP, the honour of Presidential Oration of Australasian Society of Infectious Diseases and in 2007 the Melbourne Health Chairman’s Award for Outstanding Leadership and Excellence in Medicine.

But Graham is still a clinician. Just watch and listen to him at Tuesday’s Professorial Rounds, or Medical Grand Rounds on Thursdays at 1pm or VIDS clinical rounds on Thursday morning. Late last year under General Medicine we had a very sick young female with fever, diarrhoea, anaemia and severe thrombocytopenia. Quick as a flash Graham made us all think of salmonella typhi, which was confirmed on blood cultures the next day. I think he really enjoyed me just bashing on the door and asking for help about difficult cases.

Graham is an inspiring undergraduate and postgraduate teacher. His mentor programme with the medical students, his commitment to RACP basic physician training and the clinical exams bear testament to his role as the “Professor Educator”. The Cassic Physician Researcher – Bench to Bedside – call it what you will.

One of Graham’s great passions is his sense of service and equity, with a commitment to his patients and community. Graham’s wife Ros, recalls that one of Graham’s mantras at home is “Service, Service, Service”. As Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee at the Royal Melbourne Hospital he always focussed on clinical programmes that benefited patients rather than political issues – the development of pain services, palliative care services, the Stroke Care Unit, Medical Assessment and Planning Unit and the Clinical Epidemiology Unit are just a few examples.

Graham has made a wonderful contribution to the Debate on Ethics in Science and Medicine. We have all enjoyed watching him as the Convener of the Dean’s Lecture Series Ethics Symposia. Whether it’s he or Peter Greenberg discussing the “No Free Lunch” website or watching Graham’s entertaining performance in the debate “Witch Doctors make the best doctors”, you can see Graham’s commitment to intellectual and moral honesty, and that the patient always comes first.

Above all else I wish to pay tribute to Graham Brown the man. I have heard many words to describe Graham over the years – and not one of them has ever been derogatory. Visionary, considerate, caring, a great mentor, loyal, ethical, approachable, sensible, even tempered, moral, tireless and above all self effacing – I agree with everyone. One of Graham’s other great mantras is “live simply so others can simply live”. Graham has little time for material things or financial imperatives. I have grown very fond of his “Reefer jacket and grey slacks, and the grey suit with the Melbourne University tie and the Clinical Epidemiology Unit, Medical Assessment and Planning Unit are just a few examples.

Graham Brown is a committed family man. Holidays at Lorne, swimming the Pier to Pub, bush walking at the Prom, riding the “Great Victorian Bike Race” with Ros and camping with the family are equal passions to his medical career. Both Graham and Ros are members of the illustrious Lorne Surf Club “Shark Bait Club”, with Graham swimming 13 and Ross 11 “Pier to Pub” swims at Lorne. If Graham wasn’t a Doctor he would have somehow been involved with sport. Graham’s passion for playing hockey, having just retired after playing for more than 20 years for the University of Melbourne, has rubbed off on his daughters. He loves his cricket (test cricket of course), not limited overs and God forbid 20/20 and now the IPL.

Graham has so much to look forward to with all these interests, and perhaps time for new ones including golf and even bridge, and...
even more time with the family. Graham’s family has been an incredible support to him over the years and always has been with him on his travels – moving house and packing up the family to live in Oxford and Kenya and Charlottesville Virginia. There is some irony that Graham met his wife Rob when she was working as PA to Professor Gus Nossal at the WEHI, and now Graham has taken the position as the Foundation Director and Chair of the Nossal Institute. Graham Brown has been an inspirational leader as James Stewart Professor in the Department of Medicine at Royal Melbourne Hospital, and inaugural Director of the Victorian Infectious Diseases Service. Graham is a kind and caring physician who has always upheld his mantra of “Service, Service, Service”.

Vale Robert Nicholas (Nick) Christopher, BA, MBA (1947 – 2008)

On November 15 2008 Mr. Nick Christopher, Manager of the RMH/WH University Clinical Cluster, passed away in Melbourne Private Hospital after a short illness. He was 61 years old.

Nick was born on October 11 1947, in Nakuru, Kenya, the second child of Angela and Carlyon Christopher. He spent his childhood on his parents’ farm just outside Thompson’s Falls in the Rift Valley in Kenya.

For secondary schooling he was sent to boarding school at Bloxham, in Oxfordshire, England. Following school he remained in England and joined the Hertfordshire Constabulary working on the street beat as a “Bobbie” in Bishops Stortford. Aged 21, in February 1969, Nick migrated to Australia, choosing to settle in Western Australia where his mother’s brother and his family were living. In 1973 he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Western Australia, majoring in History and Industrial Relations.

Nick had an exceptionally rich and varied professional career prior to joining the University of Melbourne in 2001 as the Manager of the Department of Medicine (RMH/WH). In 1972 Nick joined the Western Australian State Public Service, working initially in the Public Service Board, moving through various clerical positions in the Education Department and finally Consumer Affairs. During this time, on October 11, 1976, Nick married Rhonda and they subsequently had two children James (1982) and David (1985). In 1976 Nick made his first move into the health related administration field, joining the Royal Perth Hospital in its planning office. He moved through various middle management roles with the hospital and the affiliated RPH Rehabilitation Hospital before being appointed as the manager of Bentley Hospital in Perth in 1986. During this time he also completed his Masters in Business Administration, graduating in early 1982. In 1989 he accepted an appointment as the CEO of a disability service in WA, providing services to people with muscular dystrophy.

In 1994, Nick and his family moved to Geraldton, Western Australia, following his appointment as a Regional Manager for the Silver Chain Nursing service, a group that provided bush nursing services in many small towns and domiciliary nursing services in the larger towns across his region, which was a large section of Western Australia. In 1997 Nick and family moved to Melbourne to take up a management position with the Yooralla Society. In 1999 he was appointed as Regional Manager of Support Services for Eastern Palliative Care. His team provided support and complementary services to the four care teams in the Eastern Metropolitan Region of Melbourne.

In 2001 Nick joined the University of Melbourne as Manager of the Department of Medicine (RMH/WH). In this role, and subsequent roles with the University, Nick provided exceptional service for the Department of Medicine, the RMH/ Clinical Cluster, the Faculty and our partner hospitals. He worked tirelessly, highly effectively and with the greatest integrity. Much of the success, harmony and productive working environment that the Department of Medicine and RMH/Cluster has enjoyed can be credited to Nick’s managerial skills and congenial style. There would be no member of the Department – staff, student or honorary, new or old – whom Nick had not assisted in important ways to navigate their way through the University systems (and beyond). Nick was always ready to help out and, in his pragmatic manner, find a way to overcome our complex problems. The success he had in the role as Manager of the Department of Medicine meant that he was the obvious choice to be appointed interim Cluster Manager (RMH/WH) in January 2008 for the formation of the joint University Department Cluster. Subsequently in August 2008 he was appointed as the Cluster Manager after a competitive recruitment process. Despite taking on the extra duties and responsibilities as Cluster Manager, he continued to perform essentially all the duties of his previous position as Manager of the Department of Medicine without complaint or falter. To honour the memory of Mr. Nick Christopher the Department and Cluster Executives have decided to support two new PhD support scholarships. These “Nick Christopher” scholarships are targeted to support the most talented students to undertake their PhD studies in Cluster. There are two “Nick Christopher Scholarships” to be awarded each year. Each scholarship provides a $6000 top up in addition to their competitive scholarship, plus a certificate and name on the Honour board. The scholarships are awarded on the basis of merit.

I am personally extremely grateful for the support and friendship Nick gave me as a new Head of Department. I could always depend on him for wise and honest advice. I will miss him terribly. On behalf of the Department of Medicine, and The RMH/WH Cluster, I wish express our thanks to Nick, and our heartfelt condolences to his wife Rhonda, their sons James and David, and the rest of Nick’s family.

Terence O’Brien
James Stewart Professor of Medicine and Head of Department of Medicine (RMH/WH).
Awards and Achievements

Ilana Ackerman, NHMRC Public Health (Australia) Training Fellowship (2008-2011) and Appointment to the Physiotherapy Research Foundation Grants Review Committee (2008-2010)

Rebecca Barton, The Christina Pennington Award, Royal Melbourne Hospital

Philippe Boeuf, Early Career Researcher Grant, University of Melbourne: “Understanding malaria parasite placental adhesion”

Mira Chow, The Dean’s Prize for Outstanding Achievement in the AMS Year

Abby Douglas, The Muriel Moody Prize, University of Melbourne RMH/WH Clinical School

Kate Drummond, Research Domain Coordinator (Cancer), University of Melbourne

Matt Fankhauser, Cybec Cancer Trust Scholarship, Cybec Trust

Chris French, The Bickart Clinician Research Fellowship, The Faculty of Medicine, The University of Melbourne and Molly MacDonnell Fellowship, Epilepsy Society of Australia

Siew Min Gan, Philips Medical Solution Prize for best scientific presentation at the European Congress of Radiology

Ben Namdarian, The Department of Surgery Gordon Clunie Surgical Research Prize for Best Presentation, Research Week Forum – Melbourne Health

Jenny Gianoudis, Australian Postgraduate Award, University of Melbourne

George Heriot, The Ken Grice Prize, University of Melbourne RMH/WH Clinical School

Nigel Jones, Travel grant, CASS Foundation; Travel grant, The Victorian Neurotrauma Initiative and Scientific Merit award, Epilepsy Society of Australia

Gaurav Kumar, Graduate Student Travel Award: Society for Neuroscience, USA

Rod Luwor, Winter and Glover Fellowship in Cancer Research, University of Melbourne

Dillon Leong, International Postgraduate Research Scholarship, MIRS, University of Melbourne

Caroline Ng, Travel Scholarship, Epilepsy Society of Australia; Student Travel Award, Annual Scientific Meeting of The Australian Neuroscience Society and Oral Presentation Award, Annual Scientific Meeting of The Australian Neuroscience Society

Sandra Petty, The Molly MacDonnell Research Fellowship: Epilepsy Society of Australia; The Cleveland Young Investigator Award, The Royal Melbourne Hospital Research Week and The James Lance Young Investigator Award, The Australian and New Zealand Association of Neurologists, Brisbane

Slavé Petrovski, Best Platform Presentation. Annual Scientific Meeting of the Epilepsy Society of Australia. Sydney, November, 2008; Travel Scholarship, Epilepsy Society of Australia; AES Young Investigator Award, American Epilepsy Society Committee; ESA Best Platform Presentation Award, 2008 Epilepsy Society of Australia conference; ASCEPT Student Travel Grant, The Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists and Deans Honour Roll, Faculty of Science, University of Melbourne

Scott Shemer, The Robert Andrew Stirling Prize in Surgery and The Roger Melick Prize in Clinical Medicine/Surgery, University of Melbourne RMH/WH Clinical School

Alex Umbers, Australian Society of Parasitology JD Smyth Travel Award and NHMRC Network for Parasitology Researcher Exchange Travel Award

Tanya Yuen, NHMRC Medical Post-Graduate Scholarship; Foundation for Surgery, John Loewenthal Research Fellowship. The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and Pfizer Brain Research Scholarship (2009) Pfizer

The Richard Larkins Prize

The recipient of the Richard Larkins Prize for the Best BSc Honours Student in the Department of Medicine (RMH/WH) for 2008 was Mubing (Erika) Duan. Professor Richard Larkins, now Vice-Chancellor of Monash University and after whom the prize is named, personally handed the award to the winner at a ceremony held in April 2008.

Erika’s project, “Macrophage polarisation in animal models of chronic lung disease” was supervised by A/Professor Margaret Hibbs and Professor Gary Anderson.

Professor Richard Larkins held the positions of Head of the Department of Medicine (RMH/WH) and the James Stewart Professor from 1984 to 1998, and was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences from 1998 to 2003. The inaugural Larkins Prize was presented in 2000 for students completing the course in 1999. Previous winners of the award are listed below.

1999 Amanda Notini
2000 Sonia Caruana and Sakeneh Zraika
2001 Elizabeth Bond
2002 Margaret Shaw
2003 Amy Brennan and Anthea Pappas
2004 Michael Braude and Andrew Lilja
2005 Nhu-Y Nguyen
2006 Evelyn Tsantikos
2007 Slavé Petrovski

Erika (Mubing) Duan accepts her prize from Professor Larkins
Doctor of Medicine Program (MD)

Musa Drini MD Genotypic and phenotypic studies in hyperplastic polyposis syndrome. Medicine RMH&WH

Arun Krishna Gupta MD Infections as cause and complications of inflammatory bowel disease; improving safety related to treatment. Medicine RMH&WH

Thomas Alexander Hale MD The disabilities and quality of life associated with major lower limb amputation in an Australian population. Medicine RMH&WH

Simon Zhao-Xiong He MD New therapeutic approaches to acute leukaemia. Medicine RMH&WH


Seong Lin Khaw MD Phase 1 and in vitro studies of oral BH3 mimetic in patients with chronic lymphocytic leukaemia and chronic lymphoproliferative disorders. Medicine RMH&WH

Cameron Lacey MD Tasmania Epilepsy Register - Mood Study. Psychiatry

Hui Chiong Lau MD The establishment of a mouse brain tumour model for the study of the neurobiological mechanisms involved in the development of tumour associated epilepsy. Surgery RMH&WH

Lionel Lim MD Analysis and inhibition of epidermal growth factor receptor family members in the development, progression and treatment of colorectal cancers. Surgery RMH&WH

Susan Michelle Shedda MD Defining and measuring the quality of colorectal cancer surgery in Australia. Surgery RMH&WH

Jeanne Tie MD Prognostic biomarkers in colorectal cancer. Surgery RMH&WH

Kulasekara Mudiyanaselage Wijeratne MD Studies of quantitative sensory testing in central post stroke pain. Medicine RMH&WH

Srinivasa Raju Yerra MD Prospective, cross-sectional and longitudinal study of neurocognitive, neuropsychiatric personality and QOL issues in patients admitted to RMH video monitoring unit. Medicine RMH&WH

Frances Sarah Barnett MD The detection early biomarkers and prognostic biomarkers in the blood of patients with colon cancer.

Masters Program

Elizabeth Lorraine Arthur M Health Sciences Assessment by interview of a woman’s potential to develop post-natal depression. Psychiatry

Tan Kan Ku M Health Sciences Professionals’ attitudes towards mental illness: a comparison of Chinese and non-Chinese Australian nurses. Psychiatry

Tahir Mohammed Hadi Brohi Hakami M Medicine Effect of anti-epileptic drugs on bone health and fracture risk. Medicine RMH&WH

Philip Damien Cummins M Science (old version) Windows on the truth. Psychiatry

Goksel Murat Doganay M Science (old version) Pharmacological investigation of the vascular toxic effects of the Amyloid-Beta peptides Medicine RMH&WH

Timothy Charles Bondfield Stephens M Science (old version) A comparison of homocysteine levels in first episode psychosis patients and age matched controls. Psychiatry

Sasha Roshan Zamir M Surgery Outcomes of proximal femoral fractures for patients treated at tertiary teaching hospitals in Australia. Surgery RMH&WH

Wei-Han Tay M Surgery The outcomes of non-union of traumatic long bone fractures. Surgery RMH&WH

Arun Kumar M Surgery Effectiveness of bioglue as dural sealant in neurosurgery and its effects on dura and brain. Surgery RMH&WH
Doctor of Philosophy Program (PhD)

Sophia Justine Lara Adams PhD Neurodevelopmental and cognitive outcomes of first episode psychosis: A longitudinal study Psychiatry

Elizabeth Helen Aitken PhD Immune responses of women to pregnancy-associated malaria Medicine RMH&WH

Christen David James Barras PhD Imaging-based prediction in the evolution and diagnosis of stroke Medicine RMH&WH

Lesley Berk PhD Development of guidelines and an intervention for bipolar disorder Psychiatry

Michelle Elizabeth Blanchard PhD Examining the use of information communication technology by professionals to promote mental health in young people Psychiatry

Ljoudmila Busija PhD The burden of osteoarthritis: prevalence and definition and measurement of its consequences to individual lifestyle and welfare Medicine RMH&WH

Andrew Matthew Chanen PhD Personality disorder in young people: temporal stability, risk and protective factors. Psychiatry

Alison Jane Cheetham PhD The relationship between family history of substance use, and substance use and depression in adolescence Psychiatry

Yuan-Shou Chen PhD Proteomic analysis during the early stages of Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition Surgery RMH&WH

You Juan Geraldine Cheng PhD Generation of conditional lyn-mutant mice to define the contribution that the different haematopoietic lineages male to the lymphoid phenotype Surgery RMH&WH

Elizabeth Louise Christie PhD Characterisation of the genetic regulation of vertebrate intestinal development using zebrafish Surgery RMH&WH

Lin Lin Chua PhD Maternal monocytes and immune response to placental malaria. Medicine RMH&WH

Sabina Cicipriillo PhD Development and evaluation of a computer based interactive audiovisual program educating patients with rheumatoid arthritis commencing treatment with methotrexate Medicine RMH&WH

Lucy Crouch PhD GM-CSF, a key mediator in arthritis Medicine RMH&WH

Christopher Graham Davey PhD The Self and Social Reward in Young People with Major Depressive Disorder: A Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging Investigation Psychiatry

Christine Mariam De Nardo PhD The role of plasminogen activators (PA-Isl, tissue-type PA (t-PA), and urokinase PA (u-PA), in inflammation and arthritis Medicine RMH&WH

Dominic Francis De Nardo PhD Molecular dissection of the regulation of macrophage activation by toll like receptors Medicine RMH&WH

Kerryn Lesley Elliott PhD Analysis of the APC tumour suppressor protein function in colon cancer. Structure-function analysis of APC Surgery RMH&WH

Matthew James Fankhauser PhD Cell signalling pathways in hormone dependent cancers Surgery RMH&WH

Rae Helen Farnsworth PhD Characterisation of blood and lymphatic endothelial cell alterations in metastatic cancer Surgery RMH&WH

Gao Qian Feng PhD Effects of antibodies to pregnancy associated variant surface antigens of P falciparum and HIV infection on in vitro tumourigenesis and growth retardation Medicine RMH&WH

Arun Kumar Gandrathi PhD Investigations into the role of neuropeptide Y in a genetic rat model of absence epilepsy Medicine RMH&WH

Jenny Gianoudis PhD Effects of a community-based, multi-component exercise and osteoporosis education program on musculoskeletal health and function in the elderly. Medicine RMH&WH

David Ian Andrew Griffiths PhD Psychiatric applications of data mining on clinical and MRI data to determine likely outcomes and potential for schizophrenia development post first psychotic episode Psychiatry

Christopher John Groot PhD Central auditory processing: an investigation of the relationship between prosodic dysfunction and auditory hallucination Psychiatry

Haris Murtaza Haqqani PhD Mechanisms of ventricular tachycardia in cardiomyopathy Medicine RMH&WH

Ian Herbert Harding PhD Investigating the pathophysiology underlying cognitive-control deficits in schizophrenia. Psychiatry

Nicole Cayley Harris PhD Characterisation of angiogenic and lymphangiogenic growth factors Surgery RMH&WH

Laura Merilyn Hart PhD Mental health first aid for eating disorders: development and implementation of guidelines and an intervention for the provision of mental health first aid to a person suspected to be developing an eating disorder Psychiatry

Laura Maree Hayes PhD Building Family Skills Together Program evaluation: How hope and family functioning at intake and post-treatment affect outcomes and the perceived usefulness of the program Psychiatry

Kylie Catherine Horne PhD Pathogenesis of cerebral malaria: The role of major killer cells Medicine RMH&WH

Susan Ilic PhD Determination of the functional anatomy of the human motor thalamus with BOLD imaging. Radiology

Joanne Emma Jordan PhD Understanding the role and impact of health literacy on patient health outcomes to facilitate effective interventions Medicine RMH&WH

Nicole Roxanne Joshua PhD An investigation into configural processing and facial emotion perception in schizophrenia Psychiatry

Belal Ahmad Khan PhD Effects of low or high dietary calcium intake on bone density and fractures in a population-based longitudinal cohort Medicine RMH&WH

Gaurav Kumar PhD Effect of early life stress and hypercortisolemia in limbic epileptogenesis Medicine RMH&WH

Christopher Lemoh PhD HIV/AIDS in Victoria’s African communities: Reducing risk and improving care Medicine RMH&WH


Tony Robert Letic PhD Stress, tyrosine and cognitive function Psychiatry

Michael Wai Ming Lian PhD Vascular pathology in chronic kidney disease Medicine RMH&WH

Evelyn Ann Lindsay PhD Dysfunction in the cerebrocerebellar network: Contributions to cognitive behavioural deficits in schizophrenia Psychiatry

Sheng Liu PhD Regulation of TGF-B receptor stability in its signalling and impact in diseases Surgery RMH&WH

Valentina Lorenzetti PhD Cannabis use, memory function and brain imaging. Psychiatry
Sven Sebastian Jochen Markmiller PhD Discovery and analysis of vertebrate intestinal development genes that may play a role in colon cancer. Surgery RMH&WH

Maree Therese Mastwyk PhD The impact of the dementia trajectory on the patient and family. Before, during and after diagnosis Psychiatry

Anthony Francis McHugh PhD I’m angry and I see things: An investigation of the relationship between imagnal capacity, personality and anger in individuals with PTSD Psychiatry

Caroline Medi PhD The atrial electrical and structural effects of systemic and pulmonary hypertension in humans Medicine RMH&WH

Tammie Terese Money PhD The role of muscarinic receptors in the pathology of schizophrenia Psychiatry

Katinka Barbara Morton PhD A moral typology of doctors who violate boundaries with patients, based upon their treatment or trust. Psychiatry

Benjamin Namdarian PhD Evaluation of screening strategies for cancer detection and treatment response Surgery RMH&WH

Li Min Caroline Ng PhD Ion channelopathy in acquired and genetic forms of epilepsy Medicine RMH&WH

Nhu-Y Ngay Nguyen PhD Signalling pathways that regulate B cell hematopoiesis Medicine RMH&WH

Thao Kim Thi Nguyen PhD Regulation of the inflammatory response of macrophages by Toll-like receptors Medicine RMH&WH

Susan Jane Nicolson PhD Parenting interventions for high risk families: An observational study. Psychiatry

Adam Chalmers Parslow PhD Role of transcription factors in cell fate specification in the vertebrate intestinal epithelium Surgery RMH&WH

Slave Petrovski PhD Bioinformatics: Application of pharmacogenomics to predict epilepsy treatment outcomes Medicine RMH&WH

Christina Phassouliotis PhD The role of stress and hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) dysfunction in psychosis Psychiatry

Andrea Jane Phelps PhD An investigation into the phenomenology of posttraumatic nightmares and their relationships with other aspects of sleep disturbances in PTSD Psychiatry

Thomas Patrick Pierce PhD The role and experimental use of microRNA to explore gene function in the gastrointestinal tract. Surgery RMH&WH

Jane Frances Prosser PhD The brain-heart interface in acute stroke Medicine RMH&WH

Irani Ratnam PhD Epidemiology of Respiratory and Arboviral Infections in International Travellers Medicine RMH&WH

Joanne Lee Ryan PhD Relationship between hormonal exposure and psychiatric disorders. Psychiatry

Myong Suk Seo PhD Psychiatry

Ramin Shayan PhD Characterizing lymphatic vessel subtypes and their role in cancer metastasis Surgery RMH&WH

John Robert Sheedy PhD Elucidation of clinical biomarkers for bone resorption diseases by NMR and MS-based metabolomics Medicine RMH&WH

Baamisla Shiek Ahmad PhD Anti-Epileptic Drugs (AEDs) and Bone Disease: Longitudinal Studies of the Risk. Medicine RMH&WH

Magenta Bender Simmons PhD Shared decision making in youth mental health: Feasibility and effectiveness testing of a decision aid for young people diagnosed with major depressive disorders Psychiatry

Daniel Paul Steinfeld PhD Optimizing the diagnosis and staging of lung cancer. Medicine RMH&WH

Stanley Stylianos Stylli PhD Evaluation of the role of the Tsk5 adaptor protein in invadopodia formation, tumour invasion and metastasis Surgery RMH&WH

Sinnatamby Sujeewan PhD Is the Epidermal Growth Factor system a biomarker for Clozapine response in schizophrenia? Psychiatry

Agnieszka Swierczak PhD Tumour-associated macrophages (TAMs) and their potential role in breast cancer metastasis Medicine RMH&WH

Michael John Takagi PhD The neuropsychological and neurobiological effects of inhalant abuse during adolescence Psychiatry

Wai Kun Julian Tang PhD To determine the complete crystal structure of CD151 extracellular region 2 (EC2) as a basis for structure-based drug design Medicine RMH&WH

Andrew Wei-Ming Teh PhD Analysis of atrial remodeling and mechanisms of chronic fibrillation in different atrial substrates Medicine RMH&WH

Stefan Thiem PhD The role of aberrant STAT3 activation in the development and progression of gastric cancer Surgery RMH&WH

Maritza Thompson PhD The psychological impact of state violence on refugees Psychiatry

Evelyn Tsantikos PhD Examination of lymphangiogenesis in mice with genetic mutations in genes encoding inhibitory signalling molecules Surgery RMH&WH


Lucy Elizabeth Vivash PhD Serial imaging of neuronal receptor changes in acquired epileptogenesis using FMZ-PET and rat models of temporal lobe epilepsy. Medicine RMH&WH

Mark Anthony Walterfang PhD The exploration of white matter disease in schizophrenia sufferers Psychiatry

Steven Paul Williams PhD Exploring the role of lymphatic endothelial cells in tumour metastasis through inhibitory RNA (RNAi) screening Surgery RMH&WH

Leon James Worth PhD Clinical surveillance and risk factors predictive of catheter-related bloodstream infection in patients with haematological malignancy Medicine RMH&WH

Yi Xiao PhD The molecular regulation of the tumour suppressor PTEN and its novel role of lymphatic endothelial cells in tumour progression Surgery RMH&WH

Mengyang Yang PhD Environmental Enrichment and Limbic Epileptogenesis: Mechanisms of Neuroprotection Medicine RMH&WH

Tanya Ilene Yuen PhD Factors Predisposing to Post Operative Epilepsy in Patients with Supratentorial Gliomas Surgery RMH&WH

Yang Yun PhD Relationship between childhood trauma, stress and coping in the first episode psychosis population Psychiatry

Thomas Wen-Juan Zheng PhD The neuropharmacological and neurophysiological mechanisms underlying the aggravation of seizures by anti-epileptic drugs Medicine RMH&WH
David Jonathan  Castle PhD Disorders of body image Psychiatry
Teresa Kalinowska  PhD Lifestyle and Blood Biomarkers in Subjective Memory Complaints, Subjective Memory Impairment and Health Aging Psychiatry
Adrian Arumainayagam Achuthan PhD Regulation of SNARE proteins in macrophages by colony stimulating factor-1 Medicine RMH&WH
Sung-Min Ahn PhD Integrated genomic analysis of brain and neural stem cell differentiation Surgery RMH&WH
David Jonathan  Castle PhD Disorders of body image Psychiatry
Teresa Kalinowska  PhD Lifestyle and Blood Biomarkers in Subjective Memory Complaints, Subjective Memory Impairment and Health Aging Psychiatry
Adrian Arumainayagam Achuthan PhD Regulation of SNARE proteins in macrophages by colony stimulating factor-1 Medicine RMH&WH
Sung-Min Ahn PhD Integrated genomic analysis of brain and neural stem cell differentiation Surgery RMH&WH
Damian Robert Claydon-Platt PhD Improving the informed consent process using an informed consent curriculum Surgery RMH&WH
Benjamin Campbell Cowie PhD Novel approaches to an improved understanding of the epidemiology and control of Hepatitis B virus infection in Australia Medicine RMH&WH
Olivia May Dean PhD Investigating the role of glutathione depletion in schizophrenia: animal models and clinical investigations Psychiatry
Helen Therese Evert PhD War experiences: the emotional health and well being of Polish elderly migrants Psychiatry
Lu Fang PhD The roles of inflammation and extracellular matrix in myocardial remodeling Medicine RMH&WH
Anastasia Felicity Hutchinson PhD COPD Exacerbations: causes and consequences Medicine RMH&WH
Bianca Marie Jupp PhD Imaging animal models of temporal lobe epilepsy: visualising the epileptogenic hippocampus Medicine RMH&WH
Emily Jane Mann PhD Expression, characterisation & serological recognition of a recombinant PIEMPT domain Medicine RMH&WH
Sandra Jane Petty PhD The effect of anti-epileptic medications on bone density, body composition and fracture risk Medicine RMH&WH
Danijela Piskulic PhD Neurocognitive function in schizophrenia: evaluation of the serotonin 5-HT 1A receptor system Psychiatry
Yeliz Rifat PhD Analysis of functional equivalence of the Ghrh2 and Ghrl3 transcription factors in development Medicine RMH&WH

Honours Projects 2008
Roisin Kimberly Briscoe  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Fiona Claire Brown  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Lin Lin Chua  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Mubing Duan  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Bee Hui Gan  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Jo Hun Kim  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Bo Won Kim  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Suan-Lin Amelia Koe  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Han Ee Lee  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Nicholas Alexander Scott  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Elizabeth Jane Tierney  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Thao Thi Thanh Truong  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
Natasha Xin Ci Yeow  BSci (Hons) Medicine RMH&WH
## AMS Projects 08/09

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Supervisors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thuvaraka Jeyakumaran</td>
<td>Prevalence and treatment of vitamin D deficiency in populations from the Horn of Africa</td>
<td>Prof Ebeling/A/Prof Biggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bejoy Machumpurath</td>
<td>Clot burden is predictive of recanalization and clinical response after intravenous tPA post acute ischaemic stroke</td>
<td>Dr Yan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gorata Mathaithai</td>
<td>Prevalence and treatment of vitamin D deficiency in populations from the Horn of Africa</td>
<td>Prof Ebeling/A/Prof Biggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maya Reddy</td>
<td>A model of functional disconnections to study the pathophysiology of psychosis and epilepsy</td>
<td>Dr Jones/Prof O'Brien</td>
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<tr>
<td>Howard Tang</td>
<td>Assessing the development of MRI abnormalities as a biomarker for disease progression in the GAERS rat model of epilepsy</td>
<td>Dr Jones/Dr Powell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward Wang</td>
<td>Influence of gated blood pool scans on management of oncological patients</td>
<td>Dr Lichtenstein</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nick Yang</td>
<td>Antibodies in malaria immunity</td>
<td>A/Prof Rogerson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Cheng</td>
<td>(Supervisor: Prof Winship)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reece Lancaster</td>
<td>Clinical predictors in patients with extra-cranial and intra-cranial arterial dissection</td>
<td>Dr Yan/Dr Dowling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Wong</td>
<td>(Supervisors: Prof O’Brien)</td>
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## Student Completions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department of Medicine (RMH/WH)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PhD Adrian Arumainayagam Achuthan</td>
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<tr>
<td>MD Kirsty Lee Busing</td>
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<td>PhD Lu Fang</td>
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<td>PhD Blanca Marie Jupp</td>
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<td>PhD Emily Jane Mann</td>
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<td>PhD Yeliz Rifat</td>
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<td>PhD Kurt Charles Roberts-Thomson</td>
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<td>PhD Susan Mary Senn</td>
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<td>PhD Laura Kate Zamurs</td>
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## Clinical School Report

### Associate Professor Peter Morley, Director of Medical Education

The 2008 year saw many changes in the RMH/WH clinical school. The excellent student performance and teaching evaluations continue, as does the ongoing progression towards a separate clinical school at the Western Hospital. We congratulate Dr Gary Lane for his School of Medicine Teaching Award for 2008 for his extensive teaching activities at the Western Hospital. We also note the resignation of A/Professor Geoff McColl and thank him for his enormous contribution to the RMH/WH clinical school over the previous seven years. A/Professor Peter Morley was appointed into a newly created position as the Director of Medical Education at the RMH/WH clinical school. The opportunities for 2009 include the recruitment of a Director of Medical Education for the Western Hospital clinical school, involvement in the curriculum development process for the Melbourne Model MD course, and the challenge of maintaining excellence in teaching in a tough financial climate.
More specific findings include: sorting, microarray analysis and proteomics. Techniques utilised include cell experiments, studies of the molecular mechanisms governing different cell responses; also, studies of macrophage lineage survival, proliferation, differentiation and activation are being explored. Techniques utilized include cell sorting, microarray analysis and proteomics. More specific findings include:

- Identification of activities in macrophage conditioned medium relevant to the inflammatory response.
- Effect of urokinase-type plasminogen activator (uPA) depletion in inflammation models.

**RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS**

The overall goal of the laboratory is to understand the functions of macrophage lineage cells in chronic inflammatory diseases, in particular rheumatoid arthritis. More specifically, macrophage lineage cells are isolated from human and murine disease tissue and blood to assess how different they are from controls; also, studies of the molecular mechanisms governing macrophage lineage survival, proliferation, differentiation and activation are being explored. Techniques utilized include cell sorting, microarray analysis and proteomics. More specific findings include:

- Identification of biochemical pathways linking macrophage cell survival and glycolysis in response to a range of pro-survival stimuli including hypoxia.
- Modulation of expression of certain SNARE proteins by CSFs most likely involved in controlling vesicle trafficking in macrophages.
- Detection and properties of an immature human peripheral blood monocyte population.
- Switching of macrophage lineages from a pro-inflammatory phenotype to a "homeostatic" one.
- Understanding how molecular chaperones regulate Toll-like receptor-mediated macrophage activation.
- Defining the role of IRAKs in regulating Toll-like receptor-mediated macrophage activation.
- Role of CSFs in the control of blood macrophage populations during inflammation.

**PUBLICATIOn HIGHLIGHTs**


**GRANTS**

**New Grants**


**COnFEREnCEs & sEMInARs**

- **John Hamilton**


TEACHING & TRAINING

Supervision
Lucy Crouch, ‘GM-CSF, a key mediator in arthritic disease’, PhD
Dominic DeNardo, ‘Molecular dissection of the regulation of macrophage activation by Toll-like receptors’, PhD
Thao Nguyen, ‘Irk-1 and the regulation of macrophage activation’, PhD
Christine Massa, ‘Tissue-type plasminogen activator and fibrin deposition in inflammation and arthritis’, PhD

Student Completion
Adrian Achuthan, ‘Regulation of SNARE proteins in macrophages by colony stimulating factor-1’, PhD
Omar Kaddour, ‘The role of inflammation in lumbar disc herniation with radiculopathy’, PhD

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
Board Member: International Association of Inflammation Societies.
Member: IAIS Lifetime Achievement Award Panel.
Chairperson: Scientific Advisory Committee, Microsurgery Research Centre, St. Vincent’s Hospital, Fitzroy.
Visiting Professor: Garvan Institute.
Full Member: Australian Rheumatology Association Research Trust Scientific Advisory Board.

CONTACT DETAILS
Professor John A. Hamilton
Director, Arthritis and Inflammation Research Centre
Department of Medicine (RMH/WH)
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The Royal Melbourne Hospital
Victoria 3050 AUSTRALIA

Tel: +61 3 8344 5480
Email: jahami@unimelb.edu.au
RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

We have maintained our strong program of research in the field of traumatic injury. This year, we have focussed on improving screening in the acute setting for subsequent psychopathology. We have also implemented a large early intervention trial with an effectiveness (“real world”) design in a major trauma centre.

We have continued our multi-site longitudinal study of trauma survivors in collaboration with UNSW and University of Adelaide. In collaboration with UNSW, we have published several treatment outcome trials.

We are conducting a multi-site (Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide) trial of cognitive processing therapy for military veterans with posttraumatic stress disorder. Small studies include work on nightmares, anger, and substance abuse in the aftermath of trauma.

GROUP OVERVIEW

The Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health (ACPMH) undertakes world class trauma related research, policy advice, service development and education. Our activities support organisations and health professionals who help people affected by traumatic events

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS


GRANTS
Ongoing Grants

Prof Creamer speaking at launch of Australian Guidelines for the Treatment of Adults with Acute Stress Disorder and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (2007)
RESEARCH REPORTS/
AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR POSTTRAUMATIC MENTAL HEALTH

COLLABORATIONS
Non-Industry: Department of Health and Ageing; Department of Veterans Affairs; Department of Defence; beyondblue;
Industry: Transport Accident Commission of Victoria; Queensland Rail;

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS
Mark Creamer
Keynote Speaker: National Conference on Anxiety and Depression, Recent advances in the treatment of posttraumatic stress, Melbourne.
Keynote Speaker: Repatriation Medical Authority Conference: Service and Science, Long term mental health problems following trauma, Canberra.
Speaker: Weary Dunlop Foundation Research Symposium, Long term mental health problems following trauma, Melbourne.
Workshop presenter: Asian Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, Cognitive approaches to the management of PTSD, Hong Kong.

David Forbes

Virginia Lewis

John Pead
Speaker: Winter School on Alcohol and Drugs, The myth of comorbidity: 57 varieties of soup.

TEACHING AND TRAINING
MPM teaching, plus occasional invited lectures.

Completed:

In progress:
McHugh, T. (PhD; Submission in 2012).

Anger and imagery in PTSD.
Phelps, A. (PhD; Submission in 2011).
Posttraumatic nightmares.
Roffel, K. (DPsych; Submission in 2009).
Memory functioning in PTSD.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
2004 - Present: Board of Directors, International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS)
2005 - 2008: Chair, Dissemination Task Force, ISTSS
2005 - Present: Member, International Structures and Affiliations Committee, ISTSS
2004 - Present: Member, National Mental Health Disaster Task Force, Australia
2008 - Present: Editorial Board, Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice, and Policy (APA Journals)
2008 - Present: Member, Website Task Force, ISTSS

CONTACT DETAILS
Professor Mark Creamer
Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health
The University of Melbourne
Level 1, 340 Albert Street
East Melbourne
Victoria 3002 AUSTRALIA
Tel: +61 9936 5100
Email: markcc@unimelb.edu.au
We would like to sincerely thank the increasing amount of clinically useful data. Projects underway that should provide an glutathione has a key role in spatial memory. Society of Bipolar Disorder guidelines for Felicity Ng produced the International based psychotherapies for bipolar disorder. Lauder developed one of the first Internet there are very high rates of Vitamin D depression, and highlighted the fact that is far less useful in Bipolar than Unipolar used class of antidepressants, increase the deleterious. Lana Williams reported that to daylight saving, suggesting that even that suicide rates spike following the shift Pasco produced long-term follow up data of having depression and anxiety. Julie that habitual diet influences the likelihood practically significant. Felice Jacka produced research findings that are clinically and The unit produced a number of novel University of Melbourne, Healthscope and Barwon Health for their ongoing support of the research unit.

**PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS**

The empirical redefinition of the psychometric criteria for remission in bipolar disorder Michael Berk, Felicity Ng, Wei V Wang, Joseph Calabrese, Philip B Mitchell, Gin S Mahi, Mauricio Tohen J Affect Disord. 2008; 106: 152-158

Pure and mixed mania subtypes: A review of diagnostic classification and validation Frederick Cassidy, Lakshmin N Yatham, Michael Berk, Paul Grof Bipolar Disorders 2008; 10: 131-143

Genetically guided prescribing: Hope or hype? Ajeet Singh, Michael Berk Acta Neuropsychiactria 2008; 20:50-51


When illness does not get better: do we need a palliative psychiatry? Singh A, Berk M, Kapczinski F. Acta Neuropsychiactria, 2008; 20:165-166.


Glutathione: A novel treatment target in psychiatry. Michael Berk, Felicity Ng, Olivia

**RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS**

2008 was another productive year for the Barwon Psychiatric Research Unit. Productivity has increased sharply, with a total of 42 papers published and 19 in press over the calendar year. In addition, we have had a number of papers in prestigious and high impact journals, including the British Journal of Psychiatry, Biological Psychiatry and Trends in Pharmacological Sciences. A highlight of the year was winning the Pathcare Health and Lifestyle Award, the G Force Recruitment Researcher of the Year Award, the Australasian Society of Psychiatric Research El Lilly oration and an Orygen Academic Award for the discovery of N-acetyl cysteine as a novel treatment for schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. Felice Jacka was rewarded by winning the Australasian Society of Psychiatric Research Early Career award and the Early Career Researcher of the Year Award from the Smar Geelong Network and Deakin University.

The unit produced a number of novel research findings that are clinically and practically significant. Felice Jacka produced the first epidemiological data showing that habitual diet influences the likelihood of having depression and anxiety. Julie Pasco produced long-term follow up data demonstrating that smokers have a doubled risk of developing depression. We showed that suicide rates spike following the shift to daylight saving, suggesting that even modest disruption in diurnal rhythms is deleterious. Lana Williams reported that SSRI antidepressants, the most widely used class of antidepressants, increase the risk of osteoporosis. We showed that ECT is far less useful in Bipolar than Unipolar depression, and highlighted the fact that there are very high rates of Vitamin D insufficiency in psychiatric cohorts. Sue Lauder developed one of the first Internet based psychotherapies for bipolar disorder. Felicity Ng produced the International Society of Bipolar Disorder guidelines for safety monitoring of psychotropic agents. Olivia Dean produced data showing that glutathione has a key role in spatial memory. We have a range of similarly exciting projects underway that should provide an increasing amount of clinically useful data. We would like to sincerely thank the University of Melbourne, Healthscope and Barwon Health for their ongoing support of the research unit.

**BARWON PSYCHIATRIC RESEARCH UNIT**

Head: Professor Michael Berk

**Barwon Health for their ongoing support of the research unit.**
RESEARCH REPORTS/
BARWON PSYCHIATRIC RESEARCH UNIT


Going up in smoke: Tobacco smoking is associated with worse treatment outcomes in mania. Michael Berk, Felicity Ng, Wei V. Wang, Mauricio Tohen, Dan I. Lubman, Eduard Vietta, Seetal Dodd. Journal of Affective Disorders 2008; 10:112-134


Olanzapine/floxetine combination for treatment-resistant depression: Efficacy and clinical utility. Seetal Dodd and Michael Berk. Expert Review of Neurotherapeutics. 2008 Sep; 8(9): 1299-1306


Is this vitamin D to worry about? An audit of vitamin D insufficiency in an inpatient sample. Michael Berk, Felicity Ng, J Williams, Seetal Dodd, Julie A Pasco. Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry 2008; Oct;42(10): 874-8


Glutathione precursor, N-acetylcysteine, improves mismatch negativity in schizophrenia patients Suzie Lavoie, Micah M Murray, Patricia Deppen, Maria G Knyazeva, Michael Berk, Olivier Boulat, Pierre Bovet, Ashley I Bush, Philippe Conus, David Copolov, Eleonora Fornari, Reto Meuli, Alessandra Solida, Pascal Vianin, Michel Cuénod, Thierry Buclin, Kim Q Do. Neuropsychopharmacology, 2008 Aug; 33(9): 2187-99


The validity of the CGI severity and improvement scales as measures of clinical effectiveness suitable for routine clinical use. Michael Berk, Felicity Ng, Seetal Dodd, Tom Callaly, Shirley Campbell, Michelle Bernardo, Tom Trauer. Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice (2008) 14: 979 – 983


Elevated serum levels of brain-derived neurotrophic factor in patients with schizophrenia on hypocaloric diet prescription. Lisa Rejane Guimarães, Felice N. Jacka, Clarissa Severino Gama, Michael Berk, Carmen Lúcia Leitão-Azevedo, Martha Guerra Belmonte de Abreu, Maria Inês Lobato, Ana Cristina Andradeza, Keila Maria Ceresér, Flávio Kapczinski, Paulo Belmonte-de Abreu. Progress in neuropsychopharmacology and biological psychiatry 2008; 32: 1595-1598

Decreased serum neurotrophin 3 in chronically medicated schizophrenic males. Haroldo Evangelista Vargas, Clarissa Severino Gama, Ana Cristina Andradeza, Dalton Medeiros, Laura Stertz, Gabriel Fries, Joana Palha, Keila Maria Ceresér, Michael Berk, Flávio Kapczinski, Paulo Silva Belmonte-de Abreu. Neuroscience Letters 2008; 440:197-201


PREVENTATIVE AND EARLY INTERVENTION STRATEGIES IN EMERGING MENTAL DISORDERS IN YOUNG PEOPLE


- NHMRC Centre for Clinical Research Excellence (CCRE) - Orygen Youth Health. $2 million. Duration 2006-2010.

MULTI-SITE DOUBLE-BLIND RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL OF ESARODOL PLUS NEUROLEPTIC VERSUS PLACEBO PLUS NEUROLEPTIC IN THE TREATMENT OF PSYCHOTIC SYMPTOMS IN WOMEN WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA

- Jayashri Kulkarni, Michael Berk, Paul Fitzgerald, Anthony Decastella, Saji Damodoran, Stanley Medical Research Institute

- Women's Health Research Grant $83,842 per year for 3 years at BPRU site. Duration 2006 – 2008.

ANTIOXIDANT DEFENCES IN UNIPOLAR DEPRESSION: CANDIDATE GENES IN THE HUNT STUDY

- Lana Williams, Michael Berk, Ottar Callaly, Philippe Conus, Saji Damodoran.

- Testimonia A – Centre of Clinical Research Excellence (CCRE) - Orygen Youth Health. $2 million. Duration 2006-2010.

DEVELOPING EVIDENCE FOR THE PRIMARY PREVENTION OF DEPRESSIVE DISORDERS: THE ROLE OF DIET AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY


THE EFFECT OF HIGH-DOSE VITAMIN D SUPPLEMENTATION ON MENTAL HEALTH IN A RANDOMISED, CONTROLLED TRIAL OF 1500 OLDER WOMEN


A PROSPECTIVE STUDY OF INFLAMMATORY CYTOKINES AS COMMON FACTORS IN THE AETIOLOGY OF BOTH DEPRESSION AND OSTEOPOOROSIS


MOOD SWINGS: AN ONLINE INTERVENTION PROGRAM FOR BIPOLAR AFFECTIVE DISORDER


A NATURALISTIC STUDY OF TREATMENT OUTCOMES WITH AMIPRIPROZOLE IN 15-25 YEAR OLDS WITH FIRST EPISODE PSYCHOSIS


DEPRESSION AND PHYSICAL ILLNESS: THE LINK WITH PAIN, CARDIOVASCULAR FACTORS AND OSTEOPOOROSIS


COLLABORATIONS

- **Local**
  - Deakin University
  - Latrobe University
  - Austin Hospital
  - Alfred Psychiatric Research Centre
  - St Vincent's Hospital
  - Orygen Research Centre
  - Mental Health Research Institute
  - Northern Health
  - South-West Health (Werribee)
  - Bendigo Hospital
  - Dandenong Hospital
  - Melbourne Neuropsychiatry Centre
  - Sunshine Hospital
  - Victoria University
  - RMIT
  - Centre for Adolescent Health
  - Monash University

- **National**
  - Black Dog Institute, New South Wales
  - Glenside Hospital, South Australia
  - Sydney University, New South Wales
  - Queensland Institute for Medical Research, Queensland

- **International**
  - University of Lausanne, Switzerland
  - University of British Columbia, Canada
  - Riken Institute, Wakoshi, Japan

- Nordic Trondelag Health Study (HUNT study)
- Department of Public Health and Primary Care and Institute of Medicine, Bergen, Norway
- Department of Education and Health Promotion, University of Bergen, Norway
- Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Division of Mental Health, Oslo, Norway
- University of Newcastle, UK
- University of Pittsburgh, USA
- University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, USA
- Cambridge University, UK

- **Industry**
  - Eli-Lilly, Astra Zeneca, Servier, Organon, Bristol-Myers Squibb

- **AWARDS AND PRIZES**
  - Pathcare Smart Geelong Research and Learning Expo: Health and Lifestyle award (2008)

- **CONFERENCES & SEMINARS**
  - G Sachs, M Berk, F Ng, N Ferrier, I Wilting, F Cassidy, S Beaulieu, Y Yatham Safety monitoring of bipolar disorder treatment;
Lower levels of physical activity in childhood

Lana Williams, Julie Pasco, Felie Jacka, Michael Berk, Andrea Chester, Monica Sue Lauder, Michael Berk, David Castle, Andrea Chester, Monica Gilbert, Leon Piterman, Britt Klein, David Castle, Michael Berk, Andrea Chester, Monica Gilbert, Leon Piterman, Britt Klein, David Austin, Greg Murray, Carolyne Holdsworth, James Chamberlain, Lesley Berk.


Sue Lauder, Michael Berk, David Castle, Seetal Dodd, Andrea Chester, Monica Gilbert, Leon Piterman, Britt Klein, David Austin, Greg Murray, Carolyne Holdsworth, James Chamberlain, Lesley Berk. www.


PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
2003 – American Psychiatric Association International Member
2003 – International Society for Bipolar Disorders (ISBD) Councilor
2006 – ISBD Safety & monitoring committee Co-chairman
2007 – Collegium Internationale Neuropsychopharmacologicum (CINP) Membership Committee
2008 – International Society for Bipolar Disorders President

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BRAIN TUMOUR LABORATORY (DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY)

Head: Dr Andrew Morokoff

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Brain Tumour Epilepsy:
Research by Dr Tanya Yuen (PhD student, neurosurgery trainee) in collaboration with senior researchers Professor Andrew Kaye (DOM UoM) and Professor Terence O’Brien (DOM UoM) has identified the role of excess levels of glutamate as a risk factor for epilepsy in patients with gliomas, the most common form of brain cancer. In addition alterations in glutamate transport proteins in the glioma cells have been identified. Animal models of brain tumour epilepsy are currently being established in the laboratory. This work will hopefully lead to new understanding and novel molecular-based treatments of epilepsy.

GROUP OVERVIEW

The Brain Tumour Epilepsy Group was founded in 2008 to consolidate research activities focusing on the molecular mechanisms of epilepsy in patients with brain tumours. The Group is a close collaboration between the Department of Surgery Brain Tumour Laboratory and the epilepsy research group headed by Professor Terence O’Brien in the Department of Medicine at the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

GRANTS

New Grants

COLLABORATIONS

Department of Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine, RMH
Biogrid Australia
Department of Neurosurgery, RMH

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

Andrew P Morokoff
Invited Speaker: Controversies in Neurosurgery Conference. Brain Tumour Epilepsy. Royal Melbourne Hospital, Melbourne.
Invited Speaker: Clinical Oncology Society of Australia Meeting. Unanswered questions in glioma surgery. RMH, Melbourne.

TEACHING & TRAINING

2007 – Dr Tanya Yuen (PhD student). Neurobiological factors predisposing to epilepsy in patients with gliomas.

Supervision: Professor Andrew Kaye, Professor Terence O’Brien.

CONTACT DETAILS

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RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

The Cancer Signalling Research Laboratory in 2008 has been focusing on TGF-β signalling and its alterations in tumour development. Specifically, we discovered a small SPRY and SOCS-box containing protein 1, SSB1 directly targeting the TGF-beta type II receptor for ubiquitination mediated degradation, therefore regulating its signalling. In brain tumour, we started to establish the expansion of TGF-β signalling networks from Smad2/3 to Smad1/5 as an underline molecular mechanism for tumour-to-endothelial transition. This cellular process may be fundamental for the brain tumour biology. In colon cancer, we have experimentally linked the APC gene mutations or deletion (occurring in more than 90% of patients) to reduced cytostatic TGF-β signalling at molecular level. In head&neck cancer, a novel molecular axis of EGFR-Stat3-Smad7-TGF-β has been established. Promising results have been obtained in treating H&N tumours in mouse models using a strategy based on the novel molecular understanding. Technically, we have developed whole animal imaging methods to monitoring molecular target activation in tumours in real time. Cancer treatment strategies of gene and protein therapies based on these findings are in development.

GROUP OVERVIEW

Traditionally, key-lock or on-off models dominate the molecular understanding of cellular signalling and disease development, with most studies focusing on linear molecular signalling cascades. With the advent of large scale molecular techniques such as proteomics and microarrays, cross-talk between signalling networks has been implicated to play critical roles in cancer development. It challenges the physiological validity of the switch on-off model. Our laboratory, using molecular, cellular and gene targeted animal models as well as human patient samples, has established that the moderation of signalling sensitivity by other pathways, rather than a black-white switch on-off, specifically of the TGF-β (Transforming Growth Factor-beta) signalling pathways determines cancer progression.

This lab aims to understand the molecular fundamentals of TGF-β signalling mis-regulation and its causation effect on early tumour development and late tumour invasion and metastasis. In particular, we focus on the few major oncogenic molecular pathways’ cross-talk with TGF-β signalling in various stages and types of cancer development. Concurrently, we are also devising strategies utilising our unique molecular insights to convert tumour-causing signalling to direct tumour-killing.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS


GRANTS
NH&MRC Project Grant 2007-2009, No. 432619, Zhu H-J. $492,000 Expansion of TGF-β-Smad signaling network and intrinsic epithelial-mesenchymal-endothelial transition
NH&MRC Project Grant 2005-2008, No. 331005, Ernst M& Zhu H-J. $657,000 The Role of TGF-β Signaling in Suppression of Stat3-mediated Tumourigenesis
Friends of Neuroscience Foundation Project Grant 2008, Kaye A, Zhu H-J, Hovens C, Lock P & Morokoff, A. $330,000
The Brain Tumour Research Program

COLLABORATIONS
- Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research
- Howard Florey Institute
- Leiden University Medical Center
- The Netherlands
- Walter Eliza Hall Institute
- Lung Institute of Western Australia
- University of Western Australia

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS
Hong-Jian Zhu
Invited Speaker: 8th LICR TGF-β programme meeting (4-6 September, 2008), Leiden University Medical Center, The Netherlands.
Invited Speaker: 2nd Nanjing International Immunology and Cancer Symposium, Nanjing University, Nanjing China. (23-24 October, 2008).

TEACHING & TRAINING
Completed
AMS student, Jane (Jie) Li
BSc Honours student, Xiaowen Chin

Continuing
Sheng Liu, PhD student
Wayne Chew Dillon Leong, PhD student
RESEARCH REPORTS/

CANCER SIGNALLING RESEARCH LABORATORY

Yuan-Shou Chen, PhD student
Rommel Mathias, PhD student
Bow Tauro, PhD student
Connie (Yi) Xiao, PhD student

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
Postgraduate Student Coordinator,
Department of Surgery, the University of Melbourne
Executive committee member, Australia
Chinese Association of Biomedical Science
Chair, Academic committee, Australia
Chinese Association of Biomedical Science

CONTACT DETAILS
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**RESEARCH REPORTS/**

**CENTRE FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH EXCELLENCE IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

![Image](image-url)

**Head:** Professor Graham Brown

**PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS**


**GRANTS**

**New Grant**

CASS Foundation Grant Caroline Marshall 2008 The role of Staphylococcus aureus gastrointestinal carriage in the pathogenesis of bloodstream infection. $60,000.00

**Ongoing Grants**


**AWARDS AND PRIZES**

Caroline Marshall David Bickart Clinician Research Fellowship, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne 2009-2011

**CONFERENCES & SEMINARS**

Caroline Marshall Australasian Society for Infectious Diseases Annual Scientific Meeting 2009

**TEACHING & TRAINING**

Caroline Marshall supervision of Honours Science student
CLINICAL GENETICS

Head: Professor Ingrid Winship, MBChB, MD, FRACP, FACD.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS
Translational research in single gene disorders and predisposition is progressing, in collaboration with MEGA in the School of Population Health and the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS


ONGOING GRANTS
NHMRC Project Grant. Jenkins M, Baglietto L, Bishop T, Barker M, Winship I. 2006-08. Mismatch repair carriers, who are they, what is their risk of cancer and how can the risk be decreased? $213000.


COLLABORATIONS
- Department of Human Services Victoria
- Royal Melbourne Hospital
- Murdoch Childrens Research Institute
- Cancer Council of Victoria
- Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre
- Monash Medical Centre
- Genetic Health Services Victoria.

AWARDS AND PRIZES
Ingrid Winship was awarded a fellowship of the Australasian College of Dermatologists.

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS
Professor Ingrid Winship spent a week in December visiting Dame Professor Sally Davies, NHS, and team leaders of Clinical Research in the British health system.

Invited Speaker: Epiderm Sydney Genetics in Dermatology, Sydney, July.

Invited Speaker: CRX08 Brisbane, Research Infrastructure in Hospitals – The UK Solution, August.

Invited Speaker: Australia New Zealand Round Table: Transforming Research into Practice, Policy and Law Reform’ Melbourne Developments and the Future for Joint New Zealand-Australia Genetic Initiatives, November.

Participant: Annual Scientific Meeting of Australasian College of Dermatologists, May.

Participant: Annual Scientific Meeting of Human Genetics Society of Australia, August.

TEACHING & TRAINING
AMS student Melissa Cheng

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
Chair of NHMRC Centre of Clinical Research Excellence (CCRE) Review Panels.

Cancer Council of Victoria
Victorian Cooperative Oncology Group
RESEARCH REPORTS/

CLINICAL GENETICS

Executive Committee (Chair 2008)
Medical and Scientific Committee

**Human Genetic Society of Australasia**
Genetic Services Committee (2001; Chair 2004-)
Cancer Genetic Special Interest Group (2007-)
Council (2006-)

**University of Melbourne**
Faculty Board (2004-)
Faculty Advisory Committee (2006-)

**Melbourne Health**
Executive Management Team (2006-)
Research Advisory Council (Chair 2007-)
Medical Advisory Committee (2006-)
Education Strategy Implementation Group (Chair 2007-)

**Bio 21:**
Scientific Advisory committee (2006-)
Hospital Research Directors Forum (Chair 2007-)
Advisory Review Committee for the Human Genome Research Project, New Zealand (2004-)
Walter and Eliza Hall Institute for Medical Research – Member of Board (2007-)
Victorian Cancer Agency – Member of Consultative Council (2007-)

**CONTACT DETAILS**
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CLINICAL SCHOOL, ROYAL MELBOURNE HOSPITAL/WESTERN HOSPITAL

Head: Associate Professor Peter Morley, Director of Medical Education

GROUP OVERVIEW
Medical Course Program delivery
Semester 2 and 3 programs have continued to perform well under the coordination of Dr Michael Lian.

The delivery of the Semester 8/9 program in 2008 has been expanded at Western Hospital allowing all Blocks to now be able to be delivered at that campus. Ballarat and Horsham rotations were again utilised over the two semesters.

The 2008 Semester 12 program was successfully run at both RMH and WH with assistance from Epworth, Williamstown and Sunshine hospitals.

The elective student program continues to grow each year and for 2008 we had over 100 interstate and overseas medical students.

Assessment and Evaluation
The performance of the RMH/WH clinical school students relative to the other clinical school was again equivalent. The “bonus program” to assist students in the lowest quartile of academic performance was continued in 2008, and has demonstrated benefit.

The detailed evaluation of all teaching continues, and improvements continue to be made based on this feedback.

The retention of RMH/WH Clinical Students in Western Health and Melbourne Health as interns continues to be excellent (over 50% for each site).

Staff and Staff Development
There were some significant changes to the academic and professional staff in the clinical school in 2008.

We welcome Crystal Chow (RMH) and Aleksandra Olechnowicz (WH) to the administrative staff, and Judith De Graaf was appointed as a clinical nurse educator at Western Hospital.

We noted with regret the resignation of A/Professor Geoff McColl from the position of Clinical Dean in 2008. A/Professor McColl has been an invaluable asset to the clinical school over the past seven years. He has taken up a new position as Professor Director of the Medical Education Unit with the School of Medicine.

A/Professor Peter Morley was appointed into a newly created position as the Director of Medical Education (Clinical Dean) at the RMH/WH clinical school.

Jacinta Tobin (Clinical sub-dean WH) attended associated U21 institutions (in Vancouver and Virginia) as part of her U21 Fellowship (awarded in 2007). The School of Medicine Teaching Award for 2008 was awarded to Dr Gary Lane of the Western Hospital for his outstanding ongoing contributions to teaching.

Again the professional and academic staff were offered opportunities to attend courses within the university, and at external educational activities, to enhance their capacity to deliver the clinical school program.

Financial operations
Substantive additional funding was required for the ongoing development of infrastructure and new appointments at Western Hospital. The plan for recurrent funding for the separate Western Hospital Clinical School is being developed.

Site specific issues
Royal Melbourne Hospital
A close working relationship with the staff and administration of the RMH continued in 2008. The RMH continues to develop a framework for education in the hospital and clinical school has been a part of this working group. The clinical school has also been involved in the process of optimizing intern selection processes in 2009.

Infrastructure has remained well maintained.

Western Hospital
Work has continued on the plans for a separate clinical school at Western Hospital in close liaison with Western Hospital administration and staff. The renovations in the Department of Medicine building were completed in 2008, providing students with improved teaching facilities. Funding for the new Teaching, Training and Research building at Sunshine has now been approved.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS
RESEARCH REPORTS/

CLINICAL SCHOOL, ROYAL MELBOURNE HOSPITAL

The following 2008 Medical Student prizes were awarded by the RMH/WH Clinical School to Semester 12 students:

- The Robert Andrew Stirling Prize in Surgery (Final Year – Aggregate Mark highest) awarded to Scott Sherem.

- The Roger Melick Prize in Medicine RMH/WH (Final Year – Highest Semester 12 mark) awarded to Scott Sherem.

- The Christina Pennington Award (Final Year – General Achievement) awarded to Rebecca Barton.

- The following 2008 Medical Student prizes were awarded by the RMH/WH Clinical School to Semester 9 students (first clinical year):
  - The Murriel Moody Prize (Awarded for General Achievement RMH/WH) awarded to Abby Thomas.
  - The Ken Grice Prize (Top academic student RMH/WH) awarded to George Heriot.

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

Ian Faragher
Invited speaker: 1 Faragher. Drains and Lavage. What is the evidence for benefit? RACS ASC, Hong Kong, 2008.

Invited speaker: Faragher I.; Wong, A.; Jones, I.; McLaughlin, S.; Skinner, I.; Hayes, I.; Croxford, M.; Haste, I.; Shedda, S.; Gibbs, P. Colorectal Cancer (CRC) Surgery For Patients 80 Years And Older Is Associated With Markedly Increased Morbidity And Mortality, With Reduced Long Term Survival. (presentation, Tripartite, Boston 2008)


Meredith Heily

Peter Morley

Invited speaker: “Quality of CPR”, “Feedback during CPR”, and “Echocardiography and CPR”, WA Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) conference, 8 March 2008


Invited speaker: “Multi-disciplinary approach to Resuscitation”, Austin Hospital, 23 July, 2008

Invited speaker: “The resuscitation science review process for 2010: C2010”, and “Multiple trauma management in Intensive Care” at Victorian Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) conference, Melbourne, 2 August 2008

Invited speaker: “Why ICU Research is Different”, Clinical Research Excellence 2008, 7-9 August, Brisbane

Invited speaker: “If we have evidence based guidelines, why aren’t they always adopted?”, “To breathe or not to breathe? That is the question!” and “The resuscitation science review process for 2010: C2010”, NSW Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) conference, 30 August 2008

Invited speaker: “Paediatric Airway Management”, Australasian College of Ambulance Professionals, National Conference, Melbourne, 4-6 September 2008
Invited speaker: “Problems facing Intensive Care trainees in Australia & New Zealand” at Australian and New Zealand Annual Scientific Meeting on Intensive Care, scientific meeting, Sydney, 1st November 2008

Invited speaker: International Liaison Committee On Resuscitation, New Orleans, 6-7 November 2008

Invited speaker: “Role of Hypothermia in Cardiac Resuscitation” and “2010 Guidelines for One Man CPR for Public and Healthcare Provider – Looking into the Crystal Ball” 1st Asia-Pacific Heart Rhythm Society Scientific Session (APHRS 29 November 2008)


Participant: Postgraduate Medical Council of Victoria, Accreditation training, 17th March 2008 (accrediting Latrobe Regional Hospital on 6 August 2008)

Jacinta Tobin


Invited speaker: The Joy of Feeding Infants – A tale of Bugs Bowels and beef

Invited speaker: Grand Rounds Western Hospital Teaching/Research/Clinical balance in Australia 2008; ‘divine mix’ or poisoned chalice?

Invited speaker: GP Brighton Feeding infants and allergy; Abdominal pain – investigations, Probiotics

Justin Tse

Invited speaker: Tse J. The Electronic Health Record: Is it really a record? A pilot study investigating the accuracy of the EHR in an Australian general practice; WONCA Asia Pacific and RACGP Annual Scientific Meeting, Melbourne October 2008


CONTACT DETAILS
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HEAD: Steven TF Chan, Professor of Surgery/Deputy Head of Department of Surgery, RMH/WH.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Research in this department focuses on factors affecting the metastasis of colon cancer. We are investigating the role of EphB2 (a receptor tyrosine kinase of the Eph/Ephrin family). This receptor is lost in many colon cancers. We have determined re-expression of the receptor in colon cancer cell line inhibits their ability to grow as tumour xenografts in vivo and reduces their ability to invade and migrate in vitro models.

GRANTS

EphB2/ephrinB interaction as a growth regulator of colon cancer
Cancer and Bowel Research Trust, Research Grants, 2008

TEACHING & TRAINING

Semester 8/9 and 12 undergraduates
Overseas final year elective students
Training of surgical residents/interns and registrars

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Our method for developing a multi-SNP classifier could be applied to pharmacogenomic studies of other complex diseases in addition to epilepsy.

Vajda et al., (Epilepsia): This paper continues an important series of publications from the Australian Pregnancy Register of Anti-epileptic Drugs which highlight the relatively increased teratogenic potential of higher doses of valproate during the first trimester of pregnancy, methodological aspects of pregnancy registers, differences between different AEDs in seizures control during pregnancy and importantly demonstrating changing prescribing patterns to pregnant women with epilepsy (likely as a result of education campaigns involving data from ours and other relevant scientific studies).

Bouilleret et al., (NeuroImage): This reports the first in-vivo imaging study in a rodent model of genetic generalised epilepsy. The results demonstrated morphometric brain changes in GAERS that may be relevant to their hyperanxious and epileptic phenotypes. It also represents the first application in rodents of the powerful and large deformation high dimensional mapping (HDM-LD) technique, which produces accurate three-dimensional surface representations of the hippocampus in human imaging. HDM-LD has been demonstrated to be very powerful in identifying subtle changes in hippocampal structure in cross-sectional and longitudinal studies. Its adaption to rodent studies opens up great new potential for in-vivo small animal models of chronic brain diseases such as epilepsy.

O’Brien et al., (Journal of Nuclear Medicine): This study used a decision tree analysis to evaluate the therapeutic and health impacts and cost-effectiveness of various algorithms incorporating 18F-FDG PET into the pre-surgical evaluation for medically refractory focal epilepsy in a large cohort of patients. This is the first time such an approach has been applied to objectively evaluate different strategies for the epilepsy surgery evaluation. The results demonstrate conclusively that 18F-FDG PET is a cost-effective investigation for the localization of the epileptogenic zone in the presurgical evaluation, particularly when used in patients in whom VEM or MRI are either nonlocalizing or nonconcordant with other localizing information. This study should facilitate the wider introduction of evidence-based medicine practices into this important area of clinical practice.

Adams et al., (British Journal of Psychiatry): This paper reports the largest published series of patients with well categorised focal epilepsy who have had a detailed clinical neuropsychiatric evaluation. The results demonstrate no differences in the prevalence of neuropsychiatric disorders between the groups with temporal lobe epilepsy and those with extratemporal lobe epilepsy, in contrast to the widely held belief. These findings also have important implications for research investigating pathophysiological underpinnings of the psychiatric comorbidies of epilepsy, indicating that the association may be with epilepsy per se rather than with any specific subtype.

In addition to the above, the group secured 15 competitive peer-reviewed research grants, including 4 NHMRC project grants and a NHMRC development grant. Group members won 18 prizes and scholarships for their research. In 2008 there were 4 PhD student completions, 3 Bachelor of Science Honours completions and 5 AMS student completions. Members of the Group gave multiple invited and selected presentations at National and International Meetings.

“The Australian Synchrotron – First Light”

Dr Damian Myers has been working closely with the Principal Beamline Scientists of two of the beamlines at the Australian Synchrotron through his position with the Beamline Advisory Panel of the Imaging and Medical Beamline and as an ‘Expert User’ at the Microspectroscopy Beamline at the facility. On 12 December 2008, the ‘first light’ was delivered to the Imaging and Medical Beamline, and in 2009 with several scientists from the CSIRO and Monash University, the first biological samples were imaged on this beamline of the Australian Synchrotron; this work has culminated in the first submitted paper (1) which is currently under review (see Figure 1). The Microspectroscopy Beamline was also activated at that time and samples from
Bone Marrow Research Institute. The key such as the Department of Genetics and the department and several collaborative centres This has become a central facility for the Line Cell Imaging Facility the Australian Synchrotron.

technology advanced imaging techniques at research projects to utilise the high (RMH/WH) to extend a translational and enabled the Department of Medicine (VNI) grant as well as advance novel through the Victorian Neurotrauma Initiative our Transport Accident Commission project benefit is to value-add to our current projects such as NHMRC project grant work and our Transport Accident Commission project through the Victorian Neurotrauma Initiative (VNI) grant as well as advance novel areas of work. The facility has enabled the introduction of a range of students into the application of advanced imaging techniques in medical research (PhD, Honours Degree and AMS students).

GROUP OVERVIEW
The Epilepsy and Neuropharmacology Research Group is focused on clinically relevant research. Active projects cover a wide range of basic science, translational and clinical research related to epilepsy and neuropharmacology. The basic research involves the use of innovative animal epilepsy models of focal and generalised seizure disorders, particularly directed to the understanding the processes that result in epilepsy and to identify new targets for improved treatment options for patients. The clinical research program covers a wide variety of patient focused research areas, including imaging, pharmacogenetics, electrophysiology, neuropsychiatry, neurocognitive, bone health and fracture risk and epilepsy surgery. A particular focus of the research is to better characterise the predictors of long-term outcome of both newly treated and chronic epilepsy, and identify new therapeutic targets and treatments.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS

Lohman R.J., O'Brien TJ, Cocks TM. Protease-activated receptor-2 regulates trypsin expression in the brain and protects against seizures and epileptogenesis. Neurobiology Disease 2008;30:84-93


Adams SJ, O’Brien TJ, Lloyd J, Kilpatrick CJ,
Live Cell Imaging Facility


French C. The University of Melbourne – Bickart Fellowship research funds $10000
French C. Royal Melbourne Hospital Neuroscience Foundation $25000
2008 Diffusion Tensor Imaging and Tractography in pre-operative lateralization of Epileptogenic focus and Prediction of Surgical Outcomes in Subtypes Of Temporal Lobe Epilepsy. Principal Investigators: Gan S, Associate Investigators: O’Brien TJ, Desmond PD. Funding Source: Pfizer Neuroscience Grant. Funding Amount: $55,000

2008 Molecular Mechanisms of Tumour-Associated Epilepsy. Principal Investigator: Morokoff A. Co Investigators: O’Brien TJ, Kaye AH. Funding Sources: Medical Research Grant (Restricted Purposes), Faculty of Medicine, University of Melbourne. Funding Amount: $43,719

2008 Interface between Neurological and Psychiatric Disorders. Principal Investigator: Jones NC. Co Investigators: O’Brien TJ, Salzberg M, Velakoulis D, Egan G. Funding Sources: Medical Research Grant (Restricted Purposes), Faculty of Medicine, University of Melbourne. Funding Amount: $46,673

2008-10 Preclinical new chemical entities as novel anti-epileptic drugs targeting dynamin Chief Investigators: PJ Robinson, A. McCluskey, TJ O’Brien, C. Touli. $278,800 USD

Funding Sources: Epilepsy Research Foundation: New Therapy Grant (US) Funding Amount: $278,800 USD


2008 NH&MRC/RACGS Faculty Major Equipment Scheme – Mass Spectrometer. Chief Investigators: A. Morokoff, G. ‘Abaco, TJ O’Brien. Funding Source: NH&MRC and Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne. Funding Amount: $25,000

2009-11 Neuropeptide Y and Epilepsy. Chief Investigator: Velakoulis D. NH&MRC Project grant. NC Jones, 2009- 2011 ‘Comorbid affective disturbance in a model of absence epilepsy’ $483,000

Joint Research Project, University of Melbourne. NC Jones, TJ O’Brien, MR Salzberg, D Velakoulis, D Pinaud 2009. ‘New directions in modeling schizophrenia’ $10,000

Faculty of MDHS, University of Melbourne, Theme-related Medical Research Grant 2008: NC Jones, TJ O’Brien, MR Salzberg, D Velakoulis and G Egan Title: ‘Interface between neurological and psychiatric disorders’. $46,673
Investigators: Prof Margaret J Morris, Prof Terence O’Brien. Funding Source: NH&MRC Project Grant #568729 Funding Amount: $421,500.


2009-11 Stress and Epilepsy. Chief Investigators: Prof Terence J O’Brien; Dr Michael Salzberg, Prof Margaret J Morris, Dr Nigel C Jones, Dr Dennis Velakoulis, A/Pr Maarten van den Buuse. Funding Source: NH&MRC Project Grant #568843. Funding Amount: $515,500.


VNI DP0023 Victorian Neurotrauma Initiative through the TAC, Victoria; $973,347 over 3 years: Start date 9th of October 2006; 2006 $251,000; 2007 $200,000; 2008 $283,326; 2009 $238,998.


CSIRO-University of Melbourne Research Support Scheme Anti-epileptic drug effects on bone health: Microimaging of bone changes using Microfocus X-ray Imaging; 2006 $12,500; 2007 $25,000; 2008 $12,500; Myers DE and Stevenson AW.

Collaborative project with the Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute: Funds from the Centre for Molecular Imaging, 2006-2008 [18F]-Flumazenil as a radiotracer for longitudinal measurements of GABAAR cBZRs in the brain during epileptogenesis; Prof TJ O’Brien, Dr DE Myers (CIB), Dr M-C Gregoire, Dr S Dedeurwaerdere, Dr A Katsisfi, Prof RJ Hicks.

[18-F]-FMZ-PET imaging in medically refractory focal epilepsy patients: Does it provide superior localization of the epileptogenic zone than FDG-PET? Principal Researcher: Prof Terence J. O’Brien (Clinical Study); Associate Researcher(s): Prof Rodney Hicks, Dr Viviane Bouilleret, Dr WF Eddie Lau, Dr Peter Roselt, Mr David Binns, Dr Andrew Katsisfi, Dr Marie Claude Gregoire, Dr Damian Myers and Ms Annie Roten - Ongoing clinical study.

Geoffrey Gardiner Dairy Foundation. Optimizing the bone response to dietary calcium: a physiological approach. 2007 $25,000; 2008 $25,000; 2009 $25,000; Wark JD, Wlodek MJ, Myers DE.

Live-cell Imaging Facility: Inflammation, brains; cancer and malaria - Multifunctional Imaging Facility”. Previous funding for approximately $400,00 has enabling the development of a comprehensive imaging facility in the OOM (RMH/VHI); subsequently, an Ian Potter Foundation Grant for $100,000 and further funds from the University of Melbourne ‘Equipment Funds’ of $75,000 has enabled the purchase of a StereoInvestigator Microscopy system.

Australian Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering (AINSE) through the Australian Nuclear Technology Organisation (ANSTO) $17,700 (2008-2009); Partial volume correction in PET imaging of the rat brain: towards an accurate quantification; Dr Damian Myers (CIA), Dr Marie-Claude Gregoire , Dr Andrew Katsisfi, Prof Terence O’Brien, Prof Rod Hicks, Dr Stefanie Dedeurwaerdere;

COLLABORATIONS

Nigel Jones
Non-Industry: A/Pr Farah Lubin, McKnight Brain Institute, University of Birmingham, Alabama, USA;

Chris French
Non-industry: Staley lab, Harvard Medical School; Kwan/Huang lab, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney, Hyperbaric Unit.

Terence O’Brien
Non-industry: University of NSW (Margaret Morris), Pharmacology UoM (Tom Cooks, Norman Saunders, Jenny Callaway), Physiology UoM (David Williams), Anatomy UoM (Sandra Rees), Centre for Neuroscience UoM (Gary Egan), Austin Health (Sam Berkovic, Mark Newton), Monash University (Frank Vajda), St. Vincent’s Hospital (Michael Salzberg, Mark Cook, Wendyl D’Souza), Melbourne Neuropsychiatry Centre (Dennis Velakoulis, Chris Pantelis), Howard Florey Institute (Chris Reid, Steve Petrou), Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute (Rodney Hicks), ANSTO (Marie Claude Gregoire, Andrew Katsisfi),

CSIRO, Menzies Research Institute, Tasmania (Simon Foote), Murdoch Childrens Research Institute (Les Sheffield), Childrens Medical Research Institute, Sydney (Phil Robinson), University of Newcastle (Adam McClusky), University Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg, France (Didier Pinault), Washington University, St. Louis, USA (R. Edward Hogan), Oxford University (Richard Callaghan), Patrick Kwan (Hong Kong), David Goldstein (Duke University, USA), University of Liverpool, UK (Graeme Stills).

Industry: UCB Pharma, Abbott Laboratories, Janssen-Cilag, Novartis.

Visiting PhD student: Nihan Çarçak – University of Istanbul.

Sabbatical Visitor: Dr Viviane Bouilleret, Neurologist and Epileptologist, Department of Neurophysiology and Epilepsy, AHP, CHU Bicetre, Paris, France.

Dr Damian Myers
CSIRO Materials Science and Engineering; X-Ray Science and Instrumentation: Prof Steve Wilkins/ Dr Andrew Stevenson/ Dr Sherry Mayo/ Dr Tim Gureyev

CSIRO Materials Science and Engineering; High Speed Instrumentation: Dr Gareth Moorhead/ Dr Chris Ryan/ Dr Robin Kirkham/ Dr Paul Dunne

Cooperative Research Centre for Biomedical Imaging Development (CRC-BiD) and Centre for Molecular Imaging, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre: Prof Rod Hicks/ Dr Peter Roselt/ Mr David Binns

Australian Nuclear Science Technology Organisation; Radiopharmaceutical Institute: Dr Andrew Katsisfi/ Dr Marie-Claude Gregoire

Australian Synchrotron – Imaging and Medical Beamline: Dr Daniel Häusermann/ Prof Rob Lewis/ Prof Steve Wilkins/ Dr Andrew Stevenson/ Dr Sherry Mayo

Australian Synchrotron – Microspectroscopy Beaml ine (X-Ray Fluorescence Microscopy): Dr David Paterson/ Dr Martin de Jonge/ Dr Daryl Howard

Department of Genetics: Prof Jim Camakaris/ Dr Ann Gaeth/ Dr Karla Acevedo/ A/Prof Leigh Ackland (Deakin University)

AWARDS AND PRIZES

NC Jones $3,629 Travel grant award received from the CASS Foundation

NC Jones $2,000 Travel grant award received from the Victorian Neurotrauma Initiative
NC Jones Scientific Merit award, Epilepsy Society of Australia, Sydney, Australia.


CR French – Bickart Clinician-Researcher Fellowship 2008 (University of Melbourne);

Mira Chow (AMS Student). The Dean’s Prize for Outstanding Achievement in the AMS Year.

Sandra Petty (PhD student). The Molly MacDonnell Research Fellowship. Epilepsy Society of Australia.

Meng Tan (Epilepsy Fellow). UCB-Epilepsy Society of Australia Fellowship.

Slave Petrovski (PhD Student). Best Platform Presentation. Annual Scientific Meeting of the Epilepsy Society of Australia.

Sydney, November, .

Slave Petrovski (PhD Student). Travel Scholarship, Epilepsy Society of Australia.

Caroline Ng (PhD Student). Travel Scholarship, Epilepsy Society of Australia.

Gaurav Kumar (PhD Student). Graduate Student Travel Award. Society for Neuroscience, USA.

Sandra Petty (PhD Student). The Cleveland Young Investigator Award, The Royal Melbourne Hospital Research Week.

Sandra Petty (PhD Student). The James Lance Young Investigator Award. The Australian and New Zealand Association of Neurologists, Brisbane

Caroline Ng (PhD Student). Oral Presentation Award. Annual Scientific Meeting of The Australian Neuroscience Society.

Tanya Yuen (MSc Student). NHMRC Medical Post-Graduate Scholarship.

Cassandra Szoeke (Epilepsy Fellow). Epilepsy Society of Australia, UCB, Epilepsy Fellowship


CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

Dr Nigel Jones


Two Oral Presentations: Society for Neuroscience, Washington DC, USA, 2008

Poster Presentation: American Epilepsy Society, Seattle USA, 2008

Oral Presentation and two Poster Presentations: Australian Neuroscience Society annual meeting, Hobart, Australia, 2008


Oral and five Poster Presentations: Epilepsy Society of Australia, Sydney, Australia, 2008

Poster Presentation: Trauma Melbourne, Australia, 2008.

Chris French

Poster Presentation, Society for Neuroscience, Washington DC, USA, 2008

Poster Presentation, Gordon Conference on Epilepsy, Maine, USA, 2008
Modeling neurological disease processes: The key steps in translational research


2008 Workshop on Advanced X-ray Imaging and CT (Program for Shanghai Synchrotron/Australian Synchrotron); Quantitative Bone Density Studies: Presented by Dr Damian Myers (Drs Steve Wilkins and Andrew Stevenson co-authors); Australian Synchrotron; Clayton, Victoria

2008 National Imaging Consortium Meeting at Howard Florey Institute: Imaging Capabilities for Animal Models in Neuroscience and Neurological Diseases; Title: Imaging Neurotrauma Models

2008 2nd Australian Tomography Workshop, Monash University; Synchrotron tomography of mouse tibia utilising the Elettra synchrotron light source. Presented by Dr Damian Myers; other authors – Andrew Stevenson1, Stephen Wilkins, Jillian Cornish, Giuliana Tromba, Lucia Mancini, Luigi Rigon, and

2008 Departments of Medicine/Surgery Seminar (RMH); Modeling neurological disease processes: The key steps in translational research

2008 Asia-Oceania Symposium and Australian Synchrotron Users Meeting – December 2008 (Platform) Synchrotron tomography of mouse tibia utilising the Elettra synchrotron light source Presented by Dr Damian Myers; other authors – Andrew Stevenson1, Stephen Wilkins, Jillian Cornish, Giuliana Tromba, Lucia Mancini and Luigi Rigon.

Dr Damian Myers

Fifth Clare Valley Bone Meeting: Bone remodeling – function and adaptation, Adelaide, Australia 2008

DE Myers, Nicola Fazzalari, Anthony Favaloro, John D Wark, Stephen Wilkins and Andrew Stevenson.

Phase-contrast microfocus imaging of human vertebrae and quantification of bone parameters

Australian Neuroscience Society annual meeting, Hobart, Australia, 2008 – oral presentation


Australian and New Zealand Association of Neurologists. Brisbane, Australia, 2008

RESEARCH REPORTS/

EPILEPSY AND NEUROPHARMACOLOGY

Slave Petrovski

Terence O’Brien
What’s next, after the first drug fails? Annual Scientific Meeting of The Hong Kong Epilepsy Society. Hong Kong. May 15, 2008.

TEACHING & TRAINING

PhD Completions:
Susan Serin, BSc (Hons). PhD, The University of Melbourne (Passed 2008). Pharmacogenomics: Valproate-associated weight changes in nine inbred strains of mice.
Bianca Juopp, BSc (Hons). PhD, The University of Melbourne (Passed 2008). PET Hypometabolism and MRI perfusion and diffusion changes during acquired epileptogenesis in a rat kindling model of mesial temporal lobe epilepsy.
Rink-Jan Lohman. BSc (Hons). PhD, The University of Melbourne (Passed 2008). The role of proteases and their receptors in epilepsy.

Bachelor of Science (Honours)
Johanna Elms, Investigation of the role for NPY as a mechanism underlyng the anti-seizure effects of valproate in a rat model of genetic absence epilepsy.
Bee Hui Gan (Kelly) Hippocampal neuroplasticity in traumatic brain injury: Relationship to post-traumatic epilepsy.
Amelia Suan-Lin Koe, Neurobehavioural outcomes and structural changes following experimental brain injury.
Han Ee Lee, Repeated restraint stress accelerates limbic epileptogenesis in the amygdala kindling model.

Advance Medical Science
Mira Chow, Manganese-enhanced magnetic resonance imaging in a rat model of epilepsy (co-supervisor).
Duma Prapwiasih Margaretha Changes in GABAA/cBZR expression during epileptogenesis: A study of the kindling.
Ika Megatia, Phenotyping GAERS, a polygenic rat model of absence epilepsy, and its comorbidities.
Ricky Sitepu, The effect of dynamin inhibitors in true models of epilepsy.
EPILEPSY AND NEUROPHARMACOLOGY

Aloisia Permata Sari Russli Advanced Medical Science (University of Indonesia)

Ongoing PhD Students


Anita Vinton MBBS. PhD Student (Part-time). The University of Melbourne (Principal supervisor). The mechanisms underlying hypometabolism on FDG-PET and the relationship to with EEG activity.

Sophie Adams. MBBS. PhD Student (Part-time). The University of Melbourne (Co-supervisor). Long-term follow-up study of neuropsychiatric co-morbidity in focal epilepsy.

Thomas Zheng. PhD Student, The University of Melbourne (Principal supervisor). The neuropharmacological and neurophysiological mechanisms underlying the aggravation of seizures by anti-epileptic drugs.

Gaurav Kumar, PhD student, The University of Melbourne (Principal supervisor). Effects of early life stress and hypercortisolaemia and affective disorders.

Caroline Ng, PhD student, The University of Melbourne (Co-supervisor). HCN in models of temporal lobe epilepsy.

Tanya Yuen, PhD student, The University of Melbourne (Co-supervisor). Factors predisposing to seizures with patients with supratentorial gliomas.

Arun Chinna, PhD student, The University of Melbourne (Co-supervisor). Factors predisposing to seizures with patients with supratentorial gliomas.

Slave Petrovski, PhD student, The University of Melbourne (Principal supervisor). Biomathematical approaches to identifying pharmacogenonomic biomarkers for outcome of epilepsy treatment.

Meng Yang, PhD student The University of Melbourne, Environmental Enrichment and limbic epileptogenesis: mechanisms of neuroprotection.

Lucy Vivash PhD (Medicine) Serial imaging of neuronal receptor changes in acquired epilepsy using FMZ-PET.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Chris French

National Health Committee, NH&MRC

NH&MRC Grant Assessor

Victorian Epilepsy Committee member

Reviewer for Neurobiology of Disease, Journal of Clinical Neuroscience

Terence O’Brien

National Project Committees:

Management Committee, BioGrid Australia (formerly MMIM)

Medical Advisory Board of the Australian Registry of Anti-epileptic Drugs in Pregnancy

Brain Foundation, Victorian Committee member

Industry Advisory Boards

Chair, Neurolept Medical Advisory Board, Janssen-Cilag Australia.

Zonisamide Medical Advisory Board (Pharmacink)

Journal Editorial Boards:

Member of the Editorial Board, The Journal of Clinical Neuroscience.

Member of the Editorial Board, Epilepsy and Behaviour.

Member of the Editorial Board, Epilepsia: Journal of The International League Against Epilepsy

Invited Journal Peer-Reviewer:


Competitive Grant Peer-Reviewer:

International:

Research Foundation – Flanders, Belgium.

Epilepsy Research UK Research Projects, United Kingdom.

National:

NHMRC Project Grant Review Panel

Member (GRP4e Neurology and Brain Imaging.

Dr. Nigel Jones

Manuscript reviewer for: NeuroImage, Epilepsia, International Journal of Developmental Medicine, Pharmacological Research, Neuroscience Letters, Progress in Neuropsychopharmacology & Biological Psychiatry, and Behavioural Brain Research

Invited convenor for Asia-Pacific Workshop on Microscopy and Imaging – associated with the Bone and Mineral Society – Workshop planning committee for 2010 meeting (in association with the ANZBMS)

Member of Victorian Government Committee for the Australian Synchrotron – Invited in 2003-ongoing

A “Beamline Advisory Panel” was established to oversee the design and building of the Imaging and Medical Beamline (IMBL) at the Australian Synchrotron – Co-chaired by Prof Rob Lewis/ Prof Steve Wilkins http://www.synchrotron.org.au/content.asp?Document_ID=4637

Member of committee at the Australian Synchrotron to coordinate animal licensing and experimentation: As a member of the BAP (above) Dr Myers has on behalf of the Australian Synchrotron to coordinate the implementation of licencing of the site, establishment of an ‘Animal Ethics Committee’ and BAW approval of components of the IMBL during construction and commissioning.

Member of Planning Committee for new Neuroscience Institute at Parkville (2006-2008) – Design Briefing and Concept Design Phase – involved with all stages of consultation with prospective tenants.

Category ‘B’ Member of AEC – Bio21, Microbiology and Immunology, Medicine (RMH) – Scientific Expert: Since 2006, Dr Myers has worked on this animal ethics committee and has undertaken the appropriate training courses and workshops run through the Bureau of Animal Welfare, organized by the Principal Veterinary Officer of Victoria, Dr Dani Mauer.

Member of Executive Committee of Department of Medicine (RMH/WH) Invited in 2008.

Chairman of the ‘Live-cell Imaging Facility’ committee: This committee, which reports to the DOM (RMH/WH) Executive Committee, was established to oversee the running of the imaging facility including training of staff and development of education programs about advanced imaging techniques.


CONTACT DETAILS

Professor Terence O’Brien

James Stewart Professor of Medicine and Head of Department

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Email: obrientj@unimelb.edu.au
RESEARCH REPORTS/
GASTROINTESTINAL CANCER GROUP

Head: Alex Boussioutas

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS
The successful awarding of an ARC discovery grant was critical for the commencement of a collaboration with Swinburne University of Technology with Prof Min Gu. Work on refining an optical endomicroscope is underway with two publications submitted for review. A postdoctoral fellow, Dr Rita Busuttil, joined the laboratory and is working on genomic characterisation of Intestinal Metaplasia of the stomach to find markers of progression in gastric cancer. She is also working on the pathogenesis of invasion of established gastric cancer. The laboratory was awarded an NHMRC Project grant in collaboration with Prof Jon Emery (University of Western Australia) and Dr Rebecca Fitzgerald (University of Cambridge, UK) to study new non-invasive screening methods for Barrett’s Oesophagus in Primary Care.

GROUP OVERVIEW
The Gastrointestinal Cancer Group is focused on translation of basic science observations to the clinic with particular reference to Intestinal Metaplasia and Gastric Cancer as well as Oesophageal adenocarcinoma and Barrett’s Oesophagus. The laboratory has extensive experience in highthroughput genomics focusing on gene expression and DNA copy number analysis.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS
*Named investigator as part of CAPP2 Investigators
#Named Investigator as part of the Australian Cancer Study

GRANTS
New Grants
ARC Discovery Grant. Gu M, Boussioutas, Xie H 2008-2010 A Functional nonlinear optical endoscopy the third generation optical endoscopy technology toward early cancer detection at a cellular level. ($640,000)

Ongoing Grants
NHMRC Project Grant. Boussioutas A, Giraud A, and Bowtell D 2007-2009 Molecular markers of the progression of intestinal metaplasia to gastric cancer. ($535,000)
NHMRC Project grant 433617: CIA M. Ernst; CIB P. Hoffman. Al A. Boussioutas 2007-2009 Validation of STAT3 as a therapeutic target in diseases arising from its inappropriate activation by gp130 cytokines. ($645,250)

COLLABORATIONS

Non-Industry:
Swinburne University of Technology, Dept. of Microphotonics; University of Western Australia, Dept. of General Practice and Rural Health; University of Cambridge, UK; University of Melbourne, Dept. of General Practice; Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Dept. of Research; Univeristy of Melbourne, NICTA

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS
Alex Boussioutas
Invited Speaker: Insights into cancer using genomic analysis of gastric cancer, 1st Annual Scientific Meeting of Singapore Gastric Cancer Consortium, Singapore, July 2008
Invited Speaker: The endoscopists approach to patient with multiple polyps, Peter Mac Callum Cancer Centre Colorectal Cancer Workshop: A Multidisciplinary Meeting, Melbourne, March 2008
Invited Speaker: Use of biologics in IBD, Grand Rounds, Western Hospital, September 2008

TEACHING & TRAINING
Undergraduate Medical Student teaching Supervision and training for Gastroenterology Registrars Supervision of Gastroenterology Fellow

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
Alex Boussioutas
Invited Speaker: Insights into cancer using genomic analysis of gastric cancer, 1st Annual Scientific Meeting of Singapore Gastric Cancer Consortium, Singapore, July 2008
Invited Speaker: The endoscopists approach to patient with multiple polyps, Peter Mac Callum Cancer Centre Colorectal Cancer Workshop: A Multidisciplinary Meeting, Melbourne, March 2008
Invited Speaker: Use of biologics in IBD, Grand Rounds, Western Hospital, September 2008

CONTACT DETAILS
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Email: alexb@unimelb.edu.au
RESEARCH REPORTS/  
INTERNATIONAL AND IMMIGRANT HEALTH RESEARCH GROUP

Head: Associate Professor Beverley-Ann Biggs, MB BS Melb. PhD Melb. FRACP FRCP FACTM

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS
1. The major highlight this year was the expansion of our demonstration iron supplementation/deworming program in Yen Bai Province, Vietnam, to target all women of reproductive age in the province, some 250,000 women. A 30 month evaluation of laboratory parameters and compliance showed that this intervention was effective in preventing anaemia, and increasing iron stores in these women. The team is working with WHO, UNICEF, the National Institute of Nutrition, Hanoi, and others to integrate iron-folic acid supplementation for women into the National Nutrition Strategy 2011-2020.

2. We commenced a new project in Bangalore, India: Improving the Diagnosis and Treatment of Tuberculosis, and Multi-drug Resistant Tuberculosis, in Southern India. This is a collaboration with St John’s Medical College, St. Vincent’s Hospital, VIDRL and Burnet Institute.

3. A new project ‘Healthy bones and strong communities: Health literacy and effective health promotion in newly arrived African communities’ was commenced in collaboration with Dr Georgia Paxton (RCH) and Department of Medicine (RMH/WH), the University of Melbourne.

4. Field work was completed for the project ‘HIV in Victoria’s African Communities: Reducing Risks and Improving Care – investigation of the epidemiology and cultural aspects of HIV and sexually transmitted infections in African and Arabic-speaking communities in Victoria’

5. Funding was obtained from the ARC for a new collaboration with A/Prof Jane Fisher at the Key Centre for Women’s Health to study ‘Perinatal mental health in women and its consequences for infant health and development in Viet Nam’ in conjunction with Dr Tran Tuan at the RTCCD, Hanoi.

GROUP OVERVIEW
The International and Immigrant Health Group undertake research and support policy and program development in populations in resource constrained countries, and in refugee and immigrant communities in Melbourne. Our particular interests are in infectious diseases, nutritional deficiencies, and maternal and child health.

International health activities have focused on the introduction, evaluation and expanded use of new and under utilised vaccines, and strengthening capacity for research in control of parasitic diseases. A new initiative is piloting regular deworming therapy and iron supplements in women of reproductive age in Yen Bai Province, Vietnam.

Refugee health projects have investigated the burden of undiagnosed infectious diseases and nutritional deficiencies in immigrants from Cambodia, Afghanistan, the Eastern Mediterranean region, and the Horn of Africa, as well as access to health care services and knowledge about health issues.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS


Ongoing Grants

Department of Human Services (DHS)

Project Grant. Dr G. Paxton, Dr J. Buttery, Dr B-A Biggs, Dr C.N. Lemoh, Ms C. Lloyd-Johnson, Prof P. Ebeling, Prof J. Torresi, Mr A. Arkadio, Mr S. W. Aru, Dr S. Goldfeld, Dr N. John, Dr C. Marshall and Dr K. Leder. (2008-2009). Healthy bones and strong communities: Health literacy and effective health promotion in newly arrived African communities. $96,555 AUD.

Department of Human Services (DHS)

Tender. Dr G. Paxton, Ms A. O’Brien, Prof M. South, Dr B-A Biggs, Dr C.N. Lemoh, Ms S. Sawyer, Ms J. McLoughlin and Ms N. Smith. (2007-2008). A health and well being status report on refugee children and young people 0-18 years. $100,000.00 AUD.

Australia-India Council (AIC) Project Grant. Dr R. Munje, Prof S. Jalgoankar, Dr A. Gajbhiye, Dr B-A Biggs, Dr H. Sheorey, H. Cox and Dr C. Aboltins. (2008-2010). The use of Quantiferon – TB Gold for the diagnosis of extra-pulmonary TB. $12,000 AUD.

Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND) Project Grant. Dr R. Munje, Prof S. Jalgoankar, Dr A. Gajbhiye, Dr B-A Biggs, Dr H. Sheorey, H. Cox and Dr C. Aboltins. (2008-2010). The use of Quantiferon – TB Gold for the diagnosis of extra-pulmonary TB. $67,000 US.

Sanofi Pasteur Project Grant. Dr J. Torresi, Dr K. Leder, Dr J. Black, Dr M. Catton and Dr B-A Biggs, Dr Tony Gherardin, Dr Chris Birch, Dr Jenny Leydon and Dr Mike Starr. (2007-2010). Seroprevalence of respiratory tract and arboviral infections in Australian travellers. $300,000 Euro.

Atlantic Philanthropies (AP) Grant: (2003-2009). In collaboration with the University of Melbourne, Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, National Institute for Malariaology, Parasitology and Entomology; St Johns Medical College, Bangalore; St. Vincent's Hospital; World Health Organisation, Victorian Infectious Diseases Service; Key Centre for Women's Health and Society; Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society; McFarlane Burnet Research Institute for Medical Research and Public Health; Murdoch Childrens Research Institute; Royal Children's Hospital; Victorian Infectious Diseases Research Laboratory; Royal Melbourne Hospital; Monash Medical Centre, Western Hospital.

Industry: Asian Development Bank (ADB); Cellestis.

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

Beverley-Ann Biggs


Invited Speaker: Victorian GP Refugee Health Forum October 2008


TEACHING & TRAINING

PhDs: Dr Chris Lemoh, Dr. Santa Pasricha

FRACP Supervisor: Dr Katherine Gibley

AMS students: Thuvanka Jayakumaran, Goriba Mathadair

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES


Department of Medicine AMS Coordinator, University of Melbourne

CONTACT DETAILS

Associate Professor Beverley-Ann Biggs

Department of Medicine (RMH/WH)

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Survey team members from Ha Noi and Yen Bai.
LIFESTYLE MEDICINE

Head: Professor Peter Ebeling

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

A major boost to our research team occurred when Associate Professor Robin Daly was appointed in early 2008 to take the place of Professor Andy Giraud as Honorary Principal Research Fellow in our Department. Rob has a strong research background in lifestyle medicine, particularly the effects of calcium and vitamin D nutrition and exercise on musculoskeletal health and function in older adults. His appointment coincided with the award of a $450,000 research grant from ANZ Trustees and Osteoporosis Australia to fund a community-based exercise and osteoporosis education program based in the Western suburbs. The main aim of this three-year translational project is to examine the effects of a novel exercise program on bone strength, muscle function and falls in the elderly at risk of osteoporosis. This is a collaborative project with Arthritis Victoria, Osteoporosis Australia, Blackmores Ltd, YMCA Victoria and a number of local councils. Dr Christine Bailey from the University of Loughborough in the UK, has joined our group to work on this project, as has Ms Jenny Gianoudis, a physiotherapist and PhD student. Innovative research projects examining effects of dietary calcium on vascular calcification are also underway, utilising CT and the Unit’s Hologic Discovery W bone densitometer. Ms Sue Harvey, our “bone densitometrist”, has also increased her research involvement as part of these and other studies and is now an instructor in the biannual ANZBMS Bone Densitometry Training Course.

Dr Claudia Gagnon, a Research Fellow from Sherbrooke University in Quebec, was successful in obtaining a Diabetes Australia Research Trust grant to examine the effects of a placebo controlled trial of calcium and vitamin D to prevent the progression of pre-diabetes to diabetes in overweight or obese patients with vitamin D deficiency. Effects of this intervention on inflammatory markers and other novel mediators will also be studied.

Dr. Anjali Haikerwal MPH, a research assistant in our Department, has obtained a grant from the Victorian Government’s Department of Human Services (DHS) to prepare educational documents on vitamin D deficiency and the role of vitamin D supplements for doctors and other health professionals. We have also been involved with DHS in increasing access for Victorians to high-dose vitamin D, which is readily available overseas, but not in Australia. The number of research projects in the Department continues to grow. Mr. John Sheedy is using metabolomics to measure compounds in the urine by Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) or Mass Spectroscopy (MS) that may act as novel bone biomarkers in metabolic bone diseases. This work towards his PhD is done in collaboration with both Bio21 and Metabolomics Australia. Dr Belal Khan joins us from New Delhi and has been awarded a prestigious Myer Foundation / Osteoporosis Australia postgraduate research scholarship. His work will examine the long-term effects of low and high dietary calcium intakes on fractures, bone density, and adverse vascular outcomes, vascular calcification (measured by DXA) and brain volume (measured by MRI) in the Health 2002 cohort and is done in collaboration with School of Population Health. Ms. Claudine Tsao, a dentist, has commenced her PhD studies on the role of periodontal disease in osteonecrosis of the jaw in patients with cancer. Her research is done in collaboration with the School of Dentistry. Mr. Khoa Truong completed his BSc (Honours) in our Department in 2008 and will commence a PhD project on the associations of thyroid autoimmunity in the Australian Vietnamese community in 2009. This research will be done in collaboration with Drs Bob Anderson and John Wentworth at the Walter and Elisa Hall Institute of Medical Research.

Two AMS students, Ms. Gorata Pearl Mathaiithai and Ms. Thuvaraka Jeyakumaran, joined our group in 2008, while Ms Roisin Briscoe and Mr Khoa Truong successfully completed their BSc (Honours) year with us in 2008.

In August 2008, Professor Ebeling chaired the successful Clinical Research Excellence Meeting (CRX08) in Brisbane with over 300 participants. This was co-sponsored by NHMRC, The University of Melbourne, Nucleus Network, and ACRP.

In January 2009, Professor Ebeling commenced his role as Associate Editor of Journal of Bone and Mineral Research, which at 6.6 is the Journal with the highest Impact Factor in the field of bone and mineral metabolism. He also Chaired a NHMRC Grant Review Panel on Musculoskeletal Diseases and was a member of the Clinical Centres of Research Excellence Grant Review Panel. He is also a co-author of the National Osteoporosis Management Guidelines developed by RACGP and NHMRC and is a member of the working group for the Therapeutic Guidelines on Endocrinology. The definitive versions of both Guidelines will be published in the second half of 2009.

Professor Ebeling was also appointed Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences Domain Co-ordinator in Clinical Sciences and Health Service Research.

Clinical School and TTR West

Dr Jacinta Tobin, a paediatric gastroenterologist, continued as Clinical Sub-Dean with the RMH/WH Clinical School. Jacinta also has a strong background in research and her enthusiasm has been critical in evolving a separate Clinical School at Western in July 2009. A Clinical Dean appointment will be made in mid-2009. The construction of the new $50 million Teaching, Training and Research Building to house the new Academic Cluster and Western Clinical School at Sunshine will commence in March 2009 and be completed by October 2010. The TTR Building represents a successful partnership between the University of Melbourne, Victoria University and Western Health. The new building will allow the development of a critical mass of researchers, including Western Health clinicians, in community-
based research with a strong laboratory base.

GROUP OVERVIEW
Our current research is focused on the role of 'lifestyle medicine', which incorporates conventional medicine with lifestyle interventions such as exercise and nutrition, to prevent and manage a broad range of preventable lifestyle-related health conditions, particularly osteoporosis and related fractures, sarcopenia (age-related muscle loss), and type 2 diabetes. Our research involves utilising state-of-the-art imaging techniques, such as quantitative computed tomography (QCT) and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to assess the influence of lifestyle interventions on bone material and structural properties, aortic calcification, and body composition. Other research within our group focuses on the public health issues related to vitamin D deficiency and the effects of calcium and vitamin D on cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, management of post-transplantation osteoporosis and the genetics and treatment of osteoporosis in men.

Research Team / Students
Professor Peter Ebeling, Head of Unit
Professor Edward Janus, Head of General Medicine, Western Health
Associate Professor Robin Daly, Honorary Principal Research Fellow
Dr Claudia Gagnon, Research Fellow
Dr Christine Bailey, Research Fellow
Dr Anjali Haikerwal, Research Officer
Ms Marion Croft, Clinical Trial Co-ordinator
Mr Jia Wei Teo, Research Assistant
Ms Sue Harvey, Bone Densitometry Technician
Dr Belal Khan, PhD student
Ms Jenny Gianoudis, PhD student
Ms Claudine Tsao, PhD student
Mr John Sheedy, PhD student

Publications

Book Chapters


Zhu K, Bruce D, Austin N, Devine A, Ebeling PR, Prince RL. A Randomized Controlled Trial of the Effects of Calcium with or Without Vitamin D on Bone Structure and Bone Related Chemistry in Elderly Women with Vitamin D Insufficiency. J Bone Miner Res. 2008 Apr 14.


RMH/VH Research Cluster Annual Report 2008


GRANTS

New Grants


NHMRC Project Grant. Dunstan D, Ball K, Salmon J, Crawford D, Daly R. 2007-09. A behavioral intervention for the adoption and maintenance of physical activity in type 2 diabetes. $321,875


NHMRC Project Grant. Dunstan D, Ball K, Salmon J, Crawford D, Daly R. 2007-09. A behavioral intervention for the adoption and maintenance of physical activity in type 2 diabetes. $321,875


Ongoing Grants


NHMRC Project Grant. Dunstan D, Ball K, Salmon J, Crawford D, Daly R. 2007-09. A behavioral intervention for the adoption and maintenance of physical activity in type 2 diabetes. $321,875


Collaborations

Non-industry partners

NHMRC; Osteoporosis Australia; Arthritis Victoria / Osteoporosis Victoria; Deakin University, LaTrobe University; JO & JR Wicking Trust; Blackmores Ltd; Meat and Livestock Australia; Bio21; Sherbrooke University, Canada; YMCA Victoria.

Industry partners

Merck, Sharp and Dohme; Sanofi-Aventis; Servier; Amgen; Glaxo-Smith Kline, Novartis

Conferences & Seminars

Peter Ebeling


Invited speaker: Women’s Health Meeting, University of Melbourne – Update on Osteoporosis.

Invited speaker: ANZBMS Annual Scientific Meeting – Osteoporosis in Men, Melbourne.

Invited speaker: 50th Anniversary Annual Scientific Meeting of Endocrine Society of Australia – Bisphosphonate Use in Osteoporosis: Benefits and Risks, Melbourne.

Invited speaker: ANZBMS / Osteoporosis Australia Clinical Update on Osteoporosis, Melbourne.


Invited speaker: International Congress of Endocrinology – Meet the Professor Session – Osteoporosis in Men. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Robin Daly


Invited speaker: Osteoporosis Victoria / Arthritis Victoria Update Session. Recent Advances for Preventing Osteoporosis.


Invited speaker: Australian Association of Exercise and Science in Sport. The role of exercise and nutrition for optimizing musculoskeletal health in the elderly.

Edward Janus


Invited speaker: 6th Congress of the Asian Pacific Society of Atherosclerosis and Vascular Diseases & 10th Hong Kong Diabetes and Cardiovascular Risk Factors
East Meets West Symposium, Hong Kong 25-28 September 2008, Title: Case Finding and Diabetes Prevention – A National Programme

Claudia Gagnon
Invited speaker, Osteoporosis Victoria / Arthritis Victoria, Management of Osteoporosis

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS


Ducher G, Black J, Daly R, Turner C, Bass S. Tennis playing initiated before puberty leads to greater skeletal benefits in peri-pubertal boys than girls when training is maintained. 43rd Conference of Science and Medicine in Sports, Hamilton Island, Oct 2008


TEACHING & TRAINING
Mr. Khoa Dang Truong, BSc (Honours) student
Ms. Roisin Briscoe, BSc (Honours) student

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
Peter Ebeling
Medical Director and Chair, Medical and Scientific Committee, Osteoporosis Australia.
Chair, Victorian State Committee, Royal Australasian College of Physicians.
Councillor, Endocrine Society of Australia.
Chair, Clinical Research Excellence Meeting (CRX08)
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences Domain Co-ordinator in Clinical Sciences and Health Service Research.

Robin Daly
Sports Medicine Victoria, Board Member.

Edward Janus
Treasurer Asian Pacific Society of Atherosclerosis and Vascular Diseases (APSAVD)
Co-organizer APSAVD/Australian Atherosclerosis Society Congress Cairns 2010
Member of Life! Evaluation and Development Committee, Diabetes Australia Victoria roll out of Diabetes Prevention Program to 25,000 Victorians

International Journal Editorial Appointment

Peter Ebeling
Associate Editor, Journal of Bone and Mineral Research
Robin Daly
Scandinavian Journal of Medicine and Science in Sport
Grant Assessor
Peter Ebeling
Chair, NHMRC Grant Review Panel on Musculoskeletal Diseases
Member NHMRC CCRE Grant Review Panel
Robin Daly
NHMRC Grant Review Panel
NHMRC Project Grant
NHMRC Fellowship Scheme
Heart Foundation Fellowship Scheme

Professional Membership
Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society (ANZBMS)
American Society of Bone and Mineral Research (ASBMR)
Sports Medicine Australia (SMA)
Australian Association of Exercise and Science in Sport (AAESS)
American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM)
Endocrine Society of Australia (ESA)
US Endocrine Society
International Bone and Mineral Society (IBMS)

Invited Chair for Conference Symposium
American Society of Bone and Mineral Research 30th Annual Scientific Meeting
Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society
Endocrine Society of Australia
International Congress of Endocrinology

CONTACT DETAILS
Professor Peter Ebeling
Department of Medicine (RMH/WH)
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Footscray, Victoria 3011
AUSTRALIA
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RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

This year, our research group made a major advance with identification of serum amyloid protein A (SAA) as a blood biomarker of exacerbation severity in COPD. This research, based on the primary discovery by Steve Bozinovski in our group, has opened the way forward for developing a simple blood test that may predict who will suffer very severe outcomes during COPD exacerbations which will be useful for triage and focused therapy. The project built on the highly successful research project of then PhD candidate Anastasia Hutchinson and our long standing clinical translation research under the direction of A/Prof Louis Irving, head of Respiratory medicine at RMH.

(Ref: Bozinovski et al, 2009) Continuing the translational theme, we made the surprising observation with Professor Anders Linden and his team in Sweden, that smoke causes little or no detectable protease induction in healthy young smokers which is contrary to the conventional view on how smoke may cause muscle wasting – in collaborative research with Margaret Morris at UNSW we found that smoke uncouples the normal mechanisms that link diet with body mass (Morris et al 2009). On the theoretical front, a new conceptual approach to understanding asthma by delineation of disease endotypes was published (Anderson 2009) and was the subject of a major international symposium co-sponsored by the Lancet.

GROUP OVERVIEW

Our group has a strong focus on advancing understanding and treatment of common, serious lung disease using basic research methods linked in with clinical translational studies.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS


GRANTS

2008-2010

NHMRC Project Grant Hibbs ML and Anderson GP The role of Src family tyrosine kinases in inflammatory lung disease and cancer $171,250 per year 2005-2009

NHMRC Program Grant The interface between innate and adaptive immunity $4,308,220 over 5 years

COLLABORATIONS

Non industry. A/Prof M Hibbs (LICR, Melbourne); A/Prof Louis Irving (Thoracic Medicine, RHH); Prof Anders Linden (Goteborg, Sweden); Prof Bruce Levy (Harvard, USA); Dr Brendan Jenkins (Monash); Prof Paul Hertzog (Monash); Dr Sandra Nichols (WEHI)

TEACHING & TRAINING

Ms Anastasia Hutchinson (PhD, RMH)
PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
GP Anderson: immediate past secretary of the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) of the European Respiratory Society (ERS), an active contributing member of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ, chair of the Immunology/Cell Biology Group), the ERS, The American Thoracic Society (Allergy Immunology program committee). Co-founded the Cooperative Research Centre for Chronic Inflammatory Diseases (CRC-CID) and served as Associate Director and Research Director. Journal reviewing: including British Journal of Pharmacology, Trends in Pharmacological Sciences; European Journal of Pharmacology; American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, Clinical and Experimental Allergy and Immunology, Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology and Physiology, Cytokine, Current Drugs (Editorial board), Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Journal of Leukocyte Biology, Thorax, Rheumatology, Pharmacology and Therapeutics (Editorial Board). Review of research grants for NHMRC (more than 70 Projects/programs reviewed, Discipline panel member; Program grant panel member); National Asthma Campaign (UK); Asthma Foundations of almost every state in Australia; Raine Foundation for Medical Research, Australia; The Cunningham Trust, Scotland, UK; The Nedlands Asthma Fonds (Dutch Asthma Foundation); Asthma New Zealand, the National Asthma Campaign, Australia and the Cooperative Research Centre organisation.

CONTACT DETAILS
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Head, Lung Disease Research Group
Depts. Medicine and Pharmacology
University of Melbourne
Australia

e-mail: gpa@unimelb.edu.au
Telephone: 03 8344 8802
MALARIA

Head: Associate Professor Stephen Rogerson and Professor Graham Brown

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

MALARIA IN PREGNANCY CONSORTIUM

Two large research grants from the Malaria in Pregnancy Consortium were awarded to Stephen Rogerson, to run a prevention study in pregnancy malaria in Papua New Guinea, and to coordinate activities throughout the Consortium relating to the immunity and pathogenesis of malaria in pregnancy. These are funded as part of a USD$30M grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to support seven main coordinating sites globally.

HOW THE PLACENTA RESPONDS TO MALARIA INFECTION

PhD Student Alex Umbers travelled to the laboratory of Dr Julie Moore at the University of Georgia, USA, to learn how to extract and culture syncytiotrophoblast cells from the placenta, which form the layer of cells between mother and baby in the placenta. Alex is now studying how these cells respond to malaria infection.

HOW MALARIA EVADES IMMUNITY

The discovery of elements contributing to control of antigenic variation in malaria was presented at the Molecular Parasitology Meeting in USA during 2008 and has been submitted for publication.

MALARIA PARASITES THAT INFECT PREGNANT WOMEN

Collaborations with Indonesian scientists resulted in Dr Rintis Noviyanti of the Eijkman Institute in Jakarta winning an Australian Government Endeavour Award in order to receive training from Professor Graham Brown and Dr Michael Duffy. This training continues on-going collaborative studies of malaria in pregnancy in Indonesia.

Further characterisation of parasites that cause placental malaria, this work identified parasites expressing novel ligands for placental receptors and has made a contribution to malaria in pregnancy vaccine design. This work was published in 2008 in the Malaria Journal.

BE better defining malaria parasite placental adhesion

Research fellow Philippe Boeuf designed an innovative assay that utilises the actual membrane infected erythrocytes bind to in vivo as a matrix for adhesion, making this assay highly relevant. Promising preliminary results suggest that this assay will allow a more complete and detailed understanding of malaria parasite placental adhesion, as well as the identification and validation of ways to prevent it.

GROUP OVERVIEW

The dominant focus of the Malaria Laboratory continues to be the biology and pathogenesis of malaria and its effects in pregnant women. The second main strand is the study of the mechanisms regulating expression of members of Plasmodium falciparum multigene families such as the var and rif genes.

The Malaria Laboratory was strengthened in 2008 by the award of two large new grants from the Malaria in Pregnancy Consortium, leading to appointment of two new Department members to head research teams in Papua New Guinea, and a Project Manager based in Melbourne.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS


RESEARCH REPORTS /

MALARIA


GRANTS

New Grants

Stephen Rogerson


NHMRC Program Grant 406601 Cowman AF, Brown GV, Crabbe BS, Handman E, McConville MJ, McFadden GI, Schofield L, Speed TP, 2006-10. Host parasite interactions: Disease, pathogenesis and control. $13,500,000

Infrastructure grant, (third stage) Australian Cancer Grid, Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development, DIIRD. 2006 – . Consortium of the Molecular Medicine Informatics Model (MMiM) $11,000,000


Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation: Rogerson SJ & Reeder JC. 2005-09. Intermittent preventive treatment during EPI for the prevention of malaria and anaemia in Papua New Guinean infants $2,858,276 USD

COLLABORATIONS

Non-industry: Malawi-Liverpool-Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Programme, College Of Medicine, University of Malawi; Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research; Department of Epidemiology, University of North Carolina; Centre for International Health Research, University of Barcelona, Spain; Eijkman Institute for Molecular Biology, Jakarta, Indonesia; Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden; University of Porto, Portugal; Burnet Institute, Melbourne; The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, Melbourne; Malaria in Pregnancy Consortium, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK; University of Hawaii; University of Tampere, Finland; Sanger Institute, Oxford, UK; Nanyang Technical University, Singapore; Department of Biochemistry and Bio21, University of Melbourne.

AWARDS AND PRIZES

Ms Alexandra Umbers: JD Smyth Award, Australian Society for Parasitology; ARC/ NHMRC Parasitology Network Travel Award


Dr Philippe Boeuf: Early Career Researcher Grant Award, University of Melbourne

Professor Graham Brown: Ashdown Oration, Australian College of Tropical Medicine, Asia Pacific International Conference on Travel Medicine

Professor Graham Brown: Fellowship, Queensland Institute of Medical Research
**CONFERENCE & SEMINARS**

**Stephen Rogerson**
Invited participant: Malaria in Pregnancy Consortium First Annual Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland.
Invited speaker: Asia-Pacific International Conference on Travel Medicine, Melbourne.
Invited participant: PREGVAX vivax malaria in pregnancy meeting, Sitges Spain.
Invited participant: Festschrift for Prof Malcolm Molyneux and Malawi-Liverpool-Wellcome Trust Annual Network Meeting, Liverpool UK.
Invited participant: Malaria in Pregnancy Consortium Safety Working Group meeting, Liverpool UK.


“Five things we don’t know about malaria in pregnancy”. Infectious Diseases Unit Grand Round, Austin Hospital.

“The influence of malaria on placental immunity”. Satellite Research Symposium to Endocrine Society of Australia Annual Meeting, Royal Women’s Hospital.

**Graham Brown**
Invited University Representative: U21 Workshop and Symposium, Dublin, Ireland.
Chair: WHO Malaria Vaccine Advisory Committee Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland.
Invited Participant: High-level Consultation on Scaling up research and learning for better health, World Health Organization, Divonne-les-Bains, France.
Plenary Speaker: Clinical Research Excellence 08, Brisbane.
Invited Speaker: Australian Society for Microbiology Annual Scientific Meeting, Melbourne.
Keynote Speaker: High Flyers Think Tank 2008, Australian Academy of Sciences.

“Preventative health: Science and technology in prevention and early detection of disease”

**TEACHING & TRAINING**

**Stephen Rogerson**
Ainunnadiah Darus, AMS
GaoQian Feng, PhD
Alexandra Umbers, PhD
Elizabeth Aitken, PhD
Ricaro Atiade, PhD
Kylie Horne, PhD (co supervised with Professor Graham Brown)
Caroline Clapham, BMedSci

**Graham Brown**
Dr Benjamin Cowie, PhD (co supervised with Professor H Kelly)
Dr Jack Richards, PhD (co supervised with Dr James Beeson)
Dr Doug Johnson, PhD (co supervised with Dr Joe Torresi)

**Michael Duffy**
Natasha Yeow, BSc (Hons)

**Philippe Boeuf**
Caroline Chua, BSc (Hons)

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**Stephen Rogerson**
Invited technical expert, WHO Roll Back Malaria Malaria in Pregnancy Working Group meeting, Manila Philippines.

**Graham Brown**
Member, Scientific Consultants Group, USAID Malaria Vaccine Development Program, Washington DC.
Participant, Malaria Reference Group for Malaria Elimination Project, Honiara. AusAID.

**CONTACT DETAILS**
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Department of Medicine (RMH/WH)
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Royal Melbourne Hospital
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May 2009.

that this wave of testing will be completed in participants tested thus far. We anticipate proceeding smoothly, with approximately 30 in August 2008. Recruitment and testing is includes repeated neuroimaging, diagnostic assessment. The ADS received nationally competitive funding from the Australian Research Council for a five year grant (2008-2012) in order to follow up the sample, including additional brain scans.

A number of high impact publications have resulted from the project so far (8 peer reviewed journal articles with 5 more under review). These include publications in the Archives of General Psychiatry and Child Development, as well as a publication in the prestigious general science journal, the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, which resulted in considerable national and international news coverage of the study.

The third wave of assessment, which includes repeated neuromaging, diagnostic and cognitive assessments, commenced in August 2008. Recruitment and testing is proceeding smoothly, with approximately 30 participants tested thus far. We anticipate that this wave of testing will be completed in May 2009.

Youth Mental Health Promotion Unit (led by Prof Helen Herrman)

The team led by Professor Helen Herrman joined OYHRC with an official transfer from the Nossal Institute, University of Melbourne finalised in March 2008. Since then the following has been achieved:

Establishment of the Youth Mental Health Promotion Unit (YMHPU). Initial focus has been on consolidating a partnership with the Inspire Foundation to conduct research examining the internet as a setting. In the long term, the team will build a research program working with international and WHO regional partners in population based mental health promotion; and Growth of the YMHPU: Michelle Blanchard received a University of Melbourne scholarship to commence doctoral studies “Examining the use of information communication technology by professionals to promote mental health in young people”.

**Mental Health First Aid and Literacy (led by Prof Tony Jorm and Betty Kitchener)**

1. Development of Youth Mental Health First Aid and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Mental Health First Aid courses and manuals. Development of e-learning version of Mental Health First Aid.
2. Produced 12 publications from the National Survey of Youth Mental Health Literacy.
3. Completed Mental Health First Aid guidelines projects on psychosis, depression, suicidal thoughts and behaviours, non-suicidal self-injury, trauma, and panic attacks.
4. Completed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander guidelines on cultural considerations, psychosis, depression, suicide and self-injury, trauma and loss.
5. Completed study to identify self-messages for dealing with sub-threshold depression symptoms.

**Substance Use Research & Recovery Focused (SURRF) Program (led by A/Prof Dan Lubman)**

Established national profile in youth comorbidity and neuroscience of addiction. Consortium partner in National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre, resulting in large grant to develop cannabis/mental health training and interventions.

**Functional Recovery (led by Dr Eoin Killackey)**


**SHARP (led by Prof Patrick McGorry)**

Completion of recruitment to the SHARP Study, a longitudinal study of HPA function, stress, trauma and neurobiological change on MRI. Preliminary data has been presented at several international and national conferences (7 published abstracts during 2008).

**Early Psychosis Treatment Development (led by Dr Colin O’Donnell)**

Completed recruitment into the Taurine in First Episode Psychosis Study.

**Centre of Excellence (led by Dr Rosie Purcell)**

The Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health, based at Orygen, forms part of the national headspace initiative. The major progress of the Centre of Excellence to date is (1) the recruitment of a research team to assemble, appraise, translate and help implement research evidence for the treatment of youth mental health disorders; (2) the establishment of an online resource centre for evidence regarding youth mental health; (3) the completion of comprehensive evidence maps for interventions in depression, psychosis and bipolar disorder, and the commencement of maps for substance use disorders and self harm; (4) publication of academic articles related to youth mental health; (5) securing funding for a clinical trial to examine the effectiveness of simple interventions for emerging mental health problems in young people.
RESEARCH REPORTS/

ORYGEN YOUTH HEALTH RESEARCH CENTRE

Other Research Achievements

- Awarding of a NHMRC Program Grant of $1 million for the period 2009–13 in partnership with Melbourne Neuropsychiatry Centre and Brain and Mind Research Institute.
- Secured funding from Stanley Medical Research Institute and Astrazeneca for an international multi-site clinical study in interventions for patients at ultra high risk of developing a psychotic disorder.

GROUP OVERVIEW

Orygen Youth Health Research Centre (OYHRC), established in 2002, is a unique partnership between Colonial Foundation, the University of Melbourne and Melbourne Health. OYHRC is focussed on prevention and early intervention in youth onset mental health and related substance use disorders. The mission of OYHRC is to (a) create, refine, evaluate and translate knowledge enabling a more effective response to emerging mental disorder and its consequences in young people and (b) catalyse reform in the conceptual framework and real-world clinical practice in mental health, which is evidence-based, acceptable and accessible to young people. OYHRC has progressively expanded its research capacity, and developed key collaborations, across the diagnostic spectrum to include potentially serious mental disorders affecting young people such as mood and anxiety disorders, substance use disorders, bipolar disorder, borderline personality disorder, and early psychosis. OYHRC has also driven major developments in service delivery for young people with mental health and drug/alcohol issues.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS

Journal Articles


Dr Janice Wilson presented the Gold TheMHS Award to Orygen Youth Health (accepted by Kerryn Pernell, Dianne Albiston and Carla) at The Mental Health Services Conference in Auckland in September 2008.


GRANTS

New Grants

Pfizer, Neuroscience Research Grant, Davey, Dr Christopher G, 2008, First episode depression in young people: an fMRI study of response to immediate and delayed, social and non-social rewards, $48,950

Rotary, Ian Scott Scholarship, Magenta Simmons, 2008-2011, Shared decision making for young people with depressive disorders: Development and feasibility testing of a decision aid, $91,000

Rotary, Project Grant – mental illness, Eoin Killackey, Henry Jackson, Sue Cotton, 2008-2009, Vocational Recovery in Young People with First Episode Psychosis, $115,500

Rotary, Project Grant – mental illness, Alison Yung/Jo Robinson/Pat McGorry, 2008, Suicide prevention amongst help-seeking adolescents: an intervention study., $42,145

Rotary, Project Grant – mental illness, Tony Jorm/ Betty Kitchener, 2008-2009, Mental health first aid training by e-learning: a randomized controlled trial, $120,000


The University of Melbourne, RP Griffith Fellow, Barnaby Nelson, 2008-2010, Self-disturbance as a phenotypic marker of vulnerability to schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders, $300,000

NHMRC, CDA, Dr Murat Yucel, 2008-2011, Dysfunction in key brain networks: Implications for psychiatric and substance use disorders.(S09345), $277,500

NHMRC, Training Postgraduate Fellowship, Dr Belinda A Garner, 2008-2011, Stress and HPA axis function in first-episode psychosis: relationship with clinical features and dynamic brain changes. (S20120), $209,250

NHMRC, Training Postgraduate Fellowship, Ms Katherine I. Morlay, 2008-2011, Incorporating Genetic Information into the Diagnosis and Treatment of Cancers and Mental Health (S20452), $299,260

NHMRC, Training Postgraduate Scholarship, Mrs Lesley L Berk, 2008-2011, Guidelines and an intervention for carers of people with bipolar disorder (S20061), $69,525

NHMRC, Training Postgraduate Scholarship, Ms Susan M Harrigan, 2008, Modelling the characteristics and symptoms in first-episode psychosis from baseline to long-term follow-up (S20670), $21,866

NHMRC Program Grant, Chief Investigators: Pat McGorry, Anthony Jorm, Ian Hickie, Christos Pantelis, Alison Yung, 2009-13, Emerging Mental Disorders in Young People: Using Clinical Staging for Prediction, Prevention and Early Intervention (S66529), $10,000,000


NARSAD, Young Investigator Award, Barnaby Nelson, 2008-2009, Self-disturbance as a phenotypic marker of vulnerability to schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders, US$ 56,800

NHMRC, Complementary and Alternative Medicine Grant, Pat McGorry, Paul Amminger, Alison Yung, Shona Francey, Barnaby Nelson, 2008-2010, RCT of omega-3 fatty acids as treatment of subthreshold progression of schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders, $5,000
symptoms in young people at ultra-high risk for psychosis ($509,388), $278,720
beyondblue, Tony Jorm, David Jorm, 2008, Sponsorship for Wiki Guides for depression, $90,814
VicHealth, Discovery Grant, Tony Jorm, Dan Lubman, Geoffrey Munro, 2008-2009, Guidelines for parents on how to prevent and deal with underage drinking, $75,000
beyondblue, special request, Tony Jorm, Nick Allen, Rosie Purcell, Sarah Hetrick, Amy Morgan, 2008, Proposal to Produce an Updated Version of Help For Depression: What Works (& What Doesn’t), $18,000
The University of Melbourne, Knowledge Transfer Grant, Andrew Chanen, Louise McCutcheon, 2008, Implementation of early intervention services for youth with Borderline Personality Disorder, $10,000
Lord Mayor’s Foundation, Grant, Jo Robinson, 2008-2009, HeadSmart, $30,000
The University of Melbourne, Melbourne Early Career Researcher Grant Scheme, Kate Morley, 2008-2009, Pilot Study of Metabolic Monitoring in First Episode Psychosis Patients, $29,138
The University of Melbourne, Melbourne Early Career Researcher Grant Scheme, Sarah Whittle, 2008-2009, Brain function, the family, and risk for adolescent onset depression, $28,974
The University of Melbourne, Melbourne Early Career Researcher Grant Scheme, Marie Yap, 2008-2009, Genes, Neuroanatomy and Family Process: Predicting Adolescent Anxiety and Depression, $25,108
beyondblue, VCoE, Betty Kitchener, Tony Jorm, Len Kanowski, Dan Lubman, Claire Kelly, 2008-2009, Development of drug misuse first aid guidelines for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, $99,198
NARSAD, Independent Investigator, Andreas Bechdolf, 2008-2009, Prospective pilot evaluation of at-risk criteria for bipolar disorder, US$100,000
Ongoing Grants
NHMRC, CCRE Grant, McGorry, Hickie, Jackson, Yung, Allen, Edwards, Chanen, Lubman, Berger, Gleeson, Berk, Brewster, 2005-2009, Preventive And Early Intervention Strategies In Emerging Mental Disorders In Young People, $2,000,000
NHMRC, Medical Scholarship, Davey, Dr Christopher G, 2006-2008, Genotype, emotional recognition and amygdala activation in adolescent depression (3005244), $107,100
VicHealth, Fellowship, Jane Burns, 2006-2012, Why let them fall? Understanding the role of health promotion in shaping a better life for all young people, $525,000
Rotary, Rotary club of Camberwell, Alison Yung, Jo Robinson, Heather Miller, 2007-2008, Evaluation of a training program for school staff to reduce self harm in schools, $60,300
beyondblue, Victorian Centre of Excellence (bbVCoE) in Depression and Related Disorders, Professor Michael Berk, Sue Lauder, Professor David Castle, Ms. Monica Gilbert, Professor Leon Piterman, Dr Brit Klein, Dr David Austin, Dr Greg Murray, Dr. Andrea Chester, Dr. Seetal Dodd, Carolyn Holdsworth, Dr James Chamberlain, Ms Lesley Berk, 2008-2009, MoodSwings: an online intervention for bipolar affective disorder, $200,000
ARC, Discovery Project Grant, Nick Allen, Murat Yucel, Stephen Wood, Dan Lubman, Paul Dudgeon, BJ Harrison, Sarah Whittle, 2008-2012, Brain development during adolescence and the emergence of depression: A longitudinal MRI study. (DP0878136), $438,000
NHMRC, Project Grant, Tony Jorm, 2008-2009, Mental health literacy and action to deal with mental health problems: a longitudinal study of young Australians (508919), $227,000
beyondblue, Victorian Centre of Excellence (bbVCoE) in Depression and Related Disorders, Alison Yung, Dan Lubman, Liz Cosgrave, Kathryn Baker, 2008, Investigating the interaction between depression, tobacco and alcohol use in teenage Australians – can we identify a high risk group for poor outcome? A longitudinal study, $90,000
beyondblue, Victorian Centre of Excellence (bbVCoE) in Depression and Related Disorders, Tony Jorm, Len Kanowski, Dan Lubman, Leanne Hides, Kara Eddington, 2008, Development of alcohol misuse first aid guidelines for Indigenous Australians, $90,000

COLLABORATIONS
Non-Industry
- Australian National University (Centre for Mental Health Research and John Curtin School of Medical Research)
- Barwon Health (Department of Clinical and Biomedical Sciences UOM)
- Brain & Mind Research Institute
- Centre for Health Policy, Programs and Economics – School of Population Health UOM
- Department of Psychiatry UOM
- Department of Psychology UOM
- La Trobe University
- Melbourne Neuropsychiatry Centre
- Mental Health Research Institute
- Monash University
- Murdoch Childrens Research Centre
- National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre
- National Institute of Mental Health
- North Western Mental Health Program
- Oregon Research Institute USA
- RMIT School of Electrical & Computer Systems Engineering
- School of Physical and Chemical Sciences, Queensland University of Technology
- School of Population Health UOM
- Southern Health
- University of Adelaide (Research & Evaluation Unit, Women’s and Children’s Hospital)
- University of Pittsburgh Medical Centre
- University of Wollongong
- Victoria University

AWARDS AND PRIZES
Jan 2008 – Ms Betty Kitchener awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) on Australia Day Honours List. Betty received the award “For service to the community through the development of the Mental Health First Aid Program.”
Feb 2008 – Dr Christopher Davey awarded the 2008 RANZCP Organon Young Psychiatrist Award.
April 2008 – Professor Tony Jorm who was awarded the Thomson Scientific Citation Award at a ceremony at the National Press Club. The award was for having the highest
average citations per paper in the field of psychiatry in Australia for the period 1997-2007.


May 2008 – Ms Betty Kitchener and Prof. Tony Jorm received an award for Excellence in Mental Health Education for the MHFA program. The award was presented at the conference of the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare in Boston, which is the US peak body representing non-profit organisations providing community mental health services.

July 2008 – A/Prof Alison Yung promoted to Professor.

Sept 2008 – Dr Kaveh Monshat awarded a RANZCP Young Investigator Award.

Sept 2008 – Orygen Youth Health (incorporating Orygen Youth Health Clinical Program, Research Centre and Training and Development) won a Gold Award acknowledging excellence and innovative achievement in creating an internationally recognised youth mental health treatment and research facility; in the Infant, Child and Adolescence Services or Program Category, at The Mental Health Services Conference in Auckland.

Oct 2008 – Dr Murat Yucel promoted to Associate Professor

Oct 2008 – Dr Eoin Killackey awarded the ASPR Organon Award (The ASPR Organon Award is intended for ASPR researchers whose work is beginning to make a significant impact on the national and international scene, reflecting either scientific excellence or public impact (or both) – the “rising stars” in mental health research.)

Dec 2008 – Ian Potter Foundation Travel Awards to:
- Dr Tina Profitt, travel to ICOSR (San Diego, March 2009)
- Dr Kelly Allott, travel to ICOSR (San Diego, March 2009)
- Dr Barnaby Nelson, travel to SOPSO (Rome, February 2009)

Dec 2008 – Dr Leanne Hides awarded the Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD) Early Career Award.

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

**Allott, Kelly**
Poster, Melbourne Health Research Week, Melbourne

**Amminger, G. Paul**
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne
Poster, 14th Biennial Winter Workshop on Schizophrenia and Bipolar Disorders, Montreux
Poster, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Bechdolf, Andreas**
Plenary Lecture, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne
Speaker, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice

**Bell, Richard**
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Berger, Gregor**
Speaker, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice

**Berk, Michael**
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Lorne

**Brewer, Warrick**
Poster, 14th Biennial Winter Workshop on Schizophrenia and Bipolar Disorders, Montreux
Poster, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Butselaar, Felicity**
Speaker, 10th Australasian Schizophrenia Conference, Lorne

**Chanen, Andrew**
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Cotton, Sue**
Poster, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice
Speaker, 8th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Dodg, Simon**
Speaker, 10th Australasian Schizophrenia Conference, Lorne

**Edwards, Jane**
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Francey, Shona**
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Fraser, Richard**
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Garner, Belinda**
Poster, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice
Speaker, 8th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Henry, Lisa**
Poster, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Killackey, Eoin**
Poster, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice
Poster, Melbourne Health Research Week, Melbourne
Plenary Lecture, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Kitchener, Betty and Jorm, Tony**
Speaker, National Council of Behavioral Healthcare (NCCBH) Annual Conference, Boston

**Lin, Ashleigh**
Speaker, Melbourne Health Research Week, Melbourne

**McGorry, Patrick**
Symposium, 14th Biennial Winter Workshop on Schizophrenia and Bipolar Disorders, Montreux
Speaker, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne
Speaker, 10th Australasian Schizophrenia Conference, Lorne

**Nelson, Barnaby**
Poster, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne
Speaker, 10th Australasian Schizophrenia Conference, Lorne

**O’Donnell, Colin**
Poster, 14th Biennial Winter Workshop on Schizophrenia and Bipolar Disorders, Montreux
Poster, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice

**Phassouliotis, Christina**
Speaker, 6th International Conference on Early Psychosis (IEPA), Melbourne

**Ross, Margaret**
Speaker, 10th Australasian Schizophrenia Conference, Lorne

**Ryan, Jaymee**
Speaker, 10th Australasian Schizophrenia Conference, Lorne

**Schafer, Miriam**
Speaker, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice

**Simmons, Magenta**
Poster, 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference, Venice
Poster, Melbourne Health Research Week, Melbourne

**Thompson Andy**

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**TEACHING & TRAINING**
Completed in 2008

**PhD**
Michael Takagi, supervisor Murat Yucel, Dan Lubman
Sarah Bendall, supervisor Henry Jackson

**Doctorate in Clinical Psychology**
Ingrid Cranston, supervisor Andrew Chanen
Katherine Godfrey, supervisor Andrew Chanen
Ann Wollner, supervisor Nick Allen
Kim Rofel, supervisor Nick Allen
Diana Maud, supervisor Nick Allen

**Masters in Clinical psychology**
Ally, Hughes, supervisor Elizabeth Cosgrave, Lisa Phillips
Connie Markulev supervisor Belinda Garner

**Honours**
Katrina Witt, supervisor Warrick Brewer
Kirsty Miller, supervisor Mike Berk

**Bachelor Medical Science**
Leonie Sutton, supervisor Andrew Chanen
Yolanda Nyathi, supervisor Andrew Chanen

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**Dr Belinda Garner standing in front of her poster at the 1st Schizophrenia International Research Society Conference in Venice, June 2008.**

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**Prof Patrick McGorry**
Advisory Board, UCLA Centre for the Assessment and Prevention of Prodromal States (CAPPS)
Associate Editor, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry
Board Member, headstrong, Ireland (National Centre for Youth Mental Health)
Chair, Executive Committee, National Youth Mental Health Foundation (headspace)
Consultant, World Health Organisation (WHO), Shanghai
Editor in Chief, Early Intervention in Psychiatry Journal
Editorial Board, Schizophrenia Research
Honorary Advisor, The Hong Kong Journal of Psychiatry
Honorary International Advisor, Hong Kong Journal of Psychiatry (Hong Kong College of Psychiatry)
International Advisor, German Competency Network on Schizophrenia Research
Jury for the selection of the World Psychiatric Association’s Jean Delay Prize
Member, Australian Academy of Science

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**Professor Anthony Jorm**
National Committee for Brain and Mind
Member, Ministerial Advisory Committee, Victorian Government
Member, Research and Development Council, Our Community
Panel Member, Victoria Police: Mental Health Expert Advisory Panel
Program Advisor, Sunrise Foundation
Selection Panel Member, Victorian Premier’s Award for Health and Medical Research
Treasurer, International Early Psychosis Association
Visiting Professor, University of Stavanger and Rogaland Psychiatric Services, Stavanger, Norway

**Prof Tony Jorm**
Member, Reference Group for National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing, Australian Bureau of Statistics
Member, Strategic Research Program Working Group of beyondblue and National Heart Foundation to assess research applications in the area of depression and heart disease
Member, Committee of World Psychiatric Association Section of Epidemiology and Public Health
Member, Research Committee of the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund
Associate Editor, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry
Associate Editor, Early Intervention in Psychiatry
Editorial committee, European Journal of Psychiatry
Editorial board, International Journal of Clinical Health Psychology
Advisory board, Psychiatrics.

**Prof Alison Yung**
Editorial Board, Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry
Chair, Professional Liaison Committee, Australia, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP)
Member, Expert Committee for Mental Health Research, Department of Human Services, Victorian State Government
Chair, Expert Committee for Dissemination and Collaboration of Mental Health Research, Department of Human Services, Victorian State Government

**Prof Helen Herrman**
Secretary for Publications and member of Executive Committee, WPA
Co-Chair, Scientific Committee, XIV World Congress of Psychiatry, Prague 2008
Vice President, International Federation of Psychiatric Epidemiology IFPE
Member, National Advisory Committee, China Program on Community Psychiatry
Member, Victorian Health Promotion Foundation Research and Evaluation Advisory Committee
Associate Editor, World Psychiatry, Associate Editor, Early Intervention in Psychiatry
International Advisory Board, Indian Journal of Psychiatry
Associate Editor, Asia-Pacific Psychiatry
Editorial Board, Advances in School Health Promotion

**Prof Michael Berk:**
Chairman, ISBD Governance Committee
Vice chairman, International Society for Bipolar Disorders
Honorary International advisor, Society for the Advancement of Bipolar Disorder (Hong Kong)
Co-chairman, ISBD Safety & monitoring committee
Vice-Chairman, Australasian Society for Bipolar Disorders
Vice-Chairman, International Society for bipolar Disorders

**A/Prof Nick Allen**
Editorial Board, Early Intervention in Psychiatry.
Chair Advisory Committee for Swinburne University Postgraduate Clinical Psychology Program.
Deputy Chair of the Melbourne Health Mental Health Research and Ethics Committee

**A/Prof Dan Lubman**
Member, North West Metro Region Dual Diagnosis Steering Group
Member, National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre (NCPIC) Advisory Committee
Member, RANZCP Section of Addiction Psychiatry
Member, Society for the Study of Addiction to Alcohol and Other Drugs (SSA)

**Dr Andrew Chanen**
Executive board member, International Society for the Study of Personality Disorders
Editorial Board member, Personality and Mental Health
Editorial Board member, Early Intervention in Psychiatry.

**Dr Eóin Killackey**
Member, Early Career Research Committee ASPR
Treasurer and Founding member, International Society for the Psychological Treatment of the Schizophrenias (ISPS) Australian Branch.

**Jo Robinson**
Member, Victorian Advisory Committee for Suicide Prevention
Member, Community and Expert Forum for Suicide Prevention
Delegate to the Board, Suicide Prevention Australia.

**CONTACT DETAILS**
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RESEARCH REPORTS/

OSTEOPOROSIS AND BONE HEALTH RESEARCH GROUP

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Data collection was completed in our extensive studies of smoking and bone health and data analysis was commenced. Initial results demonstrated significant bone deficits in smokers and amelioration of bone loss with smoking cessation in subgroup analyses. Biochemical markers of bone turnover, relevant hormones and biochemistry are under analysis.

Major studies of anti-epileptic drug-associated bone disease are continuing, with further publications ensuing.

Overall it was a productive year, with 15 new publications in the bone health field.

GROUP OVERVIEW

Professor John D Wark is the Head of the Bone Research Group and an endocrinologist at the University of Melbourne and Royal Melbourne Hospital, with major clinical and research interests in bone health and bone disease spanning 30 years. He is Head of the RMH Bone and Mineral Service. Particular research interests include genetic and environmental determinants of bone health, the roles of vitamin D and calcium in bone health and disease, and the aetiology and prevention of falls. He is principal investigator in an ongoing, 15-year longitudinal study of bone health and other health indices in over 2,000 female twins. Current specific projects include the impact of cigarette smoking on bone health, and its potential reversibility, and the adverse effects of antiepileptic drug therapy on falls and fracture risk.

He has extensive experience in conducting randomized controlled trials in the bone and mineral field. Professor Wark has over 200 publications, mostly in the bone and mineral area. He has consulted extensively for the World Health Organization, government and non-government bodies and industry. He also directs a publicly-funded, community-based osteoporosis centre in Melbourne.

Jemma Christie joined the department in 2006 as a Research Assistant and has primary responsibility for the smoking twin and Quitline studies. Jemma’s qualifications are a BAppSc (Human Movement) and Honours (Exercise Science). These studies related to looking at the neuromuscular adaptations in professional cyclists after a short period of intensified training. Jemma investigates the role of smoking and smoking cessation on bone mineral density, bone turnover and overall bone health, and her interests include lifestyle changes to reduce fracture risk (particularly exercise).

Tania Romano joined the Wark Group in 2006 as a joint Honours student between the departments of Medicine (University of Melbourne/Royal Melbourne Hospital) and the Physiology Department (University of Melbourne). In 2005 Tania completed her BSc with a double major in Anatomy and Physiology, with a keen interest in both human topographical anatomy and reproductive physiology. Tania investigates the effects of intrauterine growth restriction and the outcomes this has on adult bone properties. Tania elected to commence her PhD studies within the same field as her extremely successful Honours year. Tania remains co-supervised by Professor Mary Wlodek of the Physiology Department, Professor John Wark and Dr Damian Myers of the Department of Medicine.

Mary Sakellarides completed her undergraduate BAppSc (Pharmaceutical Science) degree in 2006. Her course involved a year’s placement at the Centre of Research Excellence in Therapeutics which is located within the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at the Alfred Hospital, Caulfield Hospital and the Baker Heart Institute.

Mary has also completed a Certificate IV in Business Management (Frontline Management) through RMIT University and has been a mentor for first year Pharmaceutical Science students. In 2007, Mary commenced her Bachelor of Science (Honours) year through the University of Melbourne at the Royal Melbourne Hospital under the supervision of Professor John Wark. Mary’s AED/ultrasound project was primarily designed to evaluate the effects of AEDs (antiepileptic medication) on bone using transmission ultrasound as a marker of bone health.

Mary is currently working in the Department of Medicine as a clinical research coordinator focusing on bone and epilepsy research studies.

Dr Sandra (Sandy) Petty (MBBS,FRACP) is a registered neurologist who has a keen interest in epilepsy. Her clinical training was completed at both the Royal Melbourne Hospital and Western Hospital.

Sandy is currently undertaking a PhD which is studying the effects of anti-epileptic medication on bone health and bone composition as part of the Twin and Sister Longitudinal Bone Health Study program which is co-supervised by both Professor John Wark and Professor Terry O’Brien.

Sue Kantor (Senior Bone Densitometry Technologist) has been a qualified radiographer for 30 years and has worked in the Department of Medicine for the past 15 years and is the senior (Chief) Bone Mineral Density technologist in the Bone Densitometry Unit at the Royal Melbourne Hospital. Her duties include clinical and research scanning using the pQCT and DXA scanning machines. Sue is also responsible for the training and supervision of all staff in the unit along with all students undertaking research projects requiring the use of bone density scanning equipment. Sue is also responsible for the monitoring and quality control procedures of the unit and is also available as an expert for all aspects of scan acquisition and analysis. As a specialty she is able to accommodate unusual and untried scanning techniques and methods of measurement for the enhancement of research in the department. Sue has been instrumental in developing new and powerful testing techniques in bone density testing.
RESEARCH REPORTS/

OSTEOPOROSIS AND BONE HEALTH RESEARCH GROUP

Sue also carries out all clinical and research scanning for the Royal Children’s Hospital as well as carrying responsibility for the Broadmeadow’s Health Service Bone Mineral Density Service and Sue is also a registered psychologist and secondary school teacher. She undertakes teaching on behalf of the ANZBMS and Monash University and has traveled extensively throughout Australia and internationally conducting teaching programs in her given field.

Maria Fanti joined the Wark Group in 2007 as a clerical assistant based in the Bone Density Unit in 3 North of the Royal Melbourne Hospital. Maria primarily provides clerical support for the Bone Density Unit and its staff – Sue Kantor (Manager) and Ashwini Kale (Bone Densitometrist).

Ashwini Kale graduated from Nagpur University, India and then commenced her career at the Northwick Park Hospital, London UK as a Medical Technical Officer in the Medical Physics Department continuing in this role for a period of 6 years, doing radio pharmacy dispensing of radioactive isotopes for various scans, Glomerular Filtration Tests which includes taking blood and injecting a radio-isotope into the patient, Thyroid Uptake Test iodine 131, White blood cell test for detecting Infection using Indium111 and sodium chromate and Bone Density Scanning.

She joined the Wark group in September 2007. Here she works as Bone Densitometry Technologist located in Royal Melbourne Hospital and sometimes Broadmeadows Health Service. She does clinical and research scanning on the Hologic QDR 4500A Dexas machine, as well as animal and human pQCT for research studies. She is familiar and competent with all methods and procedures relating to bone Densitometry testing, making bookings, accessing results etc within the unit.

Dr Li Lan is a Fellow in the Department of Medicine at the University of Melbourne and Royal Melbourne Hospital. Lan joined Professor Wark’s bone research group in 1999 to study bone health in Australians of Asian ethnic background and the genetic and environmental influences on central abdominal fat in female twins. Lan has over 18 years experience in both the clinical and research fields of bone health and bone disease. She has approximately 16 publications in the bone and mineral area.

“Nephrogenic Bone and Malnutrition”, “Research in bone mineral metabolism of relationship between the osteoporosis and the proliferation of bone”, “Advances in Osteoporosis”. Lan has also received several scientific awards:

- “Study on Sampling and Early Prevention and Cure of Subclinical Osteomalacia at Xinzhou District”
- “Analysis of Bone Mineral Measurement in 1094 Healthy Subjects in Taiyuan”
- “Research of Medicinal Treatment of Diabetes Osteoporosis”
- “Study of Bone Mineral Metabolism in 1153 Healthy Children and Juveniles in Taiyuan”
- “The Effect of Swimming sport on pituitary-sexual axis and bone mineral density”
- “Bone Mineral Metabolism in Osteoporosis and Proliferation of Bone”.

She also has abstracts in conjunction with Professor John Wark

- “The association of physical activity with total body fat, total lean mass and abdominal fat mass in healthy women: a preliminary cross-sectional analysis.”
- “The association of physical activity with total body fat, total lean mass and abdominal fat mass in healthy female twins: a preliminary co-twin analysis etc”.

Lan’s major research role is in supporting and developing studies of bone health in Asian Australians. Her research for 2006 was developing a project to investigate the bone health effects of table tennis in the older population. This project was co-supervised by Professor John Wark, Dr Peter Wong and A/Professor Keith Hill. Funding will be sought to allow this project to be expanded across the general populous.

Juliana Tasevska recently join the group as a study co-ordinator working on clinical trials carried out within the group. Juliana has a strong background in clinical research and trials having held posts at the Royal Children’s Hospital, the Royal Women’s Hospital along with roles at the NHMRC and University of Western Sydney.

CURRENT STUDENTS

Dr Baemisla Shiek Ahmad
Angeline Kuek
Shalini Maran
Yan Fen Tan

PUBLISHING HIGHLIGHTS


Pasco J. Wark JD. Maternal vitamin D in pregnancy may influence not only offspring bone mass but other aspects of musculoskeletal health and adiposity Medical Hypotheses. 2008:71(2); 266-269.

Jayasoriya AP, Mathai ML, Walker LL, Begg DP, Denton DA, Cameron-Smith D, Egan GF, McKinley ML, Rodger PD, Sinclair AJ, Wark JD, Weisinger HS, Jous M, Weisinger RS. Mice lacking angiotensin-converting enzyme have increase energy expenditure, with reduced fat mass and improved glucose clearance. PNAS (National
Academy of Sciences) USA. May 6, 2008: 105(18); 6531-6536


The effect of anti-epileptic medication on indices of bone health and risk factors for falls and fractures. NHMRC Project Grant. Investigators: JD Wark, T O'Brien, P Sambrook, G Herkes ($440,000).


Factors associated with long-term persistence in osteoporosis therapy: findings of a large Australian cohort study. Wark JD, Wright P, Kemp A, Hristov E. Sanofi Aventis, $170,000.


GRANTS

Current Grants:

John Dennis Wark


Department of Physiology, University of Melbourne. 30th September, 2008, Melbourne Australia.


Tania Romano

Romano, T., Wark, J.D., Owens, J.A., Morris, H.A., Wlodek, M.E. Reduced bone mineral content, size and strength caused by intrauterine growth restriction are corrected by an improved lactational environment.
in female offspring. Melbourne Health Research Week, Melbourne, Australia, May 31-June 5, 2008 (Oral Presentation)
Romano, T., Wark, J.D., Owens, J.A., Morris, H.A., Wlodek, M.E. Reduced bone mineral content, size and strength caused by intruterine growth restriction are corrected by an improved lactational environment in female offspring. Network in Genes and Environment in Development Annual Forum, Palm Cove, Queensland, Australia, June 16-19, 2008 (Poster Presentation)

SJ Petty
Platform presentation – Australian and New Zealand Association of Neurologists
Platform presentation – The Royal Melbourne Hospital Research Week
2008 Invited Speaker: Translational Research – Top of Mind Symposium, Sydney, Australia

TEACHING & TRAINING

Masters
“Bone Mineral Density (BMD) and Association in Postmenopausal Balinese Women aged 50-70 years.” Ms H Suryadhi (commenced 2007 – ongoing).
PhD
“Role of nutritional interventions in preventing poor bone structure and development in experimental models.” T Romano (in progress)

Research Internship
“Smoking cessation and risk factors for osteoporosis.” Sabine Janssen (Radboud University, Netherlands) 2008.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Present Appointments:
Member, Virtual Bone Centre Editorial Advisory Board, 2006 –
Member, The Expert Reference Group of the Australian Twin Registry (ATRI), 2007-
Member, Board of Examiners, Australian Medical Council, 2008

Editorial Boards:
• Editorial Board Member – Osteoporosis International (2005 – current)
• Editorial Advisory Board – Virtual Bone Centre
• Medical and Scientific Journals – Referee
• Australian and New Zealand Journal of Medicine
• Australian and New Zealand Journal of Surgery
• Bone/ Bone and Mineral Cancer Forum
• Clinical Endocrinology
• Endocrinology
• International Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
• Journal of Bone and Mineral Research
• Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism
• Journal of Endocrinology
• Maturitas
• Medical Journal of Australia
• Osteoporosis International
• European Journal of Epidemiology
• The Lancet
• Journal of Applied Physiology
• British Journal of Sports Medicine
• Asia Pacific Journal of Clinical Nutrition
• American Journal of Epidemiology
• Internal Medicine Journal
• Epilepsia (Journal of the International League against Epilepsy)

Granting Bodies – Expert Assessor
• National Health and Medical Research Council
• Victorian Health Promotion Foundation
• Cancer Council of Victoria
• Health Research Council (New Zealand)
• Wellcome Trust (United Kingdom)
• New Zealand Dairy Board
• Australian Kidney Foundation
• Arthritis Foundation of Australia
• Merck Sharp & Dohme Research Foundation
• Western Australian Health Promotion Foundation.
• Various institutional research funds/foundations.
• Dairy Research and Development Corporation
• LactoPharma.
• Arthritis Research Campaign (UK)
• External Consultancies (Non-Government)
• New Zealand Dairy Board
• Roche Products
• Merck Sharp and Dohme (Australia) Pty Ltd
• Lilly Research Laboratories
• Australian Medicine Handbook
• Therapeutic Guidelines Ltd
• Novartis Pharmaceuticals (Chair, Zometa Advisory Board, 2003)
• AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals
• VacTX
• Medical Practitioners Board of Victoria
• LactoPharma

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PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH LABORATORIES

Head: Associate Professor Christopher Hovens

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS
Successful completion of a Phase I clinical trial with the experimental compound Vel015, in castrate resistant prostate cancer patients performed at the Royal Melbourne Hospital. In conjunction with Cancer Trials Australia and the Department of Urology, Royal Melbourne Hospital.

This trial has emanated from discoveries made in the prostate cancer research laboratories of the effectiveness of the experimental compound Vel015 in preclinical models of prostate cancer, which has led to the formation of the drug discovery and development company, Velacor Therapeutics Pty Ltd, to manage and fund the clinical development of this compound.

Encouraging results from the use of circulating endothelial cells as biomarkers for prostate cancer prognostication and treatment outcomes prediction in both preclinical and clinical data sets. In addition, the circulating endothelial cells have also shown promise in preclinical models of renal cell carcinoma as a potential biomarkers for disease stratification and treatment response.

GROUP OVERVIEW
Our current research is focused on the development of new assays to aid in the prognostication and predict outcomes for prostate cancer. In addition, we are also developing new protein therapeutics targeting the hormone signaling axis of prostate cancer, to aid in the treatment of locally advanced and metastatic disease. We also have a very strong focus on clinical translational research with a large prostate cancer tumour bank collected from robotic-assisted radical prostatectomy cases with matching serum and urine samples. We have also developed in conjunction with BioGrid a prostate cancer database module which will fully integrate clinical informatics with tumour bank samples to provide a unique resource for ongoing clinical research in prostate cancer disease outcomes.

Our group has also been successful in establishing the first Australian Prostate Cancer Research Center based at the Epworth Hospital, which will be fully affiliated with the University of Melbourne, with funding from the Commonwealth Government of $7.5 million over the next five years.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS


GRANTS
New Grants
Federal Research Centre Establishment Grant. Australian Prostate Cancer Research Center at the Epworth Hospital. 2008-2013 AJ Costello, CM Hovens $7.5m

Ongoing Grants
Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia, Project Grant. AJ Costello, CM Hovens. 2008-2009. Circulating cells as biomarkers for prostate cancer. $460,000

NHMRC development grant. CM Hovens, AH Kaye. VEL015, a novel therapeutic for brain tumours, 2007-2008 $330,000.

COLLABORATIONS
Non-Industry: Department of Urology, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Victorian Prostate Cancer Research Consortium, BioGrid, St. Vincent’s Hospital, Monash Medical Center, The Prostate Center, Vancouver General Hospital, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Hospital, Australian Prostate Cancer Research Center at QUT.

Industry: Velacor Therapeutics Pty Ltd. JSW Research Graz Austria, Phillips Ormonde Fitzpatrick, Cerebricon UK, Capsant Neurotechnologies UK.

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS
Christopher Hovens
Session Chair: Ninth National Prostate Cancer Symposium, Melbourne.
Invite Speaker: Australia-Canadian Prostate Cancer Research Alliance meeting, Gold Coast.
Participant: Prostate Cancer Foundation Scientific meeting, Lake Tahoe, USA.

TEACHING & TRAINING
PhD student completion, Michael Wong, 2008

Ongoing Students
Matthew Finkhauser PhD student
Ben Namdarian PhD student
Harry Georgiou AMS student
Ben Dowdle AMS student

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
Chief Scientific Officer, Velacor Therapeutics Pty Ltd

CONTACT DETAILS
Associate Professor Christopher Hovens
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Tel: +61 9342 7703/4
Email: chovens@unimelb.edu.au
RESEARCH REPORTS/
RADIOLOGY

RADIOLOGY

Head: Professor Patricia Desmond, Edgar Rouse Chair of Radiology

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

In 2008 Dr. Brad Moffat (RD Wright Fellow) was appointed director of the laboratory to aid Prof’s Tress and Desmond with the day to day management of research activities within the laboratory.

The Neuro-Imaging group had a very productive year in terms of research publications (see below) with group being involved with several internationally peer reviewed publications. The highlight of these was the publication of the “Epithet Stroke Trial” results in Lancet Neurology.


The group was also honoured to be awarded several research grants in 2008, including two 3 year project grants awarded to Dr. Moffat by Cancer Australia (Functional Diffusion Mapping of Brain Tumour Therapeutic Efficacy, $500k AUD, 509322) and the NHMRC (Molecular Imaging of Brain Tumours, $400k AUD, 566992).

In addition to this group members contributed numerous oral and poster presentations at international scientific meetings.

Robert Gibson’s activities in ultrasound and gastrointestinal radiology areas within the group included:

- Initiation of contrast enhanced ultrasound studies in liver disease having been chosen as the Australian launch site of a third generation contrast agent (“Definity”).
- Completion of a review of two decades of transjejunal biliary intervention for benign biliary disease, representing most likely the largest global experience with this technique. This will allow meaningful comparisons with historical alternatives treatment.

GROUP OVERVIEW
Within Radiology the Brain Imaging Laboratory was established in 1997 by Prof’s Stephen Davis and Brian Tress for the purposes of analysing imaging data acquired at the Royal Melbourne Hospital. Housed within the Department of Radiology Library, it has proven to be of vital use for researchers and students undertaking neuroscience research. It is currently in use not only, by research groups within the University of Melbourne and the hospital, but also by other institutions such as the Austin Hospital and Peter MacCallum Cancer Center.

The current research focus is on General Neuroimaging, Epilepsy Imaging, Stroke Imaging and Brain Tumour Imaging.

The group also has a research focus led by Prof Robert Gibson in the areas of ultrasound, gastrointestinal and hepatobiliary radiology (diagnostic and interventional), and by A/Prof Peter Mitchell in the area of interventional neuroradiology.

PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS


RESEARCH REPORTS/

RADIOLOGY

Wiley-Blackwell Publishing Asia.


Nevin Lam ACNL, Moore PM, Coleman L & Grover S. 2008. Surgical planning in patients with cloacal anomalies and obstructed gynaecological systems: the scrambled renal-gential system association and radiological
RESEARCH REPORTS/

RADIOLOGY


fossa dermoid cyst presenting late in life.


May 2008 Poster B. A. Moffat, C. Klotz, A. Lovell, S. Christensen, and P. M. Desmond Initial Area Under the Curve (IAUC) is an objective, pragmatic and translatable MRI biomarker for quantifying human brain tumour perfusion: Correlation with histopathology. International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine. Toronto Canada

May 2008 Presentation B. Chertok, A. E. David, B. A. Moffat, B. D. Ross, and V. C. Yang MRI-guided targeting of magnetic nanoparticles in an orthotopic 9L gliosarcoma brain tumour model Ludwig/Melbourne Comprehensive Cancer Center seminar


Invited Speaker B. A. Moffat Molecular Imaging Biomarkers for Neuroscience Research

TEACHING & TRAINING

Professor Patricia Desmond
Examiner – The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists
Professor Patricia Desmond – Examiner Master of Medicine, The University of Melbourne

Robert Gibson
Master of Medicine (Radiology) – University of Melbourne
Co-ordinator of lecture and tutorial program (contact hours 22 hours)
Co-ordinator and examiner for M Med part II examination
Undergraduate radiology teaching, University of Melbourne
Co-ordinator of tutorial program semesters 8, 9 and 12 (contact hours 12 hours)
Director of training – Radiology registrars, Royal Melbourne Hospital
Advanced Medical Studies Unit – Radiology Studies 01130
Co-ordinator of AMS Unit and supervisor of two student
Supervisor of Leiden University Medical student. Thesis for examination (Leiden University). Duveken Fontein “Two Decades of Percutaneous Transjejunal Biliary Intervention; a review of the intervention nature, frequency and complications”
Theses examined
Natalie Yang “The measurement of renal blood flow”
M Med (Radiology)University of Melbourne
Dr Brad Moffat
Beata Chertok (University of Michigan)
PhD Student
Supervisor (BA Moffat)
Graduation (December 2008)
Soren Christensen (Aarhus University)
PhD Student
Supervisor (Professor S Davis and Professor P Desmond)
University of Melbourne Supervision
Timothy Ho
AMS student
Supervisor (BA Moffat)
2008-09
Dr. Bruce Campbell (Neurology Fellow / PhD student)
Supervisor: Professor S. Davis
Dr. Christian Barras (PhD Student)
Supervisor: Professor S. Davis and Professor B. Tress

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
Professor Patricia Desmond
ASNR (American Society of Neuro Radiology) member
RANZCR (Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists) member
Member of the Stroke Imaging Guideline Working Group
Honorary Senior Research Fellow, Howard Florey Institute
Editorial Board of the Journal of Medical Imaging and Radiology Oncology
Member ASNR World Federation
Honorary Radiologist Royal Children’s Hospital
Associate Editor Australasian Radiology

Robert Gibson
Appointed Convenor of 12th World Congress of the World Federation for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology to be held August 30-September 3, 2009 Sydney, Australia
External promotions assessor for application for promotion to Professor on behalf of the Pro-Vice Chancellor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong
Executive member. Abdominal Radiology Group of Australia and New Zealand (ARGANZ)
Organizing committee, Abdominal Radiology Group of Australia and New Zealand (ARGANZ) Inaugural Scientific Meeting, to be held Sydney, March 2009
Member, Radiation Advisory Committee, advising Minister of Health (Victoria)
International Editorial Board, British Journal Hospital Medicine
Associate Editor, Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (Journal of the World Federation of Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology) B A Moffat, C Steward and S Christensen – Royal Melbourne Hospital Consultant MRI Physicists

BA Moffat
International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine Safety Committee Member

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RESEARCH REPORTS/

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

HEAD: Dr Sharon Van Doornum MBBS
FRACP MD Grad Dip Clin Epi

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS
(Note: Research activity in 2008 was limited due to Dr Van Doornum being on maternity leave)

Active research projects in 2008 included:
“Determinants of mortality following myocardial infarction – a comparison between rheumatoid arthritis patients and the general population”
“An evaluation of the role of medication use in patients with inflammatory arthritis and increased case fatality following acute cardiovascular events”
“Retinal vascular calibre and cardiovascular disease in patients with autoimmune disease”
“Rheumatoid Arthritis and Cardiovascular Risk Quality Assurance and Guideline Development Project (Australia and New Zealand)”

GROUP OVERVIEW
Dr Van Doornum’s research focuses on the increased incidence and severity of cardiovascular disease in patients with rheumatoid arthritis and other forms of inflammatory arthritis

GRANTS

New Grants
Arthritis Australia Grant-in-aid “The Allan Stephens Grant”. Retinal vascular calibre and cardiovascular risk in patients with autoimmune disease. $15,000

COLLABORATIONS
Non-Industry:
Professor Ian Wicks, Department of Rheumatology, Royal Melbourne Hospital
Dr Caroline Brand, Clinical Epidemiology & Health Service Evaluation Unit, Royal Melbourne Hospital
Dr Vijaya Sundararajan, Victorian Department of Health Services
Professor Tien Wong, Centre for Eye Research Australia, The University of Melbourne
A/Prof Andrew Ajani, Cardiology Department, Royal Melbourne Hospital

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
Member: Australian Rheumatology Association (ARA)
Member: ARA Quality and Safety Subcommittee (from 2005)
Advisor: Medical Workforce, Royal Melbourne Hospital
Member: Royal Australian College of Physicians

CONTACT DETAILS
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Email: svd@unimelb.edu.au
The Department of Medicine Students Association (DoMSA) finished 2008 in fine form with many student orientated events to round off another year. Late in 2008, DoMSA teamed up with the Ludwig students association to participate in an eight-week biomedical postgraduate soccer competition. Although our team didn’t finish on top of the table, we had a lot of fun against our fearsome WEHI competitors and also getting to know the Ludwig students. This relationship is important as the Department will share its Honours program with the Ludwig Institute in 2009. A successful trivia night was also held in the Department tea room to celebrate the end of the soccer season.

Congratulations to all 2008 Honours students for high quality research and high participation in student life throughout the year. The DoMSA Committee are sure the honours students gained a great deal more than just their degrees from their year in the Department, as many are returning to commence PhDs in 2009. The friendships and support network the honours group developed over the demanding year was evident during their last day together when oral presentations were delivered to a panel of examiners. Directly following the final examination, the students unwound with a DoMSA end of year dinner at Pizza by the Metre, where nerves were surrendered into metres of pizza and a celebratory drink! A special mention is made to Khoa Truong, the inaugural honours student representative who proved himself to be the glue holding together postgraduate and honours students. We look forward to continuing this initiative by selecting the honours representative in early 2009.

The annual DoMSA Christmas cricket BBQ was set aside due to terrible weather, in favour of the contingency plan: a sheltered BBQ lunch and basket ball match in the University gym. With bellies full of Carlton Draft and gourmet sausages, staff and students took to the courts for a high octane basketball game. The CMR building inhabitants took on the CSB building inhabitants. Despite the dashing good looks and special french tactical strategies, CMR building inhabitants were defeated by a wide margin. A big thank you to the DoMSA committee for organising this event.

Over the past 18 months, the now outgoing DoMSA committee have contributed enormously to creating a student culture within the Department of Medicine. A special thank you to the committee members: Elizabeth Aitken, Meng Yang, Kylie Horne, Lucy Crouch, Thao Nguyen and Khoa Truong for their contributions. We wish the incoming committee all the best for 2009 and beyond.

Alex Umbers
DoMSA President
CLUSTER STAFF/

Clinical School
Bonner, Mrs Judith Louise Judy
Chow, Ms Yin Sim Crystal
Dutta, Dr Deepak
Faragher, Mr Ian Godwin
Holland, Ms Julie
Kennedy, Ms Dianne Lorraine Dianne
Lew, A/Prof Stephen Robert
Lian, Dr Michael
Morley, A/Prof Peter Thomas
Olechnowicz, Mrs Aleksandra Eliza
Seymour, Dr Catherine Louise

Department of Medicine (RMH/WH)
Ackerman, Dr Ilana
Anderson, Prof Gary Peter Gary
Bailey, Dr Christine
Beckman, Ms Sandra Kaye
Biggs, A/Prof Beverley-Ann Beverly Ann
Boeuf, Dr Philippe Serge
Boussiotis, Dr Alex
Bowyer, Miss Rebecca Jayne
Braine, Ms Emma
Byrne, Mr Timothy John Tim
Cadd, Ms Yvonne Wendy (Wendy)
Cardamone, Ms Lisa
Casey, Mr Gerard John
Champion De Crespigny, Mrs. Virginia P M Virginia P M
Christie, Miss Jemma
Cook, Dr Andrew David Andrew
Crankshaw, Mrs Bernadette
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Dezsi, Mrs Gabriella
Dimaiuta, Miss Jaimi-Lee
Dow, Ms Renee Joy
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Ebeling, Prof Peter Robert
Edmonds Sims, Ms Sally
Fenit, Mrs Maria
French, Dr Christopher Ralph Chris
Hakaveri, Dr Anjali
Hamilton, Prof John Allan John
Hannan, Dr Sarah
Hannah, Ms Kate
Hasang, Ms Wina Pehrina
Hewish, Dr Dean Raymond
Hughes, Dr Norman Richard
Jane, Prof Stephen Marsden
Jones, Dr Nigel Charles
Jovanovska, Mrs Valentina
Kale, Mrs Ashwini
Kantor, Mrs Susan Sue
Kennard, Dr Jeremy
Kreso, Ms Angela
Kumar, Mr Gaurav
Lacey, Dr Derek
Lenzo, Dr Jason Charles (Jason)
Ljubanovic, Ms Mary
Luu, Ms Le Man (Angela)
Ly, Dr Lena
Marshall, Dr Caroline Lisa
Mcintyre, Mrs Ann
Moller, Mr Carl Ian
Morgans, Ms Charlotte Suzanne Charlotte
Muir, Mrs Margaret Dewar Margaret
Myers, Dr Damian Eric Damian
Norris, Ms Deanna Joy
O’Brien, Prof Terence John Terence
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Petter, Dr Michaela
Petty, Dr Sandra Jane
Pobjoy, Mr Jarrad
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Rose, Dr Honor May
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Sallay, Ms Rifa
Scholz, Dr Glen Matthew Glen
Slattery, Mrs Masha
Springer, Ms Amanda
Tasevskas, Ms Juliana
Taylor, Ms Carolyn
Taylor, Mrs Leanne Susan Leanne
Teo, Mr Jia Wei
Thompson, Mrs Michelle Anne
Turner, Ms Amanda Lee Amanda
Van Doornum, Dr Sharon
Van Raay, Ms Leena
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Winship, Prof Ingrid Margaret
Zelenko, Miss Anna

Department of Psychiatry
Adams, Ms Kerryn Michelle Kerryn
Addison, Ms Kerryn
Allen, Dr Lee Rachael
Ames, Prof David John David
Ang, Mr Wee Kiat Anthony
Barber, Ms Karen
Bartholomeusz, Ms Cali Francine
Bereny, Ms Rebecca Anne
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Birt, Miss Katherine Victoria
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Bosanac, Dr Peter (Peter)
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Branco, Ms Lisa Michelle
Bristow, Ms Wendy Lee Wendy
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Castle, Prof David Jonathan David Jonathan
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Cvetkovski, Mr Stefan
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Dileo, Mr John Frank
Docherty, Mrs Karen Dorothy
Donnelly, Ms Marie Patricia
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Ferguson, Ms Brooke Elizabeth Brooke
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Govinda Swamy, Mr Jaiganesh
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Harding, Mr Ian Herbert
Harley, Ms Ann Elizabeth
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Hawthorne, A/Prof Graeme Edmund Graeme
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Schweitzer, Prof Isaac
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Searle, Ms Karissa
Serafin, Ms Marinella
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Mohammed Manzoor
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Wolfgang, Ms Bronwyn Jones
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Zoteyeva, Ms Valeria

Department of Surgery
Bragg, Dr Peter Peter
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Chan, Prof Steven Tuck Foo
Chau, Ms Marisa
Clavisi, Ms Ornella
Cloud, Ms Alexandra M E
Gany, Ms Agnes Desianti
Havens, A/Prof Christopher
Iana, Ms Josie
Iglesias, Mrs Marie Victoria
Kaye, Prof Andrew Henry
Luwor, Dr Rodney Brian
Mcgregor, Ms Jillianne Margaret
Miller, Dr Julie Ann
Morokoff, Dr Andrew
Murphy, Ms Tanya
Ng, Ms Kim Moi
Nguyen, Ms Thanh Anne
Nheu, Ms Thao Vuong
Paradiso, Miss Lucia (Lucy)
Pattuwhge, Mr Loyal
Sekkouah, Ms Haifa
Smith, Mr Pierre Charles
Taylor, Mrs Janna Christine
Wang, Dr Bo
Wasiak, Mr Jason
Zhu, Dr Hongjian

Department of Radiology
Desmond, Prof Patricia Mary
Gibson, Prof Robert Norman
Hennessy, Prof Oliver Francis
Mitchell, Dr Lesley Anne
Moffat, Dr Bradford Armstrong
Somsuphansri, Ms Warisa
Steward, Dr Christopher Edwin (Chris)
Sundakov, Ms Michelle Anne
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 8</td>
<td>Ms. Joanne Jordan</td>
<td>PhD Confirmation: Understanding the role and impact of health literacy on patient health outcomes to facilitate effective interventions</td>
<td>Centre for Rheumatic Diseases and the Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 15</td>
<td>Ms. Ana Hutchinson</td>
<td>PhD Oration: The Causes and Consequences of Exacerbations of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD): An epidemiological analysis of data from the Melbourne Community-based Longitudinal COPD Cohort.</td>
<td>Department of Medicine and Department of Respiratory &amp; Sleep Medicine, University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 22</td>
<td>Mr Gerard Casey</td>
<td>Effect of a universal preventive program for anaemia and hookworm infection in women of reproductive age in northern Viet Nam.</td>
<td>Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne and Viet Nam National Institute of Malariology, Parasitology and Entomology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 14</td>
<td>Ms Kylie Horn &amp; Ms Alex Umbers</td>
<td>PhD Confirmation: HLA-G and malaria in pregnancy &amp; PhD Confirmation: The pathogenesis of foetal growth restriction during malaria in pregnancy</td>
<td>Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 28</td>
<td>Mr Rink-Jan Lohman</td>
<td>Characterisation of trypsin and protease activated receptor 2 in the rodent brain. Roles in learning, memory and epileptogenesis</td>
<td>Departments of Medicine &amp; Pharmacology, University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 11</td>
<td>Mr Gaoqian Feng &amp; Ms Liz Aitken</td>
<td>PhD Confirmation: The prevalence of malaria among pregnant women in a malaria endemic region and the protective function of opsonic antibodies against pregnancy-associated malaria &amp; PhD Confirmation: Pregnancy-associated malaria: The Mothers immune response and Amino acid transport across the placenta</td>
<td>Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Ms Lucy Crouch</td>
<td>PhD Confirmation: Regulation of macrophages by GM-CSF</td>
<td>Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Prof Mark Rosenthal</td>
<td>New drug development: Process, Barriers and Successes</td>
<td>Medical Oncology, Royal Melbourne Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>Dr Michael Duffy</td>
<td>The role and control of antigenic variation in malaria during pregnancy</td>
<td>Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>Prof Trevor Kilpatrick</td>
<td>Exploring and exploiting the neural response to central demyelination</td>
<td>Centre for Neuroscience, University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>Seminar Cancelled</td>
<td>Seminar rescheduled to 20 June</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 6</td>
<td>Dr Joe Torresi</td>
<td>HBV associated hepatocellular carcinoma: why, how and can we prevent it?</td>
<td>Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 13</td>
<td>Dr Elizabeth Williams</td>
<td>Mechanisms of metastasis.</td>
<td>Monash Institute of Medical Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>Prof Ingrid Winship</td>
<td>Research has no institutional boundaries</td>
<td>Research Directorate, Royal Melbourne Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>Prof Ian Wicks</td>
<td>G-CSF regulates inflammatory arthritis - a novel therapeutic target</td>
<td>Royal Melbourne Hospital and Walter &amp; Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>Prof Jeff Szer</td>
<td>Clinical Research Program of the Department of Clinical Haematology &amp; Bone Marrow Transplant Service</td>
<td>Department of Clinical Haematology, Royal Melbourne Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 25</td>
<td>Dr Craig Gedye</td>
<td>Targeting melanoma stem-like cells</td>
<td>Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 1</td>
<td>Prof Finlay Macrae</td>
<td>The International Society for Gastrointestinal Hereditary Tumours (InSiGHT) and the Human Variome Project</td>
<td>Department of Colorectal Medicine and Genetics, Royal Melbourne Hospital</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## ACTIVITIES/

### CLUSTER SEMINAR SERIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Host</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 8</td>
<td>Dr Peter Czabotar Host: Rod Luwor</td>
<td>Structural Studies of the Bcl-2 protein family; insights into targeting these proteins for cancer therapy</td>
<td>Walter and Eliza Hall Institute</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 15</td>
<td>Dr Owen White Host: Glen Scholz</td>
<td>A tale of 2 two diseases</td>
<td>Department of Neurology, RMH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 22</td>
<td>Ms Christine Massa Host: Glen Scholz</td>
<td>PhD Oration: The role of tissue-type plasminogen activator and urokinase plasminogen activator in inflammation and arthritis</td>
<td>Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 29</td>
<td>Ms Anja Scholzen Host: Glen Scholz</td>
<td>PhD Oration: Mechanisms of induction of Foxp3 expression in human CD4 T cells by malaria-infected erythrocytes</td>
<td>Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne, and Department of Immunology, Monash University</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 5</td>
<td>A/Prof Andrew Scott Host: Rod Luwor</td>
<td>Understanding the biology of targeted therapies in cancer</td>
<td>Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research, Melbourne Centre for Clinical Sciences</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 12</td>
<td>Dr Kim Powell Host: Glen Scholz</td>
<td>Investigating the polygenic nature of absence epilepsy</td>
<td>Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 19</td>
<td>A/Prof Wei Duan Host: Rod Luwor</td>
<td>Targeted drug delivery for brain tumours</td>
<td>School of Medicine, Deakin University</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 26</td>
<td>Prof Jonathan Kalman Host: Glen Scholz</td>
<td>An update in atrial arrhythmia disturbances</td>
<td>Department of Cardiology, Royal Melbourne Hospital</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 3</td>
<td>Mr Stuart Smith Host: Rod Luwor</td>
<td>Travel diary and Fringe Benefit taxation compliance</td>
<td>Senior Taxation Accountant; University of Melbourne</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 10</td>
<td>A/Prof Weisan Chen Host: Rod Luwor</td>
<td>Immunoproteasome, cross-presentation and anti-tumour CD8+ T cell response</td>
<td>Centre for Clinical Sciences, Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 17</td>
<td>Prof Lynne Turner-Stokes Host: Glen Scholz</td>
<td>Advances in outcome measurement in rehabilitation</td>
<td>King’s College London, United Kingdom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>Annual University of Melbourne RMH/WH Cluster Research Symposium</td>
<td>Making bioinformatics and clinical informatics work for your research</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 31</td>
<td>Prof Mark Cook Host: Glen Scholz</td>
<td>Novel therapeutic strategies in epilepsy</td>
<td>Department of Neurology, St. Vincent’s Hospital</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 7</td>
<td>Dr Holly Cate Host: Rod Luwor</td>
<td>BMP signalling in the neural precursor response to central demyelination</td>
<td>Centre for Neuroscience and Howard Florey Institute</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 14</td>
<td>Seminar Cancelled</td>
<td>Seminar rescheduled to 28 November</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 21</td>
<td>Dr Steve Bouralexis Host: Rod Luwor</td>
<td>Parathyroid Hormone-related Protein (PTHrP) and apoptosis in breast cancer: The TRAIL continues</td>
<td>Prince Henry’s Institute</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 28</td>
<td>Dr Damian Myers Host: Glen Scholz</td>
<td>Modelling neurological disease processes: The key steps in translational research</td>
<td>Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 5</td>
<td>Mr Dominic De Nardo Host: Glen Scholz</td>
<td>PhD Oration: TBA</td>
<td>Department of Medicine, University of Melbourne</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 12</td>
<td>Assoc Professor Patrick Kwan Host: Glen Scholz</td>
<td>Unravelling the natural history and mechanisms of refractory epilepsy</td>
<td>Division of Neurology, Department of Medicine &amp; Therapeutics, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE (RMH/WH)


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