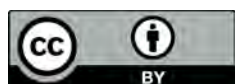


# TOWNSVILLE HOSPITAL & HEALTH SERVICE RESEARCH

ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16



## **Townsville Hospital and Health Service Research Annual Report 2015/16**

Published by the State of Queensland (Townsville Hospital and Health Service), August 2017

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***Grant and funding amounts also include grants received by Townsville Hospital and Health Service staff in collaboration with others and where Townsville Hospital and Health Service may not be the administering institution.***

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## MESSAGE FROM THE HEALTH SERVICE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Welcome to the Townsville Hospital and Health Service inaugural Research Report. I am pleased to report that in 2015 and 2016 there has been a substantial expansion of research activity and academic achievement. I would like to congratulate our staff on these endeavours and thank those who assisted and facilitated this good work. We can look forward to a successful and stimulating 2017 and beyond.

The co-location of Townsville Hospital with James Cook University brings unique opportunities for staff to work together and ensures that patients benefit from the latest developments in research and teaching in a tertiary care hospital.

The Townsville Hospital and Health Board, together with the Executive and staff, are committed to undertaking quality research. It delivers better outcomes for our consumers, staff and stakeholders and supports the delivery of our vision of a healthy North Queensland. Research also helps us maintain an exceptional workforce, work collaboratively, lead excellence

in innovation, and informs the safe, efficient, and sustainable services of tomorrow.

At the end of 2017, researchers and support staff will move into a purpose-built facility to co-locate multi-disciplinary research groups within the Townsville Hospital's clinical facilities. This facility will support clinical research to be undertaken on projects ranging from laboratory bench to new models of care at the patient bedside. It will provide a hub for experienced and novice researchers with medical, nursing, allied health and science backgrounds. The clinical research centre will also better enable THHS to be part of small and large multi-centre clinical trials and additional collaborative projects.

I commend the report to you and acknowledge the significant efforts and achievements of our researchers.

**Peter Bristow**  
*Health Service Chief Executive*



## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL RESEARCH

“If you think research is expensive, try disease.”

Mary Lasker, the first Citizen Advocate for Medical Research, used this pithy approach in the 1950's while she was lobbying the US Congress for funds for the National Institutes for Health. Her pioneering effort has been successful over the intervening 60 years as this Institute's budget for the 2015 financial year was \$31 billion.

Funding for medical research in Northern Australia is now a demonstrated priority of the Federal and Queensland State Governments. The 'Developing Northern Australia' Federal Government White Paper — positioning the north as a leader in tropical health, provides \$6.8 million to the National Health and Medical Research Council to support research into tropical diseases. Excitingly, the Federal Government is also to announce specific funding allocations from its \$75 million Cooperative Research Centre for Northern Australia that

will also support tropical medicine. In these contexts, 'tropical health' refers not just to infectious diseases but health of the population living in the tropical region of Australia.

There is a very substantial pay-off from medical research spending. Firstly, this can be counted by direct investment in jobs. It has been shown that for every dollar invested in medical research that there is a return of at least 3 to 1 from cost savings alone. Finally, the financial benefits from the value of the lives saved through research are of the order of 100:1.

THHS recognises the value of medical research and invests substantially in it to stimulate its growth in the region. The greater than one million dollar annual investment can be shown to have improved the well-being of our Health Service's population. We're on the road to a vibrant and mature clinical research culture at The Townsville Hospital and Health Service.

This Research Report is the first specific document provided by the THHS. This alone shows that we are proud of our efforts in research and want to promote them to our hospital colleagues and the Townsville regional population.

As Director of Clinical Research, I am proud of this report, I hope you enjoy reading it and are as excited about THHS's research as I am.

### **Professor Damon Eisen**

*Professor of Medicine, James Cook University and Director Clinical Research, Townsville Hospital and Health Service*



## BACKGROUND

Health Sciences Research is a vital component in delivering evidenced-based health care. Townsville Hospital and Health Service (THHS) has, at its core, three equal components; delivering best high quality tertiary health care for North Queensland, developing and maintaining a leading research environment nationally and delivering effective education in the Service Region. Crucially, The Townsville Hospital and Health Service cites innovation as one of its five core values.

THHS is a major hospital partner in the Tropical Australian Academic Health Centre (TAAHC) announced in December 2015. This requires THHS to demonstrate excellence in service delivery, research and education.

The key stakeholders in the THHS's research strategy are; the THHS Board who have approved the use of Study Education Research Trust Account (SERTA) moneys for research grants, the THHS Executive and its committees that oversee research conduct, researchers from all clinical and non-clinical groups at THHS and the consumers and patients of THHS.





## MESSAGE FROM THE TOWNSVILLE RESEARCH EDUCATION, SUPPORT & ADMINISTRATION (TRESA) UNIT MANAGER AND RESEARCH GOVERNANCE OFFICER

2015 – 2016 saw a time of change and consolidation for research at Townsville Hospital and Health Service. In 2015 I moved from Brisbane to Townsville to manage the Townsville Research Education, Support and Administration (TRESA) Unit. The primary aims of the TRESA Unit are to:

- Facilitate high quality research
- Increase the quality, quantity and profile of research produced by the Townsville HHS
- Strengthen the ties between Townsville Hospital and Health Service and external partners
- Foster multi-disciplinary research collaboration
- Streamline processes for research ethics and governance
- Facilitate the development of transparent, research-friendly financial systems and procedures.

Aligned with these aims, THHS now offers formal training and education in clinical research, including, in conjunction with James Cook University, the introduction of a 12 week research course and a two day researcher education workshop. A number of other initiatives have been introduced, including the development of guidance documents which will assist in upskilling our staff in writing research protocols and grants. The introduction of these initiatives has been well received by all disciplines within the HHS and the feedback extremely positive.

The Townsville Hospital and Health Service annual research symposium continues to showcase our research and it is fantastic to see more and more novice researchers take to the stage to present their research findings.

In 2015 and 2016 Townsville Hospital and Health Service awarded over \$1.5 million in competitive research grant funding. From 2016, the grant applications were reviewed for research merit and integrity by a panel of external experienced researchers before being assessed by the THHS Research Trust Fund Advisory Committee for alignment with organisational objectives. We are indebted to our external reviewers who provide their services on an honorary basis.

Our research governance review times continue to be well within the required 25 days from validation of an application to authorisation. New research governance procedures have been implemented to ensure effective review and timely processing of proposed research projects. In addition, monitoring of research has been streamlined to ensure we are accountable and transparent, thus providing protection to researchers, research participants and the institution.

This is a very exciting time for research at Townsville Hospital and Health Service and I am proud to be a small part of it.

### **Sue Jenkins-Marsh**

*Manager Townsville Research Education, Support and Administration (TRESA) Unit & Research Governance Officer Townsville Hospital and Health Service*



## MESSAGE FROM THE HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Conducting research on humans is a serious legal, ethical, and social issue. It is also a privilege. In line with other nations like the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States, prior to any research being undertaken in Australia, review and approval is necessary from an ethics review committee. In Australia a committee that undertakes this type of review is known as a 'Human Research Ethics Committee' or 'HREC'. The primary aim of HRECs is to protect research participants. This is done by ensuring research is designed in such a way as to minimise the potential for harm to research participants whilst maximising the potential to meet their scientific goal/s. This provides some assurance to society that research practices are ethically sound.

The human research ethics review process plays an important ethical function as it involves the scrutiny of human research protocols by members of a HREC. Here, at Townsville Hospital and Health Service (THHS), we are fortunate to have a HREC composed of dedicated and committed volunteers, with members from the community, legal services, and the health service itself among other

disciplines and organisations.

In 2016, THHS joined the very few organisations/health services in Australia whose HREC ethics review processes were certified across every main category of research (including multi-centre reviews); as well as more than 27 sub-categories. The THHS HREC can now review all types of clinical research, as well as, population health, justice health, social science, and law research, just to name a few.

As well as expanding on the categories of research the THHS HREC is certified to review, in 2016 the THHS HREC introduced practice and policy initiatives designed to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the review processes. Review times on average are now less than three weeks; and this has occurred without any impact on the quality of the HREC review in terms of protecting and promoting the rights and responsibilities of research participants.

### **Associate Professor Nikola Stepanov**

*Chair, THHS Human Research Ethics Committee*



Northern Queensland experiences distinctive health and clinical care challenges:

- The need to deliver health care across a vast geographic area to a dispersed population with a higher than average burden of chronic disease and including approximately 10% identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.
- Insufficient health workforce in smaller population centres; and
- Health security risks from infectious disease incursions across our northern border, as well as higher incidence of local infectious diseases.

The region's highly distributed health care system is united through membership of the Tropical Australian Academic Health Centre (TAAHC), a partnership between James Cook University (JCU), the Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine (AITHM), the Northern Queensland Primary Healthcare Network (NQPHN), and the five Health and Hospital Systems (HHSs) from Mackay north (Mackay; Townsville; Cairns and Hinterland; North West; Torres and Cape).

Together with the NQPHN, these HHSs must provide a similar range of healthcare services to metropolitan institutions, but within a different and more challenging context. That context determines the orientation of research and research translation for TAAHC:

- Service delivery to rural, remote and Indigenous populations for both chronic and emergency care;
- Innovative health workforce models;

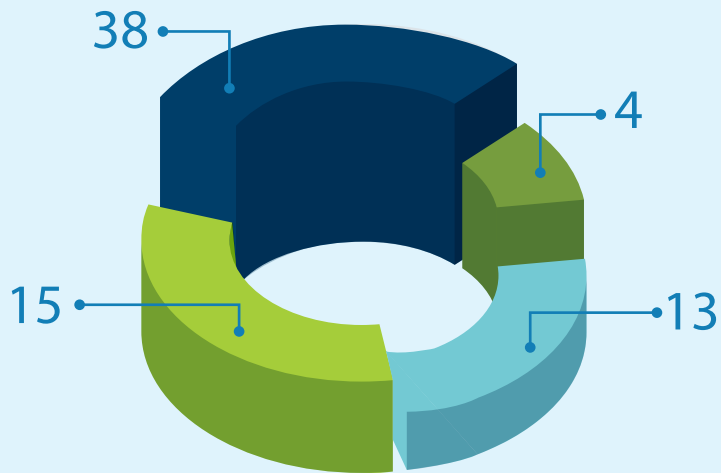
- Chronic disease with high regional prevalence;
- Infectious diseases and biosecurity.

The Townsville Hospital researchers and research managers are intimately involved in bringing TAAHC to fruition and share in its vision of improving the health of the population of the tropical north.



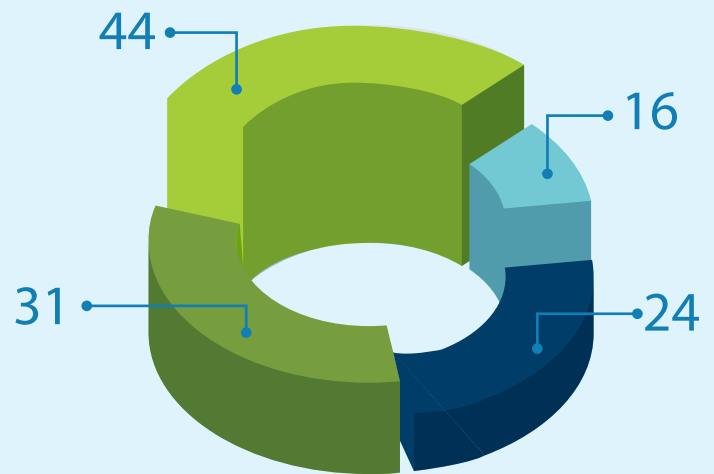
# Total studies approved by RGO

2015



- Health & Wellbeing Service Group
- Medical Service Group
- Surgical Service Group
- Other (includes Pathology, Mental Health, Rural Hospitals and Indigenous Health Service Groups)

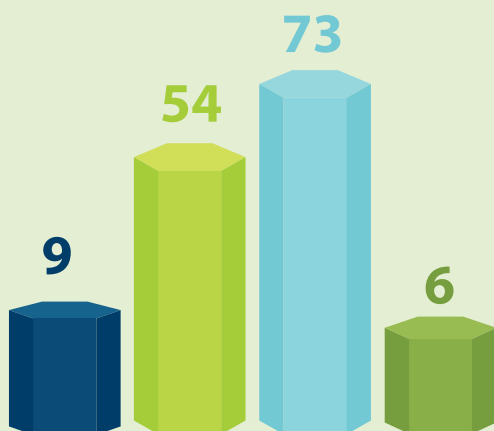
2016



- Health & Wellbeing Service Group
- Medical Service Group
- Surgical Service Group
- Other (includes Pathology, Mental Health, Rural Hospitals and Indigenous Health Service Groups)

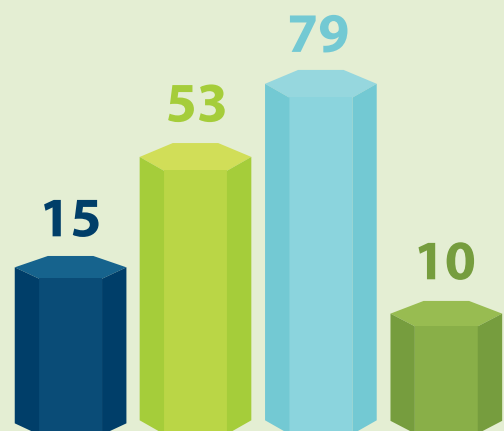
## Total publications

2015



- Health & Wellbeing Service Group
- Medical Service Group
- Surgical Service Group
- Other (includes Pathology, Mental Health, Rural Hospitals and Indigenous Health Service Groups)

2016



- Health & Wellbeing Service Group
- Medical Service Group
- Surgical Service Group
- Other (includes Pathology, Mental Health, Rural Hospitals and Indigenous Health Service Groups)

# Total funding

2015

| Health & Wellbeing Service Group | Medical Service Group                 | Surgical Service Group           | Townsville Hospital and Health Service       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>SERTA</b><br>\$99,319.00      | <b>SERTA</b><br>\$124,268.50          | <b>SERTA</b><br>\$285,960.00     | <b>SERTA</b><br><b>\$509,547.50</b>          |
| <b>NHMRC</b><br>\$221,000.00     | <b>NHMRC</b><br>\$391,879.56          | <b>NHMRC</b><br>\$8,371,977.00   | <b>NHMRC</b><br><b>\$8,984,856.56</b>        |
| <b>QLD Government</b><br>N/A     | <b>QLD Government</b><br>\$127,020.00 | <b>QLD Government</b><br>\$4,250 | <b>QLD Government</b><br><b>\$131,270.00</b> |
| <b>Other</b><br>\$25,600.00      | <b>Other</b><br>\$697,773.78          | <b>Other</b><br>\$80,000.00      | <b>Other</b><br><b>\$803,373.78</b>          |

2016

| Health & Wellbeing Service Group | Medical Service Group                   | Surgical Service Group           | Townsville Hospital and Health Service         |
|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>SERTA</b><br>\$136,540.00     | <b>SERTA</b><br>\$124,268.50            | <b>SERTA</b><br>\$425,960.00     | <b>SERTA</b><br><b>\$686,768.50</b>            |
| <b>NHMRC</b><br>N/A              | <b>NHMRC</b><br>N/A                     | <b>NHMRC</b><br>\$8,271,977.00   | <b>NHMRC</b><br><b>\$8,271,977.00</b>          |
| <b>QLD Government</b><br>N/A     | <b>QLD Government</b><br>\$1,396,828.00 | <b>QLD Government</b><br>\$4,250 | <b>QLD Government</b><br><b>\$1,401,078.00</b> |
| <b>Other</b><br>N/A              | <b>Other</b><br>\$508,172.50            | <b>Other</b><br>\$80,000.00      | <b>Other</b><br><b>\$588,172.50</b>            |

The background is a dark blue field with a repeating pattern of light blue hexagons. Each hexagon contains a white line-art icon representing various scientific and technological concepts. These icons include an atom, an hourglass, a sine wave, a lightbulb, a computer monitor, a gear, a plug, a test tube, a coiled wire, and a leaf.

# HEALTH & WELLBEING SERVICE GROUP

KEY RESEARCHERS



Venkatesh Aithal is a consultant clinical audiologist and head of Audiology Department, The Townsville Hospital and Health Service (THHS), Queensland. Venkatesh is an active researcher and has led the audiology service at The Townsville Hospital (TTH) and Community Health, Kirwan for 14 years. He has successfully obtained various research grants with a total in excess of \$550,000 in the last 10 years. His team recently received a grant (\$215,000) from the New Technology Funding and Evaluation Program on wideband absorbance for 2014-16. He has actively collaborated with the Hearing Research Unit, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Queensland for the last 8 years. Venkatesh recently completed his PhD on identification of middle ear pathology in infants using an innovative technology called sweep frequency impedance (SFI) technique for the first time in Australia.

He has published 16 papers in peer reviewed international journals and presented more than 40 times at different national and international conferences. Venkatesh continues to be a member of the Audiological Society of Australia with clinical certificate and a member of the National Rural Health Alliance. He is also International Affiliate of American Speech Language and Hearing Association and member of American Auditory Society.

### Research Grants:

#### 2015

**Grant:** \$212,000.00 - New Technology Funding Evaluation Program

**Grant Title:** Clinical application of wideband absorbance.

### Publications

Aithal, V., Kei, J., Driscoll, C., Swanston, A., Murakoshi, M., & Wada, H. (2015). Sweep frequency impedance measures in Australian Aboriginal and Caucasian neonates. *International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology*, 79(7), 1024-1029.



Dr Kandasamy works as a Senior Neonatal Paediatrician. He graduated with a medical degree from University of Malaya, Malaysia in 1995. He obtained a Masters degree in Clinical Epidemiology and a PhD from the University of Newcastle, NSW . In 2014, Dr Kandasamy received a National Health and Medical Research Council New Investigator Project grant to carry out research into the effects of prematurity and low birth weight on retinal and renal development. Dr Kandasamy's area of research is in neonatal medicine, specifically effects of prematurity on development of the kidney and retina, and neonatal health in indigenous babies.

#### Grants

**Grant:** \$66540.00 Study Education Research Trust Account

**Investigator:** Dr Corrine Dickinson

**Grant Title:** Psychological responses among parents with babies admitted to a regional Australian neonatal intensive care unit  
Psychological support within a neonatal unit: Is it needed? What does it look like?

**Grant:** \$40000.00 Study Education Research Trust Account

**Investigator:** Dr Yoga Kandasamy

**Grant Title:** Closing the gap in the stillbirth rate: understanding the issues and challenges in gaining permission for autopsy

**Grant:** \$30000.00 Study Education Research Trust Account

**Investigator:** Dr Yoga Kandasamy

**Grant Title:** The role of telemedicine in providing Family Centred Care for premature babies and their families from regional and remote Queensland

**Grant:** \$10000.00 Health and Medical Research Fellowship

**Investigator:** Deane L August and Dr Yoga Kandasamy

**Grant Title:** Significance of antenatal glucocorticoid exposure for pressure injury prevalence in neonates

**Grant:** \$20000.00 Study Education Research Trust Account

**Investigator:** Deane L August , Dr Robin Ray (James Cook University) and Dr Yoga Kandasamy

**Grant Title:** Significance of antenatal glucocorticoid exposure for pressure injury prevalence in neonates

## Publications

### 2015

Y Kandasamy, D Watson, D Rudd . Biomarker of early glomerular injury in pre-eclampsia Hypertension in pregnancy 2015; 34 (4), 391-399

Ireland, S., Ray, R. A., Larkins, S., & Woodward, L. (2015). Factors influencing the care provided for periviable babies in Australia: a narrative review. *Reproductive Health*, 12, 108 (on-line).

### 2016

Dickinson, C. & Browne, A. (2016). Psychological responses among parents with babies admitted to a regional Australian neonatal intensive care unit. *Infant Mental Health Journal*, 37, Suppl 1, p.472.

Dickinson, C. & Browne, A. (2016). Psychological support within a neonatal unit: Is it needed? What does it look like? *Infant Mental Health Journal*, 37, Suppl 1, p.473

Kandasamy, Y., Kilcullen, M. L., & Watson, D. (2016). Fetal autopsy and closing the gap. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology*, 56(3), 252-254.

August DL and Kandasamy Y. Significance of antenatal glucocorticoid exposure for pressure injury prevalence in neonates. *Journal of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine*, 2016; 9(3):23-29

A Patel, Y Kandasamy .Outcome of premature neonates born in a tertiary neonatal intensive care unit in Nairobi, Kenya . *Journal of Pediatric and Neonatal Individualized Medicine*

Smith , J (2016). Current practices on prevention of hypothermia and temperature taking in the preterm and term infant: A Survey. *Journal of Neonatal Nursing*, 22, 206-212

D August, Y Kandasamy .Significance of antenatal glucocorticoid exposure for pressure injury prevalence in neonates. *Journal of neonatal-perinatal medicine* 9 (1), 23-29



## HEALTH & WELLBEING

### RESEARCH GRANTS

2015

**Grant:** Study Education Research Trust Account - \$9400.00

**Investigator:** Andrew McCutchan

**Grant Title:** The influence of viable CD34 subsets on platelet engraftment following autologous Haemopoietic Progenitor Cell (HPC) transplantation

**Grant:** Study Education Research Trust Account - \$13300.00

**Investigator:** Andrew McCutchan

**Grant Title:** A comparison of the viability of cell subsets in Haemopoietic Progenitor Cell collections before and after cryopreservation.

**Grant:** Study Education Research Trust Account - \$7299.00

**Investigator:** Dr Tilley Pain

**Grant Title:** Health practitioner research capacity follow up survey

**Grant:** \$212,000.00 - New Technology Funding Evaluation Program

**Investigator:** Venkatesh Aithal

**Grant Title:** Clinical application of wideband absorbance

**Grant:** Study Education Research Trust Account - \$20000.00

**Investigator:** Christine Albantow and Chris Halsall

**Grant Title:** A comparative study of the 3D printing applied to the production of radiation therapy tissue compensation devices

**Grant:** Study Education Research Trust Account - \$20000.00

**Investigator:** Hana Grigg

**Grant Title:** Effectiveness of exercise intervention on improving the psychological effects in prostate cancer

**Grant:** Tolmar - \$21000.00

**Investigator:** Hana Grigg

**Grant Title:** Effectiveness of exercise intervention on improving the psychological effects in prostate cancer

**Grant:** Study Education Research Trust Account - \$9800.00

**Investigator:** Achamma Joseph

**Grant Title:** Nutrition supplementation in diabetic foot ulcers

**Grant:** Study Education Research Trust Account - \$9800.00

**Investigator:** Stephen Perks

**Grant Title:** Investigation of stability of antibiotics in extended infusions in the tropics

**Grant:** Study Education Research Trust Account - \$9720.00

**Investigator:** Stephen Perks

**Grant Title:** Extended duration infusion temperatures in the tropics

**Grant:** Baxter Healthcare - \$4600.00

**Investigator:** Stephen Perks

**Grant Title:** An assessment of the performance of the Baxter Elastomeric large volume (LV10) infusor pump under hyperbaric conditions



## SERVICE GROUP PUBLICATIONS

### 2015

Douglas, T., Jordan, B., Priddis, L., Anderson, V., Sheehan, J., Kane, R. T., Shields, L., et al (2015). Protocol for a study of the psychosocial determinants of health in early childhood among children with cystic fibrosis. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*.

Edmonds, L., & Ireland, S. (2015). What is that around the heart? *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health*.

Kingston, G. A., Williams, G., Judd, J., & Gray, M. A. (2015). Hand therapy services for rural and remote residents: Results of a survey of Australian occupational therapists and physiotherapists. *Australian Journal of Rural Health*.

Munns, A., Forde, K. A., Krouzecky, M., & Shields, L. (2015). Rainbows: A primary health care initiative for primary schools. *Collegian*, 22(2), 153-160.

Proper, J. S., Wong, A., Plath, A. E., Grant, K. A., Just, D. W., & Dulhunty, J. M. (2015). Impact of clinical pharmacists in the emergency department of an Australian public hospital: A before and after study. *EMA - Emergency Medicine Australasia*, 27(3)

Robson, S., Campbell, B., Pell, G., Wilson, A., Tyson, K., De Costa, C., Woods, C., et al (2015). Concordance of maternal and paternal decision-making and its effect on choice for vaginal birth after caesarean section. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology*, 55(3), 257-261.

### 2016

Aithal, V., Kei, J., Driscoll, C., Murakoshi, M., & Wada, H. (2016). Sweep frequency impedance measures in young infants: developmental characteristics from birth to 6 months. *International Journal of Audiology*.

Kandasamy, Y., Hartley, L., Rudd, D., & Smith, R. (2016). The association between systemic vascular endothelial growth factor and retinopathy of prematurity in premature infants: A systematic review. *British Journal of Ophthalmology*.

Kingston, G. A., Williams, G., Judd, J., & Gray, M. A. (2016). The functional impact of a traumatic hand injury: A comparison of rural/remote and metropolitan/regional populations. *International Journal of Therapy and Rehabilitation*.

Smith, J. (2016). Current practices on prevention of hypothermia and temperature taking in the preterm and term infant: A survey. *Journal of Neonatal Nursing*.

Smyth, W., & Abernethy, G. (2016). Sustaining nursing and midwifery grand rounds in a regional Australian health service. *Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing*.

Smyth, W., Kruze, R., Al Mamun, A., White, A., & Shields, L. (2016). Working with families in community services: Multidisciplinary perceptions of working with children and their parents. *Neonatal, Paediatric and Child Health Nursing*.

Smyth, W., Lindsay, D., Holmes, C., Gardner, A., & Rahman, K. M. (2016). Self-reported long-term conditions of nurses and midwives across



a northern Australian health service: A survey.  
International Journal of Nursing Studies.

Sproul, A. V., & Kandasamy, Y. (2016). Congenital hypothyroidism with seizures: A case report. Journal of Pediatric and Neonatal Individualized Medicine, 5(1).

## HEALTH & WELLBEING

## SERVICE GROUP RGO

## APPROVED RESEARCH

### 2015

**Investigator:** Mark Gooding

**Department:** Allied Health

**Title:** Physiotherapy student contribution to physiotherapy services in Queensland Health

**Investigator:** Prof Ajay Rane / Kitty Gayed

**Department:** Obstetrics and Gynaecology

**Title:** Tension Free Vaginal Tape Surgery Consent Recall

**Investigator:** Prof Rebecca Ivers (George Insitute)

**Department:** Paediatrics

**Title:** Understanding burn injuries in ATSI children

**Funding Source:** National Health and Medical Research Council Grant

**Investigator:** Mal Fernando

**Department:** Allied Health

**Title:** Mechanisms of cardiovascular disease initiation, impaired wound healing and depression in diabetes

**Investigator:** Nicola Cosgriff

**Department:**

**Title:** Patient recall and retention of Lymphoedema education after breast cancer surgery

**Investigator:** Tilley Pain

**Department:** Allied Health

**Title:** Health Practitioner Research Capacity Follow-Up Survey 2015

**Investigator:** Prof Ajay Rane / Kaitlyn Palmas

**Department:** Obstetrics and Gynaecology

**Title:** An evaluation of factors contributing to the evolving gender gap in O & G trainees

**Funding Source:** James Cook University

**Investigator:** Dr Corrine Dickinson

**Department:** Neonatal

**Title:** Psychological Responses among Parents with Babies admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of The Townsville Hospital

**Funding Source:** Private Practice Trust Fund

**Investigator:** Mr William O'Sullivan (TTH)

**Department:** Allied Health

**Title:** Telerehabilitation as an additional service delivery method in a Neurosurgery & Orthopaedic Physiotherapy Screening Clinic and Multidisciplinary Service

**Investigator:** Dr Streedevi Aithal

**Department:** Allied Health

**Title:** Clinical evaluation of wideband absorbance (WBA) technology

**Funding Source:** Health Commissioning Qld, Clinical Access and Redesign Unit

**Investigator:** Tracey Symmons

**Department:** Allied Health

**Title:** Person-centred rehabilitation: implementation and evaluation of a rehabilitation specific patient experience survey

**Funding Source:** MHRF

**Investigator:** Rachel Doyle

**Department:** Allied Health

**Title:** Impact of a Research Capacity Building Initiative in Queensland Health: A Qualitative Evaluation of Health Practitioner Research Positions

**Funding Source:** Queensland Health-Allied Health Professionals Office of Queensland

**Investigator:** Dr Josephine Stringer

**Department:** Maternity

**Title:** An Audit of Antenatal Hydronephrosis Incidence and Management at The Townsville Hospital

**Investigator:** Amy Ashley

**Department:** Allied Health

**Title:** Relationships between tobacco smoking and alcohol consumption during chemoradiation for head and neck cancer with voice and swallowing outcomes during and post treatment

**Funding Source:** Study Education Research Trust Account Grant RG/2015/04 - \$8,228

**Investigator:** Ms Felicity Dick

**Department:** Allied Health

**Title:** Green Fingers Gardening Group

## 2016

**Investigator:** Ms Ywsati Santoso

**Department:** Acute Care of the Elderly, Medical 5

**Title:** Improving discharge from hospital processes for older people with cognitive impairment

**Funding Source:** Internal Institutional competitive research grant - Healthcare Improvement Unit - Queensland Health \$266534.00

**Investigator:** Mrs Carolyn Brickhill

**Department:** Acute Stroke Unit - Physiotherapy Dept - Rehabilitation Unit

**Title:** BEEPRS - Building efficient and equitable pathways to and through rehab in stroke

**Funding Source:** Qld Health, Healthcare Improvement Unit \$29,750 - For FY2015/16 \$5,950

**Investigator:** Dr Tilley Pain

**Department:** Allied Health

**Title:** A realist review of allied health management in Queensland Health: what works, in which contexts and why.

**Investigator:** Dr Gail Kingston

**Department:** Allied Health

**Title:** The transition from hospital to home: a longitudinal study of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander traumatic brain injury

**Funding Source:** National Health and Medical Research Council - Allied Health - in kind

**Investigator:** Mrs Caroline Diamond

**Department:** Child & Youth Community Health

**Title:** Telehealth parent counselling trial: An evaluation of parent and clinician experiences using video conference in 12 child health sites in Queensland

**Funding Source:** The Telehealth Support Unit \$330

**Investigator:** Mrs Nicole Argall  
**Department:** Child Development Service  
**Title:** Exploring parent perceptions of a family centred model of care at the Child Development Service Townsville  
**Funding Source:** Study Education Research Trust Account \$10,000

**Investigator:** Mrs Nicole Argall  
**Department:** Child Development Service  
**Title:** Exploring parent perceptions of a family centred model of care at the Child Development Service Townsville  
**Funding Source:** Study Education Research Trust Account \$10,000

**Investigator:** Ms Judy Morton  
**Department:** Maternity  
**Title:** Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) Development of the Midwife standards for practice  
**Funding Source:** Australian Health Professional Regulation Authority \$742,492 Australia wide (No funding to THHS)

**Investigator:** Mrs Amy Forbes-Coe  
**Department:** Neonatal Unit  
**Title:** Retrospective study to identify all neonates born in Townsville between 2008-2012 that have been diagnosed with cerebral palsy (CP)

**Investigator:** Dr Susan Ireland  
**Department:** Neonatal Unit  
**Title:** Families' experiences of decision making around the birth of extremely premature or sick babies.

**Investigator:** Dr Susan Ireland  
**Department:** Neonatal Unit  
**Title:** Attitudes of healthcare staff in North Queensland towards extreme prematurity and

pregnancies at high risk of producing children with significant neurodevelopment impairment.

**Investigator:** Dr Yoga Kandasamy  
**Department:** Neonatal Unit  
**Title:** The effect of gender on the outcome of premature and very low birth weight babies born in a regional tertiary perinatal centre.

**Investigator:** Annemarie Lawrence  
**Department:** Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
**Title:** My Baby's Movements: a stepped wedge cluster randomised controlled trial to raise maternal awareness of fetal movements during pregnancy  
**Funding Source:** National Health and Medical Research Council Grant \$8513

**Investigator:** Dr Harsha Ananthram  
**Department:** Obstetrics and Gynaecology  
**Title:** Obstetric Anal Sphincter Damage Audit

**Investigator:** Audra Davis  
**Department:** Obstetrics and Maternal Fetal Medicine  
**Title:** STRIDER (NZAus): A Randomised Controlled Trial of Sildenafil Therapy In Dismal Prognosis Early-Onset Intrauterine Growth Restriction (New Zealand and Australia)  
**Funding Source:** University of Auckland



**Title:** A retrospective cohort study on salmonella bacteraemia in paediatric populations in Queensland, Australia

**Title:** The Incidence of Diabetic Ketoacidosis at First Presentation of Type 1 Diabetes at a Regional Hospital

**Funding Source:** James Cook University \$275

**Title:** The appropriateness of healthcare delivered to Australian children

**Title:** Development of a clinical educator survey tool for determining clinical placement quality - validity and reliability testing of the CPQS-E tool (Clinical Placement Quality Survey - Educator)

**Funding Source:** \$22,124 to RBWH to fund project officer (no funding to come to TTH)

**Title:** Assessment of a pilot project of a physiotherapy-led screening clinic of rheumatology patients at Townsville Hospital

**Title:** Improving speech pathologists' implementation of recommended practices in actue aphasia management: A pilot cluster randomised controlled trial

**Funding Source:** Self-funded \$500

**Title:** Townsville Community Health Services (TCHS) Allied Health Service Outcome Measure Appraisal

**Funding Source:** Study Education Research Trust  
Account \$10,660

**Title:** Allied Health Prescribing Evaluation Project

**Funding Source:** \$1138.88 In-Kind for Staff Time



The background features a dark blue hexagonal grid pattern. Within the hexagons are various white line-art icons representing scientific and medical concepts: an atom, an hourglass, a satellite dish, a sine wave, a coiled spring, a lightbulb, a test tube, a computer monitor, a power plug, and a gear.

# MEDICAL SERVICE GROUP

KEY RESEARCHERS

# EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

## INTERVENTIONAL TRIALS



In 2010 a group of senior ED clinicians and researchers made a successful bid for a Queensland Emergency Medicine Research Fund (QEMRF) Research Capacity Building Grant. This was matched by the Private Practice Trust Fund (PPTF) and in total delivered \$420,000 in research funding to the ED. The Capacity Building Grant was championed by Dr Peter Aitken, an eminent staff specialist with a widely recognised body of work in emergency medicine, clinical education, disaster health and aeromedical retrievals. Dr Aitken worked with a keen group of clinicians with developing track records in research, including the ED's Director of Research, Dr Jeremy Furyk. Collectively their interests include: paediatric emergency medicine, diving and hyperbaric medicine and clinical trials.

In 2012 TTH Emergency Department (ED) was admitted to the Paediatric Research in Emergency Department International Collaborative (PREDICT) Network which is an intentional group consisting of selected tertiary children's hospital EDs. PREDICT aims to provide leadership; infrastructure for multi-centre research; and facilitate collaboration between institutions, health care providers, and researchers in Paediatric Emergency Medicine. In 2014 the PREDICT Network was awarded a National Health and Medical Research Council Centre for Research Excellence grant. TTH ED has supported numerous PREDICT studies in paediatric emergency medicine. Several trials have also been locally developed and implemented throughout Australia and New Zealand.

### Grants

#### 2015

**Grant:** Study Education Research Trust Account  
\$20000.00

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Grant Title:** Mixed methods evaluation of a deferred



**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Grant Title:** Research Scholarship Grant

**Grant:** Queensland Emergency Medicine Research Foundation \$292937.00

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Grant Title:** FEISTY – Fibrinogen Early In Severe Trauma study. Is it quicker to administer Fibrinogen concentrate than cryoprecipitate?

**Grant:** Study Education Research Trust Account \$40000.00

**Investigator:** Dr Clinton Gibbs, Dr Jeremy Furyk, Dr Colin Banks

**Grant Title:** Magnesium in Irukandji Syndrome Trial (MIST)

**Grant:** Queensland Emergency Department Strategic Advisory Panel (QEDSAP), Healthcare Improvement Unit. \$359758.00

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Grant Title:** Evaluating the Impact of Alcohol on Emergency Department Presentations (ETOH).

## Publications

AANZDEM\_investigators. Epidemiology, Prehospital Care And Outcomes Of Patients Arriving By Ambulance With Dyspnoea: An Observational Study. Scandinavian Journal of Trauma, Resuscitation and Emergency Medicine. 2016;(Accepted for publication).

Aitken P, Franklin RC, Lawlor J, Mitchell R, Watt K, Furyk J, et al. Emergency Department Presentations following Tropical Cyclone Yasi. PloS one. 2015;10(6):e0131196. PubMed PMID: 26111010. Pubmed Central PMCID: 4481345.

Babl FE, Gardiner KK, Kochar A, Wilson CL, George SA, Zhang M, et al. Bell's palsy in children: Current treatment patterns in Australia and New Zealand. A PREDICT study. J Paed Child

Health. 2016;Accepted.

Babl FE, Borland M, Mackay M, Herd D, Kochar A, Hort J, et al. Bell's Palsy in Children (BellPIC): Protocol for a multicentre, placebo-controlled randomized trial. BMC pediatrics. 2016;Under peer review.

Blake DF, Gibbs CR, Commons KH, Brown LH. Middle ear barotrauma in a tourist-oriented, condensed open water diver certification course: incidence and effect of language of instruction. Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine. 2015;45(3):176-80.

Blake DF, Naidoo P, Brown LH, Young D, Lippmann J. A comparison of the tissue oxygenation achieved using different oxygen delivery devices and flow rates. Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine. 2015;45(2):79-83.

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Butson B & Kwa P. Emergency department management of skin and soft tissue abscesses, Emergency Medicine Australasia, 2015; 27(5): 460-463.

Cheek, J. A.; Lyttle, M.; Oakley, E.; Babl, F.; Borland, M.; Dalziel, K.; Kanal, G. N.; Phillips, N.; Gilhotra, Y.; Kochar, A.; Dalton, S.; McCaskill, M.; Furyk, J.; Neutze, J.; Dalziel, S. Annual Acute hospital cost of paediatric head injury in Australia - a Paediatric Research in Emergency Departments International Collaborative (PREDICT)



STUDY. ... Emergency Medicine Journal, Dec 2016, Vol. 33 Issue 12, p903-903, 1p. Publisher: BMJ Publishing Group.

Chen KC, Arad A, Chen KC, Storrar J, Christy AG. The clinical value of pathology tests and imaging study in the diagnosis of acute appendicitis. Postgraduate Medical Journal. 2016 Aug 12:

Chu KH, Howell TE, Keijzers G, Furyk JS, Eley RM, Kinnear FB, Thom O, Mahmoud I, Brown AF. Acute headache presentations to the emergency department: A state wide cross sectional study. Academic Emergency Medicine. 2016 Jul 1.

Close B, Zolcinski R. Physician Assistants in Australasian Eds. Emergency Medicine Australia. 2016; published online 19 May.

Franklin D, Dalziel S, Schlapbach LJ, Babl FE, Oakley E, Craig SS, et al. Early high flow nasal cannula therapy in bronchiolitis, a prospective randomised control trial (protocol): A Paediatric Acute Respiratory Intervention Study (PARIS). BMC pediatrics. 2015;15(1):183. PubMed PMID: 26572729. Pubmed Central PMCID: 4647636.

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Furyk, J. and Banks, C. From Other Journals. Emerg Med Australas, 2015; 27: 88-90.

Furyk, J. and Banks, C. From other journals.

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Furyk, J. and Banks, C. From other journals. Emergency Medicine Australasia, 2015; 27: 279-281.

Furyk, J. and Banks, C. From other journals. Emergency Medicine Australasia, 2015; 27: 380-381.

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Furyk, J., and Banks, C. From Other Journals. Emergency Medicine Australasia, 2016; 28: 366-367.

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Furyk, J. and Banks, C. From Other Journals. Emergency Medicine Australasia, 2016; 28: 761-763.

Furyk JS, Chu K, Banks C, Greenslade J, Keijzers

G, Thom O, et al. Distal Ureteric Stones and Tamsulosin: A Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Randomized, Multicenter Trial. *Annals of emergency medicine*. 2016 Jan;67(1):86-95 e2. PubMed PMID: 26194935.

Furyk JS, Lawton LD, Ting J, McD Taylor D. Informed consent in emergency care research: An oxymoron?. *Emergency Medicine Australasia*. 2016 Jan 1.

Furyk JS, Meek RA, Egerton-Warburton D. Drugs for the treatment of nausea and vomiting in adults in the emergency department setting. *The Cochrane database of systematic reviews*. 2015;9:CD010106. PubMed PMID: 26411330.

Kaur PP, Drummond SE, Furyk J. Arrhythmia Secondary to Cold Water Submersion during Helicopter Underwater Escape Training. *Prehospital and disaster medicine*. 2016 Jan 12:1-3. PubMed PMID: 26754186.

Kelly AM, Keijzers G, Klim S, Graham CA, Craig S, Kuan WS, et al. Asia, Australia and New Zealand Dyspnoea in Emergency Departments (AANZDEM) study: Rationale, design and analysis. *Emergency medicine Australasia : EMA*. 2015 Jun;27(3):187-91. PubMed PMID: 25940885.

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Makrides, Hannah, and Luke D. Lawton. "Don't Blow It! Extensive Subcutaneous Emphysema of the Neck Caused by Isolated Facial Injuries: A Case Report and Review of the Literature." *The Journal of emergency medicine*, 2017; 52(3): e57-e59.

Merlo G, Pain T, Jones L, Furyk J. Economic

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Pain T, Plummer D, Pighills A & Harvey A. Comparison of research experience and support needs of rural versus regional allied health professionals. *Australian Journal of Rural Health*, 2015; 23 (5): 277-285.

Rathbone J, Franklin R, Gibbs C, Williams D. Review article: Role of magnesium sulphate in the management of Irukandji syndrome: A systematic review. *Emergency Medicine Australasia*. 2016 Oct 1.

Small, N. Is Australasia producing too many emergency physicians? No. *Emergency Medicine Australasia*, 2015; 27: 597-598.

Taylor DM, Fatovich DM, Finucci DP, Furyk J, Jin SW, Keijzers G, et al. Best-practice pain





Associate Professor Usman Malabu is a foundation member of Translational Research in Endocrinology and Diabetes (TREAD) at the College of Medicine and Dentistry, James Cook University. Associate Professor Malabu joined James Cook University in 2007 and established the TREAD with the aim of carrying out research intended to be translated into improved management of diabetes and endocrine diseases. Trained as endocrinologist, Associate Professor Malabu spent 2 years of his specialist training to obtain experience in experimental and laboratory research techniques in endocrinology and diabetes at the University of Liverpool and Royal Liverpool Hospital, UK. Dr Malabu's current roles include that of Head of James Cook University's TREAD, Head of JCU/AITHM PNG Diabetes and Tuberculosis Projects in New Ireland Province.

Dr Malabu has developed several Telehealth models to address access issues faced by underserved populations in Australia's Indigenous Communities and PNG's Pacific Islanders in areas of communicable and non-communicable diseases notably diabetes and tuberculosis. These include the Townsville Tele-diabetes and Tele-endocrinology Models based in Australia and m-health interactive voice recognition model in PNG's Kavieng that have attracted national and international recognition with active participation of AITHM, BUPA Health Foundation, Australian Diabetes Society, Queensland Government and World Diabetes Foundation.

His main research theme has been the evaluation of diagnostic, therapeutic and access to care of diabetic foot complications using innovative models that suit rural/remote communities. Novel diagnostic tests for diabetic foot infections in remote areas have been published by TREAD under his leadership while new modes of therapy has been evaluated. These research activities gave rise to national and international

conference presentations, publications in high impact factor. Dr Malabu has received over \$1.5 million grants in the last 3 years from; World Diabetes Foundation (WHO-affiliated, Belgium), BUPA Health Foundation and several national innovation funds. A/Prof Malabu also participated in the international multi-centre trials leading to international acknowledgments, recognition and publications.

### Grants:

**Grant:** \$307,331 World Diabetes Foundation  
**Grant Title:** Increased awareness of and access to diabetes and tuberculosis care in New Ireland Province of Papua New Guinea

**Grant:** \$465,514 BUPA Health Foundation  
**Grant Title:** Telediabetic foot care in rural areas

**Grant:** \$55,000 Australian Diabetes Society  
**Grant Title:** Telediabetic foot care in rural areas

**Grant:** \$254,040 Queensland Health  
**Grant Title:** Innovative diabetic foot therapy

**Grant:** \$18,597 Townsville Hospital and Health Service Research Trust Fund  
**Grant Title:** Management of Chronic Diabetic foot Ulcer by Shockwave Therapy at the Townsville Hospital

**Grant:** \$29,940 Townsville Hospital and Health Service Research Trust Fund  
**Grant Title:** Clinical And Economic Impact of Medicine in management of Diabetes of Foot Ulcer in Rural and remote areas of North Queensland

**Grant:** \$180,000 Novartis  
**Grant Title:** Vildagliptin effects on foot ulcer

**Grant:** \$8500 James Cook University Faculty Grant  
**Grant Title:** New diagnostic DM foot infection test

### Publications

#### 2015

Singh TP, Vangaveti VN, Malabu UH. Dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors and their potential role in the management of atherosclerosis –a review. *Diabetes & Metabolic Syndrome*. 2015; 9(4):223-9.

#### 2016

Rodrigues BT, Vangaveti VN, Malabu UH. Prevalence and Risk Factors for Diabetic Lower Limb Amputation: A Clinic-Based Case Control Study. *Journal of Diabetes Research*. 2016;2016:5941957.

Jhamb S, Vangaveti VN, Malabu UH. Genetic and molecular basis of diabetic foot ulcers: Clinical review. *Journal of Tissue Viability*. 2016 Jun 25. pii: S0965-206X(16)30041-9.

Hayes OG, Vangaveti VN, Malabu UH. Diagnostic Performance of Serum Bone Turnover Marker Lysylpyridinoline in Diabetic Foot Osteomyelitis: A Preliminary Study. *Clinical Medicine and Diagnostics* 2016; 6(3), 49-53.

Gilhotra RA, Rodrigues BT, Vangaveti VN, Malabu UH. Prevalence and Risk Factors of Lower Limb Amputation in Patients with End-Stage Renal Failure on Dialysis: A Systematic Review. *International Journal of Nephrology*. 2016;2016:4870749.





Marso SP, Daniels GH, Brown-Frandsen K, Kristensen P, Mann JF, Nauck MA, Nissen SE, LEADER Steering Committee; LEADER Trial Investigators including Malabu UH. Liraglutide and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes. *The New England Journal of Medicine*. 2016;375(4):311-22.

Gilhotra RA, Rodrigues BT, Vangaveti VN, Kan G, Porter D, Sangla KS, Malabu UH. Non-traumatic lower limb amputation in patients with end-stage renal failure on dialysis: an Australian perspective. *Renal Failure*. 2016;38(7):1036-43. Singh TP, Vangaveti VN, Kennedy RL, Malabu UH. Role of telehealth in diabetic foot ulcer management - A systematic review. *Australian Journal of Rural Health*. 2016 Apr 21.

Saboo A, Rathnayake A, Vangaveti VN, Malabu UH. Wound healing effects of dipeptidyl peptidase-4 inhibitors: An emerging concept in management of diabetic foot ulcer-A review. *Diabetes & Metabolic Syndrome*. 2016 Apr-Jun;10(2):113-9.

Ila RK, Vangaveti VN, Malabu UH. High Rate of Diabetes in the Asia-Pacific Island: Possible Role of Rapid Urbanisation – a hospital based study. *South East Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health*. 2016; 6(2): 48-52.

Vangaveti VN, Jansen H, Kennedy RL, Malabu UH. Hydroxyoctadecadienoic acids: Oxidised derivatives of linoleic acid and their role in inflammation associated with metabolic syndrome and cancer. *European Journal of Pharmacology*. 2016;785:70-6.

## TREAD STAFF

Dr Venkat N Vangaveti, Senior Research Officer, James Cook University (JCU)

Dr Oliver Hayes, Clinical Research Coordinator, The Townsville Hospital (TTH)

Ms Asha Kiran Clinical Research Coordinator TTH

Mrs Julie Goodall Telepodiatric Research Staff TTH

Mrs Karen Hird Senior Diabetes Educator and Research staff James Cook University

Mrs Eloise Ward Research Podiatrist – Electromagnetic Stimulation TTH

Mrs Jacqueline Bullbrook Diabetes Research Nurse TTH

## RESEARCH COLLABORATORS

Professor Emma McBryde –Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine

Professor Yogesan Kanagasalingam –Research Director Australian e-Health Research Centre

Professor John D. Piette, Director Centre for Managing Chronic Disease, University of Michigan, USA

Professor Chidum Ezenwaka, Director Diabetes Metabolic Research Group, University of West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago

Professor Saad Ahmed, Head of Pathology Department, Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Nigeria

Dr Mclee Mathew Director of Medical Services Kavieng provincial Hospital, PNG



Professor Sabe Sabesan, BMBS, PhD, FRACP is the Clinical Dean of the Northern Clinical Training Network-Townsville, a joint training venture between James Cook University and the Townsville Hospital and Health Services and the Director of the Department of Medical Oncology at the Townsville Cancer Centre, Townsville Hospital. He is a nationally and internationally recognised expert in the area of teleoncology and developed and evaluated various teleoncology models of care to deliver rural cancer care closer to home including the Queensland Remote Chemotherapy Supervision (QReCS) model which is adopted by the Queensland Health and Australasian Teletrial Model and national guide on behalf of the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA). He is the program lead for the Tropical Centre for Telehealth Practice and Research, a joint initiative between the Townsville hospital and the AIITHM.

His research collaborations include the Menzies School of Health Research, various Australian clinical trial groups and clinicians and academics within Queensland Health and James Cook University in the areas of telehealth, rural and Indigenous health. Internationally, he collaborates with clinicians from Sri Lanka and India in the area of telehealth. To date, he has received more than \$7 million in grants from National Health and Medical Research Council, Cancer Institute of NSW and Queensland Health Innovation funds. Dr Sabesan has contributed to the development of ANZ melanoma and prostate cancer guidelines, clinical practice guidelines for teleoncology and RACP telehealth and tele supervision guidelines. As a member of the oncology education committee, he co-edited the web book “Clinical Oncology for medical students” in collaboration with all 20 medical schools in Australia and New Zealand on behalf of the Cancer Council of Australia.

As a passionate advocate for medical training and rural and Indigenous health, he serves as a steering committee member of the Queensland State-wide Cancer Clinical Network and State-wide Telehealth Governance Committees. Within COSA, he is the current chair of the rural and regional group and a co-chair of the COSA Teletrial Consortium steering committee.

## Publications

Cameron, M., Ray, R., & Sabesan, S. (2015). Remote supervision of medical training via videoconference in northern Australia: a qualitative study of the perspectives of supervisors and trainees. *BMJ open*.

Jhaveri, D., S. Larkins, and S. Sabesan, Telestroke, tele-oncology and teledialysis: a systematic review to analyse the outcomes of active therapies delivered with telemedicine support. *Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare*, 2015. 21(4): p. 181-188.

Sabesan, S., Specialist cancer care through Telehealth models. *Australian Journal of Rural Health*, 2015. 23(1): p. 19-23.

Sabesan, S. and J. Kelly, Implementing telehealth as core business in health services. *Medical Journal of Australia*, 2015. 202(5): p. 231-233.

Sabesan, S., et al., My Family's Anti-Tobacco Education (My-FATE) model for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. *Australian Journal of Rural Health*, 2015. 23(3): p. 189-190.

Sabesan, S., et al., Telehealth: A new opportunity to discuss smoking cessation with indigenous cancer patients and their families. *Psycho-Oncology*, 2015. 24(10): p. 1324-1326.



# INFECTIOUS DISEASES

## PROFESSOR DAMON EISEN



### Potential uses for aspirin in prevention and treatment of infectious diseases.

Professor Eisen has designed and commenced work on a group of research trials involving severe and recurrent infections.

These include a randomised controlled trial - The Aspirin To Inhibit SEPSIS (ANTISEPSIS) trial; an ASPREE Substudy to measure the benefit of low dose aspirin in the prevention of severe sepsis. This uses a large primary prevention randomised controlled trial comparing low-dose aspirin with placebo. Professor Eisen will determine whether 100 mg aspirin / day is effective in preventing death due to severe infection in the 17,000 elderly patients who were included in the trial and followed for a minimum of 5 years.

### Double blind, cross-over, randomised controlled trial of aspirin for the prevention of recurrent urinary (DISURIA) tract infections.

This trial of 100 or 300 mg of aspirin taken with Ural is being commenced to study whether this treatment can reduce recurrences of urinary tract infection in elderly women.

Building a relational patient outcomes database. QLDiseases and Treatment Assessment - QLDData  
Dr Eisen is working to receive approvals for a large database of patient information from those who have been admitted to the Townsville Hospital. This database will allow clinical researchers to design numerous retrospective cohort studies that can guide future trials.

### Grants

**Grant:** \$391,879.56 NH&MRC Project Grant

**Grant Title:** The Aspirin To Inhibit SEPSIS (ANTISEPSIS) trial; an ASPREE substudy to measure

the benefit of low dose aspirin in the prevention of severe sepsis 2013 – 2018

**Grant:** \$100,000 Queensland Department of Science, Information Technology and Information (DSITI)

**Grant Title:** Health economics of early life and maternal health: using datalinkage to set priorities in tropical Australia

**Grant:** \$40,000 Townsville Hospital Study Education Research Trust Account

**Grant Title:** Queensland Disease and Treatment Assessment (QLData). A statewide relational patient database

**Grant:** \$20,000 Townsville Hospital Study Education Research Trust Account

**Grant Title:** Prevention of recurrent urinary tract infections in post-menopausal women using a non-antibacterial approach; a randomised, double blind, placebo-controlled trial of aspirin

**Grant:** \$116,105 Queensland Department of Science, Information Technology and Information (DSITI)

**Grant Title:** Low cost therapy with low-dose aspirin for sepsis 2016

## Publications

### 2015

Winter BJ, O'Connell HE, Bowden S, Carey M, Eisen DP A Case Control Study Reveals that Polyoma viruria Is Significantly Associated with Interstitial Cystitis and Vesical Ulceration: PLoS One. 2015 Sep 1;10(9).

M Osthoff, MM Dean, PN Baird, AJ Richardson, M Daniell, RH Guymer, DP Eisen Association Study of Mannose-Binding Lectin Levels and Genetic Variants in Lectin Pathway Proteins with Susceptibility to Age-Related Macular

Degeneration: A Case-Control Study. PLoS One. 2015 Jul 24;10(7).

Setyapranata S, Holt SG, Wiggins KJ, Mulley WR, Kerr PG, Landgren AJ, Eisen DP, Young A, Opdam H, Robertson A, Asadi K, Hughes PD. Nephrology (Carlton). Renal allograft re-use and herpetic re-infection. 2015 Mar;20.

Eisen DP. Shall we disregard mannose-binding lectin modification in the future because we can't prevent sepsis with this molecule? Clinical Infectious Diseases 2015 May 12.

Osthoff M, MacGuinness S, Waagen A, Eisen DP. Urinary tract infections due to extended-spectrum beta lactamase-producing gram-negative bacteria: identification of risk factors and outcome predictors in an Australian tertiary-referral hospital. International Journal of Infectious Diseases 2015 11;34:79-83.

Eisen DP, McBryde ES. An association between aspirin use in human cases of infective endocarditis and reduced systemic embolism is shown in meta-analysis of observational studies. Journal of Infectious Diseases. 2015;212 15 August 673-4.

Clifford V, Tebruegge M, Zufferey C, Germano S, Denholm J, Street A, McBryde E, Eisen D, Curtis N. Serum IP-10 in the diagnosis of latent and active tuberculosis. J Infect. 2015 Aug 10.



## RESEARCH STAFF

Elizabeth Heyer, Clinical Research Coordinator

Dr Luke Vasanthankumar - QLData

Ms Swati Murugan – DISURIA MBBS Honors project

## RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

Professor Ajay Rane, University of Queensland

Dr Jeremy Furyk and Dr Siva Senthuran, Townsville Hospital

Professor Emma McBryde, Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine

Professor John McNeill and Associate Professor Robyn Woods; Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University

Dr James Trauer, Burnet Institute, Melbourne

Dr Steven Muhi, Victorian Infectious Diseases Service at the Peter Doherty Institute, Melbourne Health.



### 2015

Bartlett, L., Sloots, K., Nowak, M., & Ho, Y. H. (2015). Supplementary home biofeedback improves quality of life in younger patients with faecal incontinence. *Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology*.

Beesley, V. L., Smithers, B. M., Khosrotehrani, K., Khatun, M., O'Rourke, P., Hughes, M. C. B., Zonta, M.J., Green, A. C., et al (2015). Supportive care needs, anxiety, depression and quality of life amongst newly diagnosed patients with localised invasive cutaneous melanoma in Queensland, Australia. *Psycho-Oncology*.

Broadley, S. A., Barnett, M. H., Boggild, M., Brew, B. J., Butzkueven, H., Heard, R., Willoughby, E., et al (2015). A new era in the treatment of multiple sclerosis. *Medical Journal of Australia*.

Cummins, L. L., Vangaveti, V., & Roberts, L. J. (2015). Rheumatoid arthritis referrals and rheumatologist scarcity: A prioritization tool. *Arthritis Care and Research*.

Ellis, R., Brown, S., & Boggild, M. (2015). Therapy-related acute leukaemia with mitoxantrone: Four years on, what is the risk and can it be limited? *Multiple Sclerosis Journal*.

Heyer, E., Smyth, W., Laffin, N., & Gardner, A. (2015). Protocol paper: A randomized trial of 2 creams in the skin care of patients receiving radiation therapy for breast cancer in the tropics. *Cancer Nursing*.

Hoffmaster, A. R., Aucoin, D., Baccam, P., Baggett, H. C., Baird, R., Bhengsi, S., Norton, R., Walke, H. T., et al (2015). Melioidosis diagnostic workshop, 2013. *Emerging Infectious Diseases*.

Jeyaruban, A., Larkins, S., & Soden, M. (2015). Management of gout in general practice—a systematic review. *Clinical Rheumatology*.

Jhaveri, D., Larkins, S., Kelly, J., & Sabesan, S. (2015). Remote chemotherapy supervision model for rural cancer care: Perspectives of health professionals. *European Journal of Cancer Care*.

Laffin, N., Smyth, W., Heyer, E., Fasugba, O., Abernethy, G., & Gardner, A. (2015). Effectiveness and acceptability of a moisturizing cream and a barrier cream during radiation therapy for breast cancer in the tropics. *Cancer Nursing*.

Palace, J., Duddy, M., Bregenzer, T., Lawton, M., Zhu, F., Boggild, M., Dobson, C., et al (2015). Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of interferon beta and glatiramer acetate in the UK Multiple Sclerosis Risk Sharing Scheme at 6 years: A clinical cohort study with natural history comparator. *The Lancet Neurology*.

Simpson, S., Mina, S., Morris, H., Mahendran, S., Taylor, B., & Boggild, M. (2015). The epidemiology of multiple sclerosis in the Isle of Man: 2006-2011. *Acta Neurologica Scandinavica*, Singh, D., Hsu, C. C. T., Kwan, G. N. C., & Korah, I. (2015). Pontine Tegmental Cap Dysplasia: MR Evaluation of Vestibulocochlear Neuropathy. *Journal of Neuroimaging*.

Smyth, W., Abernethy, G., Mason, M., Carrucan, J., Hayes, M., & Shields, L. (2015). Patients' perceptions of hospital-acquired infections in northern Queensland, Australia: A pilot study. *American Journal of Infection Control*.



Smyth, W., Hartig, V., Hayes, M., & Manickam, V. (2015). Patients' adherence to aspects of haemodialysis regimens in tropical North Queensland, Australia. *Journal of Renal Care*, Vangaveti, V. N., Jansen, H., Kennedy, R. L., & Malabu, U. H. (2015). Hydroxyoctadecadienoic acids: Oxidised derivatives of linoleic acid and their role in inflammation associated with metabolic syndrome and cancer. *European Journal of Pharmacology*.

Wight, J., Stillwell, A., Morris, E., Grant, B., Lai, H. C., & Irving, I. (2015). Screening whole spine magnetic resonance imaging in multiple myeloma. *Internal Medicine Journal*.

Wright, K., Wright, H., & Murray, M. (2015). Probiotic treatment for the prevention of antibiotic-associated diarrhoea in geriatric patients: A multicentre randomised controlled pilot study. *Australasian Journal on Ageing*.

## 2016

Close, B., & Zolcinski, R. (2016). Physician assistants in Australasian emergency departments. *EMA - Emergency Medicine Australasia*.

Cox, R., Roche, E., & Fairley, S. (2016). Novel oral anticoagulant drugs and severe oesophagitis dissecans. *Internal Medicine Journal*.

Cruz, P. M. R., Matthews, L., Boggild, M., Cavey, A., Constantinescu, C. S., Evangelou, N., Palace, J., et al (2016). Time-and region-specific season of birth effects in multiple sclerosis in the United Kingdom. *JAMA Neurology*.

Garvey, G., Cunningham, J., He, V. Y., Janda, M., Baade, P., Sabesan, S., Valery, P. C., et al (2016). Health-related quality of life among Indigenous Australians diagnosed with cancer. *Quality of Life Research*.

Jeyaruban, A., Soden, M., & Larkins, S. (2016). Prevalence of comorbidities and management of gout in a tropical city in Australia. *Rheumatology International*.

Karakiewicz, P. I., Nott, L., Joshi, A., Kannourakis, G., Tarazi, J., & Alam, M. (2016). Evaluation of response from axitinib per response evaluation criteria in solid tumors versus choi criteria in previously treated patients with metastatic renal cell carcinoma. *OncoTargets and Therapy*.

Koehler, A. V., Spratt, D. M., Norton, R., Warren, S., McEwan, B., Urkude, R., Murthy, S., Gasser, R. B., et al (2016). More parasitic myositis cases in humans in Australia, and the definition of genetic markers for the causative agents as a basis for molecular diagnosis. *Infection, Genetics and Evolution*.

Moyle, W., Bramble, M., Bauer, M., Smyth, W., & Beattie, E. (2016). 'They rush you and push you too much ... and you can't really get any good response off them': A qualitative examination of family involvement in care of people with dementia in acute care. *Australasian Journal on Ageing*.

Nicholls, C. L., Parsonson, F., Gray, L. E. K., Heyer, A., Donohue, S., Wiseman, G., & Norton, R. (2016). Primary amoebic meningoencephalitis



#### 2015

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Department:** Emergency Medicine

**Title:** Consensus research priorities for paediatric convulsive status epilepticus: a Delphi study of consumers, researchers, and clinicians.

**Investigator:** Daniel Ly (James Cook University)

**Department:** Medical Services

**Title:** Electrophysiology of Peripheral Neuropathy: A Clinical and Biochemical Analysis

**Funding Source:** James Cook University funded

**Investigator:** Ms Janine Lemcke

**Department:**

**Title:** Prevention of upper limb contracture after stroke

**Funding Source:** Wishlist Sunshine Coast Health Foundation Research Grant

**Investigator:** Dr Alex Tan

**Department:** Radiation / Oncology

**Title:** ENZARAD Trial

**Funding Source:** Sydney University

**Investigator:** Dr Kelly Wright

**Department:** Gerontology

**Title:** Australian and New Zealand Hip Fracture Registry

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Department:** Emergency Medicine

**Title:** A prospective, double-blind, double-dummy, randomised controlled trial of intravenous paracetamol and oral paracetamol

in acute pain patients presenting to the Emergency Department.

**Funding Source:** James Cook University funded \$1000 and Queensland Emergency Medicine Research Foundation \$40,870

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Department:** Emergency Medicine

**Title:** Bell's palsy in children: a retrospective chart review

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Department:** Emergency Medicine

**Title:** Convulsive Status Epilepticus Paediatric Trial (ConSEPT): A PREDICT Study

**Funding Source:** Health Research Council of NZ Grant; Qld Emergency Medicine Foundation; Private Practice Trust Fund Grant

**Investigator:** Dr Abishek Joshi

**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** A multicentre randomised phase II trial comparing nab-paclitaxel to paclitaxel in patients with advanced urothelial cancer progressing on or after a platinum containing regimen

**Funding Source:** National Cancer Institute of Canada Clinical Trials Group

**Investigator:** Dr Ian Irving

**Department:** Clinical Haematology

**Title:** DANCES Study - Dasatinib and Nilotinib Complications Evaluation Study

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Department:** Emergency Medicine

**Title:** High Flow Nasal Cannula Treatment for Viral Bronchiolitis, a Randomised Controlled Trial

**Funding Source:** National Health and Medical Research Council Grant

**Investigator:** Dr Luke Burman

**Department:** Emergency Medicine

**Title:** Supplementing Pain management in the ED - Conventional treatment versus Intravenous Adjunctive Low dose Ketamine (SPECIAL-K)

**Funding Source:** Queensland Emergency Medicine Research Foundation Grant

**Investigator:** Dr Arun Menon

**Department:** Sexual Health Services

**Title:** The Queensland Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Demonstration Project (QPrEP)

**Funding Source:** Cairns Sexual Health via grant from QLD HIV Foundation Service

**Investigator:** Daniel Lowrie (James Cook University)

**Department:** Palliative Care

**Title:** An exploration of dying roles in regional Australia

**Funding Source:** James Cook University

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Department:** Emergency Medicine

**Title:** Rates of Emboli and Sub Segmental Pulmonary Emboli from CT ordered by Emergency Departments in Australasia - a multicentre collaboration to look at variability, utility and futility: the RESPECTED ANZ Registry

**Investigator:** Dr Abhishek Joshi

**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** GO29437 - MPDL3280A (ANTI-PD-L1 ANTIBODY) In combination with carboplatin + paclitaxel or MPDL3280A in combination with carboplatin + nab paclitaxel versus carboplatin + nab-paclitaxel in chemotherapy naïve patients with stage IV squamous NSCLC

**Funding Source:** PPD Australia Pty Ltd

**Investigator:** Dr Abhishek Joshi

**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** (OlympiA) A randomised, double-blind, parallel group, placebo-controlled multi-centre Phase III study to assess the efficacy and safety of olaparib versus placebo as adjuvant treatment in patients with germline BRCA1/2 mutations and high risk HER2 negative primary breast cancer who have completed definitive local treatment and neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemotherapy

**Funding Source:** ANZ Breast Cancer Trials Group

**Investigator:** Dr Clinton Gibbs

**Department:** Emergency Medicine

**Title:** Serum catecholamine levels in Irukandji Syndrome

**Funding Source:** Queensland Emergency Medicine Research Foundation Grant

**Investigator:** Dr Hana Grigg

**Department:** Radiation Therapist, Oncology Services

**Title:** Effectiveness of exercise intervention on improving the psychological effects in prostate cancer

**Funding Source:** Private Practice Trust Fund \$20,000 TOLMAR \$20670 Internal funds \$24,464

**Investigator:** Dr Suresh Varma

**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** FOCAL



**Funding Source:** Parexel International

**Investigator:** Dr Mike Boggild

**Department:** Neurology Medicine

**Title:** OBS13434 - PASS

**Funding Source:** Sanofi -Aventis Australia Pty Ltd

**Investigator:** Jessica Sia (James Cook University)

**Department:** Medical Services

**Title:** Predictors for time to healing of diabetic foot ulcers

**Investigator:** Dr Hock Choong Lai

**Department:** Haematology / Oncology

**Title:** a prospective, open-label, multicenter, randomized phase iii trial to compare the efficacy and safety of a combined regimen of obinutuzumab and GDC-0199 (ABT-199) versus obinutuzumab and chlorambucil in previously untreated patients with cll and coexistin B025323

**Funding Source:** Covance Pty Ltd

**Investigator:** Dr Sabe Sabesan

**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** Evaluation of the NQ Remote Chemotherapy Supervision (NQRECS)

**Investigator:** Mrs Katrina Hampton

**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** Fertility Preservation in Young People Living with Cancer

**Investigator:** Dr Sugeet Baveja

**Department:** Cardiology

**Title:** River Registry

**Funding Source:** Novotech (Australia) Pty Ltd

**Investigator:** Lyndsey Pell

**Department:** Pharmacy

**Title:** Drug use evaluation of the prescribing and monitoring of Vancomycin at TTH

**Investigator:** Dr Richard White

**Department:** Neurology

**Title:** A multi-country, OBSERVational, cross-sectional study to characterize advanced Parkinson's Disease patients in Movement Disorder Centers. OBSERVE-PD

**Funding Source:** Abbvie Pty Ltd

**Investigator:** Dr Katherine Dutton

**Department:** Rheumatology

**Title:** Australian Rheumatologists Myositis Malignancy Screening Study

**Investigator:** Dr Suresh Varma

**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** OPTIM1SE Study

**Funding Source:** inVentiv Health Clinical Australia Pty Limited

**Investigator:** Dr Arshad Hussain

**Department:** Gerontology

**Title:** Assessment of vitamin C deficiency in nursing home residents

**Funding Source:** Gerontology Department funds

**Investigator:** Dr Seema Shah

**Department:** Gastroenterology

**Title:** Can we use the Fibroscan to predict the significant Oesophageal Varices in HCV related Liver Cirrhosis?

**Investigator:** Dr Kai Yang Chen

**Department:** Psychiatry

**Title:** Barriers to Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry Referral

**Investigator:** Dr Abhishek Joshi



**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** A phase III, open-label, randomized study to investigate the efficacy and safety of atezolizumab (ANTIPD\_L1 antibody) compared with best supportive care following adjuvant cisplatin-based chemo

**Funding Source:** PPD Australia Pty Ltd

**Investigator:** Dr Andrew McCutchan

**Department:** Haematology & BMT

**Title:** The influence of viable CD34 subsets on platelet engraftment in autologous haematopoietic progenitor cell transplantation

**Funding Source:** Study Education Research Trust Account \$9,400

**Investigator:** Dr Andrew McCutchan

**Department:** Haematology & BMT

**Title:** A comparison of the viability of cell subsets in Haemopoietic Progenitor Cell collections before and after cryopreservation

**Funding Source:** Study Education Research Trust Account \$13,300

**Investigator:** Dr Abhishek Joshi

**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** A phase III, open-label, randomized study of MPDL3280A (ANTI-PD-L1 antibody) in combination with carboplatin+ paclitaxel with or without bevacizumab compared with carboplatin+paclitaxel+ bevacizumab in chemotherapy-naïve patients with stage iv non-squamous non-small cell lung cancer

**Funding Source:** PPD Australia Pty Ltd

**2016**

**Investigator:** Dr Luke Lawton

**Department:** Emergency

**Title:** Sedation for Acute Agitation in Emergency Department Patients: Targeting Adverse Events

**Funding Source:** Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia Emergency Medicine Grant \$10,000

**Investigator:** Dr Maya Clemence

**Department:** Emergency

**Title:** A survey of the antibiotic prescribing practices of doctors in an Australian Emergency Department

**Investigator:** Yogi Sagar

**Department:** Pharmacy

**Title:** A drug utilisation evaluation of the antimicrobials used in the management of community-acquired pneumonia in the Emergency Department of the Townsville Hospital

**Funding Source:** Discipline of Pharmacy, James Cook University up to \$300 for stationary and incidentals

**Investigator:** Yogi Sagar

**Department:** Pharmacy

**Title:** A drug utilisation evaluation of the use of the antibiotic Tazocin (Piperacillin/Tazobactam) in the Townsville Hospital

**Funding Source:** Discipline of Pharmacy, James Cook University up to \$300 for stationary and incidentals

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Department:** Emergency

**Title:** Qualitative analysis of parental attitudes to a deferred consent process in paediatric emergency research

**Funding Source:** James Cook University – in-kind contribution; THHS Study Education Research Trust Account \$20,000

**Investigator:** Dr Xiaojie (Jeremy) Wang

**Department:** Internal Medicine

**Title:** Role of Primary PJP prophylaxis in patients with rheumatologic conditions - a Townsville Experience

**Investigator:** Dr Andrea Fernandes

**Department:** Endocrine

**Title:** Retrospective audit of patient records assessing the characteristics and co-morbidities of patients with clearly and consistently (on more than one occasion) low serum alkaline phosphatase (ALP) level in patients in the Townsville Health Service over the last 10 years.

**Investigator:** Dr Luke Lawton

**Department:** Emergency

**Title:** Tranexamic acid for the treatment of gastrointestinal bleeding: an international randomised, double blind placebo controlled trial.

**Funding Source:** 1. London School Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, 2. Queensland Emergency Medicine Research Foundation Grant

**Investigator:** Mrs Bronwyn Shirley

**Department:** Radiation Therapy

**Title:** Dosimetric assessment in Head and Neck cancer patients due to anatomical variation

**Investigator:** Dr Rachel Effenev

**Department:** Radiation Oncology

**Title:** Treatment of ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) of the breast in Queensland

**Investigator:** Dr Suresh Varma

**Department:** Townsville Cancer Centre

**Title:** A Phase 3 Placebo-Controlled Study of

Carboplatin/Paclitaxel With or Without Concurrent and Continuous Maintenance Veliparib in Subjects with Previously Untreated Stages III or IV High Grade Serous Epithelial Ovarian, Fallopian Tube, or Primary Peritoneal Cancer

**Funding Source:** Abbvie Pty Ltd

**Investigator:** Dr Gemma Robertson

**Department:** Microbiology

**Title:** Analysis of Human Parasites in North Queensland by Phenotypic and Genotypic Methods, Including a Novel Method for Detection of Multiple Parasites in a Single Sample by Droplet PCR

**Funding Source:** Pathology Queensland Study, Education and Research Trust Fund \$28,418.23

**Investigator:** Dr Georgina Hodges

**Department:** Townsville Cancer Centre

**Title:** A programme of development for older patients with acute myeloid leukaemia and high risk Myelodysplastic syndrome

**Funding Source:** ALLG

**Investigator:** Dr Madhavi Goonetilleke

**Department:** Radiation Oncology

**Title:** Quality indicators of neck and head cancers

**Investigator:** Dr Jane Royle

**Department:** Medical

**Title:** An investigation of two ciguatera fish poisoning outbreaks in Townsville (March and Oct 2015) associated toxins and clinical symptoms

**Investigator:** Christine Albantow

**Department:** Radiation Therapy

**Title:** A Comparative Study of 3D Printing Applied to the Production of Radiation Therapy Tissue Compensation Devices

**Funding Source:** Study Education Research Trust

Account \$20,000

**Investigator:** Dr Kunwarjit Sangla

**Department:** Diabetes and Endocrinology

**Title:** Teens Empowered to Actively Manage Type 1 (TEAM T1) Evaluation Study

**Funding Source:** Diabetes Australia - Victoria

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Department:** Emergency

**Title:** Status Epilepticus Australasian Registry for Children

**Funding Source:** Queensland Emergency Medicine Research Foundation \$69,991.85, Study Education Research Trust Account and other Queensland Emergency Medicine Research Foundation grants \$504, Emergency Dept - In Kind, Queensland Emergency Medicine Research Foundation - Capacity Building Grant \$1170, PI \$27,650

**Investigator:** Dr Carl O'Kane

**Department:** Emergency

**Title:** Impact of Physician Assistants on service delivery, patient care and clinician workloads in the Emergency Department of a regional Queensland public hospital

**Funding Source:** In Kind - James Cook University CMD, In Kind - TTH MSG, In Kind - TTH ED, In Kind - James Cook University

**Investigator:** Dr Vikas Srivastava

**Department:** Renal Medicine

**Title:** The Peritoneal Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study (PDDOPS)

**Funding Source:** National Health and Medical Research Council - \$300 at site setp up; \$720 per participant upon receipt of complete data

**Investigator:** Dr Suresh Varma

**Department:** Medical Oncology Radiation Oncology

**Title:** A randomised phase 2 trial of nivolumab and stereotactic ablative body radiotherapy in advanced non-small cell lung cancer progressing after first or second line chemotherapy

**Funding Source:** The University of Sydney

**Investigator:** Dr Suresh Varma

**Department:** Medical Oncology

**Title:** Protocol I3O-MC-JSBF- Randomized, Double-Blind, Phase 2 Study of Ramucirumab or Merestinib or Placebo plus Cisplatin and Gemcitabine as First-Line Treatment in Patients with Advanced or Metastatic Biliary Tract Cancer

**Funding Source:** Eli Lilly

**Investigator:** Prof Damon Eisen

**Department:** Infectious Diseases

**Title:** Prevention of recurrent urinary tract infections in post-menopausal women using a non-antibacterial approach; a randomised, double-blinded, crossover, placebo-controlled trial of aspirin

**Funding Source:** CU College of Medicine & Dentistry Honours Program Grant \$1000, Study Education Research Trust Account \$40,000, Prof Eisen James Cook University DBA \$2,808

**Investigator:** Dr Abhishek Joshi

**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** A Phase 3 Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of GS 5745 Combined with mFOLFOX6 as First Line Treatment in Patients with Advanced Gastric or Gastroesophageal Junction



Adenocarcinoma

**Funding Source:** GILEAD

**Investigator:** Miss Kylie Robbie

**Department:** Radiation Oncology

**Title:** A Pilot Study: Efficacy of StrataXRT use at the TCC for Radiation Dermatitis in Breast Cancer Patients

**Funding Source:** Townsville Cancer Centre - Time In-Kind

**Investigator:** Danielle Silvestro

**Department:** Pharmacy

**Title:** Rituximab use within The Townsville Hospital - A drug use evaluation assessing indications and hospital expenditure

**Investigator:** Dr Sabe Sabesan

**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** Efficacy of combining shared care and telehealth in managing oncology and haematology for rural patients

**Funding Source:** James Cook University \$479 for combined THHS and Mackay HHS

**Investigator:** A/Prof Clare Nourse

**Department:** Respiratory & Sleep Unit

**Title:** Queensland Paediatric Tuberculosis Clinical study and database

**Investigator:** Miss Sophie Mokrzecki

**Department:** Pharmacy

**Title:** Empirical Gentamicin prescribing beyond 48 hours at the Townsville Hospital

**Investigator:** Dr Jeremy Furyk

**Department:** Emergency

**Title:** Qualitative evaluation of a deferred consent process in the High Flow Nasal Cannula Treatment for Infants with Bronchiolitis - PARIS RCT multi-centre international

**Investigator:** Dr Suresh Varma

**Department:** Oncology - TCC

**Title:** Adjuvant chemotherapy with gemcitabine and cisplatin compared to observation after curative intent resection of cholangiocarcinoma and muscle invasive gallbladder carcinoma

**Funding Source:** AGITG

**Investigator:** Dr Alex Tan

**Department:** Radiation Oncology

**Title:** Prostate cancer outcomes registry - Queensland

**Funding Source:** Movember Foundation funding to QUT (administered through Monash University)

**Investigator:** Dr Stephanie Moore

**Department:** Emergency

**Title:** Does emergency physician sex influence analgesia provided for testicular pain?

**Investigator:** Dr Suresh Varma

**Department:** Oncology - TCC

**Title:** INTEGRATE II: A randomised phase III double-blind placebo-controlled study of regorafenib in refractory Advanced Oesophago-Gastric Cancer (AOGC)

**Funding Source:** AGITG

**Investigator:** Dr Denise Blake

**Department:** Emergency

**Title:** A comparison between Air and Nitrox gas for recreational scuba divers to 18m

**Investigator:** Dr Abhishek Joshi





**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** Global Treatment Patterns, Health Care Resource Utilization, and Survival Outcomes among Patients with Recurrent and/or Metastatic Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Head and Neck

**Funding Source:** Kantar Health Australia (as delegate of Merck Sharp & Dohme (Australia) Pty Ltd

**Investigator:** Prof Damon Eisen

**Department:** Infectious Diseases

**Title:** Mechanisms of aspirin therapy in sepsis

**Funding Source:** AITHM \$31,770

**Investigator:** Mr Gary Nolan

**Department:** Respiratory & Sleep Unit

**Title:** Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease in North Queensland: Functional and Biological Indicators of Disease Severity and Progression

**Funding Source:** Catherine Rush - Internal James Cook University research account \$12,000, THHS Respiratory & Sleep Unit - In Kind

**Investigator:** Ms Julie Randall

**Department:** Endoscopy

**Title:** Hookworm Therapy for Coeliac Disease: A phase Ib safety and dose-ranging clinical trial examining sustained gluten consumption in hookworm-naïve and hookworm-infected people with coeliac disease.

**Funding Source:** National Health and Medical Research Council

**Investigator:** Prof Damon Eisen

**Department:** Infectious Diseases

**Title:** Randomised Controlled Trial of Meropenem versus Piperacillin-Tazobactam for Definitive Treatment of Bloodstream Infections Due to Ceftriaxone Non-Susceptible Escherichia coli and Klebsiella spp.

**Funding Source:** University of Queensland

**Investigator:** Dr Valli Manickham

**Department:** Renal

**Title:** REDUcing the burden of dialysis Catheter ComplicaTIONS: a National approach

**Investigator:** Mrs Susan Montgomery

**Department:** Emergency

**Title:** Knowledge Translation in Australasian Paediatric Acute Care Settings: a multi-centred, cluster, randomised controlled trial comparing a tailored, theory informed Knowledge Translation intervention versus passive dissemination of a bronchiolitis guideline

**Funding Source:** Study, Education & Research Account \$7000

**Investigator:** Dr Georgina Hodges

**Department:** Oncology

**Title:** A phase 3, double-blind, placebocontrolled study of Quizartinib (AC220) administered in combination with induction and consolidation chemotherapy, and administered as maintenance therapy in subjects 18 to 75 years old with newly diagnosed FLT3-ITD (+) acute myeloid leukemia

**Funding Source:** Covance

The background features a dark blue hexagonal grid pattern. Within the hexagons are various white line-art icons representing scientific and technological concepts: an atom, an hourglass, a satellite dish, a sine wave, a coiled spring, a lightbulb, a computer monitor, a power plug, and a gear.

# SURGICAL SERVICE GROUP

KEY RESEARCHERS

## VASCULAR SURGICAL UNIT

### PROFESSOR JONATHAN GOLLEDGE



Professor Jonathan Golledge is Director of the Queensland Research Centre for Peripheral Vascular Disease (QRC-PVD) and its pre-clinical arm The Vascular Biology Unit (VBU) at the College of Medicine and Dentistry, James Cook University and The Townsville Hospital. His research commitment is illustrated by a large number of presentations at International and National meetings and publications in peer-reviewed journals, including a large number in top specialised journals.

Professor Golledge holds a conjoint position between the College of Medicine and Dentistry and Queensland Health, where he works as a vascular surgeon. In addition to providing a high quality clinical service his principal aspiration is to improve management of peripheral vascular diseases. The research impact of this is evidenced by external grant support from the NIH, National Health and Medical Research Council, Queensland Government, NHF and other bodies. Of note in 2010 Professor Golledge led a successful bid to establish a National Health and Medical Research Council funded centre of research excellence for Peripheral Vascular Disease.

#### Reducing the burden of peripheral vascular disease.

Professor Golledge is an NHMRC Practitioner Fellow and is working with a group of researcher to better understand the disease mechanisms of peripheral artery disease. The QRC-PVD'S discoveries from a number of National Health and Medical Research Council projects are being used to tailor treatments to prevent the progression of peripheral arterial disease. The QRC-PVD has successfully implemented the key steps for translating promising results from pre-clinical studies into human clinical trials. They

are currently undertaking 5 human clinical trials examining the efficacy of novel treatments for different peripheral vascular diseases. One of these trials is due to complete in 2017.

## Grants

### 2015

**Grant:** \$2,618,638 National Health and Medical Research Council CRE Grant (1000967)

**Grant Title:** National Centre of Research Excellence to Improve Management of Peripheral Arterial Disease

**Grant:** \$619,911.00 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1003707)

**Grant Title:** The role of the clotting cascade in aortic aneurysm and associated cardiovascular events

**Grant:** \$371,250.00 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1023368)

**Grant Title:** Fetal Endothelial Progenitors From The Placenta As A Source For Cell Therapy

**Grant:** \$523,726 National Health and Medical Research Council Practitioner Fellowship (1019921)

**Grant Title:** Mechanisms, biomarkers and new therapies for abdominal aortic aneurysm

**Grant:** \$733,176

**Grant Title:** Interaction Between Parathyroid Hormone, Sclerostin And The Wingless Pathway In Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

**Grant:** \$1,168,484 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1022752)

**Grant Title:** Telmisartan In The Management Of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm. (TEDY)

**Grant:** \$26,094 National Health and Medical Research Council Standard Equipment Grant

(9000273)

**Grant:** \$291,689 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1062671)

**Grant Title:** Does renal denervation promote atherosclerosis?

**Grant:** \$683,906 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1063476)

**Grant Title:** Assessment of the efficacy of a brief behaviour intervention designed to improve physical activity in patients with peripheral artery disease (BIP)

**Grant:** \$659,685 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1079369)

**Grant Title:** Upregulating kallistatin to limit abdominal aortic aneurysm.

**Grant:** \$675,418 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1079193)

**Grant Title:** The role of angiotensin converting enzyme 2 in limiting complications of aortic aneurysm. (ACE 2)

**Grant:** \$4,250.000 Queensland Government Office of Health and Medical Research

**Grant Title:** Queensland Senior Clinical Research Fellowship

**Grant:** \$107,960 The Townsville Hospital Private Practice Fund

**Grant Title:** Exercise Therapy and AAA



**Grant:** \$140,000 The Townsville Hospital Private Practice Fund

**Grant Title:** The detailed assessment of a new mechanism responsible for large artery atherosclerosis stroke

**Grant:** \$78,000 The Townsville Hospital Private Practice Fund

**Grant Title:** Investigating secondary prevention practices of vascular surgeons in the treatment of peripheral arterial disease

**Grant:** \$80000 Bellberry Foundation

**Grant Title:** Examining a pathway which protects the Aorta from weakening

**Grant:** \$100,000 The Townsville Hospital Private Practice Fund

**Grant Title:** Fenofibrate in the management of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (FAME) 2

## 2016

**Grant:** \$2,618,638 National Health and Medical Research Council CRE Grant (1000967)

**Grant Title:** National Centre of Research Excellence to Improve Management of Peripheral Arterial Disease

**Grant:** \$619,911.00 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1003707)

**Grant Title:** The role of the clotting cascade in aortic aneurysm and associated cardiovascular events..

**Grant:** \$371,250.00 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1023368)

**Grant Title:** Fetal Endothelial Progenitors From The Placenta As A Source For Cell Therapy

**Grant:** \$523,726 National Health and Medical Research Council Practitioner Fellowship (1019921).

**Grant Title:** Mechanisms, biomarkers and new therapies for abdominal aortic aneurysm

**Grant:** \$733,176 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1021416) 2012-2016.

**Grant Title:** Interaction Between Parathyroid Hormone, Sclerostin And The Wingless Pathway In Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm. Golledge J, Norman P, Rush C, Walker P.

**Grant:** \$1,168,484 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1022752) 2012-2017.

**Grant Title:** Telmisartan In The Management Of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm. (TEDY) Golledge J, Norman P, Walker P, Dalman R, Fitridge R.

**Grant:** \$26,094 National Health and Medical Research Council Standard Equipment Grant (9000273)

**Grant:** \$291,689 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1062671)

**Grant Title:** Does renal denervation promote atherosclerosis?

**Grant:** \$683,906 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1063476)

**Grant Title:** Assessment of the efficacy of a brief behaviour intervention designed to improve physical activity in patients with peripheral artery disease (BIP)

**Grant:** \$659,685 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1079369)

**Grant Title:** Upregulating kallistatin to limit abdominal aortic aneurysm. 2015-2017. Golledge J, Walker PJ, Bourke B, Reid C, Ma Jian-Xing.

**Grant:** \$675,418 National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grant (1079193)

**Grant Title:** The role of angiotensin converting



enzyme 2 in limiting complications of aortic aneurysm. (ACE 2)

**Grant:** \$4,250.000 Queensland Government Office of Health and Medical Research

**Grant Title:** Queensland Senior Clinical Research Fellowship

**Grant:** \$107,960 The Townsville Hospital Private Practice Fund

**Grant Title:** Exercise Therapy and AAA

**Grant:** \$140,000 The Townsville Hospital Private Practice Fund

**Grant Title:** The detailed assessment of a new mechanism responsible for large artery atherosclerosis stroke

**Grant:** \$78,000 The Townsville Hospital Private Practice Fund

**Grant Title:** Investigating secondary prevention practices of vascular surgeons in the treatment of peripheral arterial disease.

**Grant:** \$80.000 Bellberry Foundation

**Grant Title:** Examining a pathway which protects the Aorta from weakening

**Grant:** \$100,000 The Townsville Hospital Private Practice Fund

**Grant Title:** Fenofibrate in the management of Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (FAME) 2

## Publications

2015

Almeida OP, Yeap BB, Hankey GJ, Golledge

J, Flicker L. Association of depression with sexual and daily activities: A community study of ootogenarian men. *American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*. 2015;23(3)234-42.

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Almeida OP, Hankey GJ, Yeap BB, Golledge



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## 2015 RESEARCH STAFF

### Clinical:

Rene Jaeggi - Clinical Trials Manager

Stuart Best - Clinical Research Fellow

Michael Bourke – Clinical Research Fellow

David Szanto – Clinical Research Worker (p/t)

Lisan Yip - Research Worker

Grace Nakhil - Research Worker (p/t)

Leonie Jones - Senior Research Worker (p/t)

Glenys Standley - Research Worker (p/t)

Jenna Pinchbeck - Senior Research Worker

Georgina Anderson - Research Worker

Alexandra Golledge - Senior Research Worker (p/t)



### Pre-Clinical:

Joe Moxon – Senior Research Fellow  
Corey Moran - Senior Research Fellow  
Erik Biro – Senior Research Fellow  
Smriti Krishna – Senior Research Fellow  
Susan Morton - Senior Research Worker  
Sharon Lazzaroni - Senior Research Worker  
Jaize (Bill) Li - Senior Research Worker  
Roby Jose – Senior Research Worker

### Support:

Cedric Hensman – Database Manager (p/t)  
Julie Amey - Administration

### Students

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Tammy Dougan  
Malindu Fernando  
Safraz Mohamed Omer  
James Phie  
Diana Thomas  
Vianne Nsengiyumva  
Vikram Iyer

## RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

The University of Queensland  
The University of Sydney  
Monash University  
The University of Western Australia  
The University of the Sunshine Coast  
Leiden University – The Netherlands  
The University of Technology Sydney  
Baker IDI  
Australian Institute of Tropical Health and Medicine (AITHM)  
Stanford University - USA

## 2016 RESEARCH STAFF

### Clinical:

Rene Jaeggi - Clinical Trials Manager  
Stuart Best - Clinical Research Fellow  
Michael Bourke – Clinical Research Fellow  
Lisan Yip - Research Worker  
Leonie Jones - Senior Research Worker (p/t)  
Glenys Standley - Research Worker (p/t)  
Jenna Pinchbeck - Senior Research Worker  
Georgina Anderson - Research Worker  
Cindy Matthews – Research Worker  
Alexandra Golledge - Senior Research Worker (p/t)

### Pre-clinical:

Joe Moxon – Senior Research Fellow

Corey Moran - Senior Research Fellow

Erik Biroš – Senior Research Fellow

Smriti Krishna – Senior Research Fellow

Susan Morton - Senior Research Worker

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Jaize (Bill) Li - Senior Research Worker

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### Students:

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Diana Thomas

James Phie

Vianne Nsengiyumva

Brittany Dewdney

Evan Matthews

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Australian Institute of Tropical Health and  
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Stanford University - USA



## RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

The University of Queensland

The University of Sydney

Monash University

The University of Western Australia

The University of the Sunshine Coast

Leiden University – The Netherlands

The University of Technology Sydney

Baker IDI

## COLORECTAL SURGERY

### PROFESSOR YIK-HONG HO



Prof Yik-Hong Ho is a Specialist Colorectal Surgeon and Professor and Head of Surgery, James Cook University. Prof Ho is the World President of the International College of Surgeons (ICS, headquartered in Chicago USA) from 2015 - 2016. He holds an International Fellowship of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS) and is a member of the International Society of University Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ISUCRS). He is also a member of the Colorectal Surgical Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSSANZ). Prof Ho has widely published in many international peer-reviewed journals on his speciality of colon and rectal cancer surgery. He is the Chairman of the Editorial Board of the International journal "Techniques in Coloproctology", Associate Editor of "International Surgery" and is on many other journal editorial boards.

#### **Publications**

Porrett LJ, Porrett JK, Ho Y-Y. Documented complications of stapled haemorrhoidectomy: a systemic review. *International Surgery* 2015; 100: 44-57.

Bartlett L, Sloots K, Novak M, Ho Y-H. Supplementary home biofeedback improves quality of life in younger patients with faecal incontinence *Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology* 2015; 49: 419-28

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Kwee MM, Ho Y-H, Rozen WM. The prone position during surgery and its complications: a systematic review and evidence-based guidelines. *International Surgery* 2015; 100: 292-303.

Schulze B, Ho Y-H. Management of complex



Ms Chloe McKenna, Year 6 Medical Student, 2016

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Kwee M, Ho Y-H, Rozen W. The Prone Position During Surgery and its Complications: A Systematic Review and Evidence-Based Guidelines. International Surgery 2015, 100: 292-303.

### PhD Student – Submission of PhD Thesis in May 2016

Dr Art Hiranyakas, M.D., FACS., FASCRS., FRCST., FSCRST., FRCFPT., FICS.

## RESEARCH STAFF

Ms Lynne Bartlett DrPH, College of Public Health, Medical and Veterinary Sciences, James Cook University, Townsville

A/Prof Simone Harrison BSc., MPHTM, FACTM, PhD, Director/Team Leader & Principal Research Fellow, James Cook University SKIN CANCER RESEARCH UNIT

Division of Tropical Health and Medicine (DTHM), College of Public Health, Medical & Veterinary Sciences, James Cook University, Townsville Qld 4811, Australia

### Students:

#### Honours

Ms Elzerie deJager, Year 6 Medical Student, 2016

## RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

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American College of Surgeons, Thailand Chapter.

International College of Surgeons, Chicago, USA.

Bangkok Phuket Colorectal Disease Institute.

Colorectal Surgery Clinic, Bangkok Hospital Headquarters.

Director, BDMS Group 6 Health Research Development Center.

## CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY

### Publications

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## SURGICAL SERVICE GROUP

### PUBLICATIONS

#### 2015

Almeida, O. P., Hankey, G. J., Yeap, B. B., Golledge, J., & Flicker, L. (2015). Depression as a risk factor for cognitive impairment in later life: The Health In Men cohort study. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry.*

Almeida, O. P., Hankey, G. J., Yeap, B. B., Golledge, J., Norman, P. E., & Flicker, L. (2015). Depression, Frailty, and All-Cause Mortality: A Cohort Study of Men Older than 75 Years. *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*, 16(4).

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Harding, S. A., Van Gaal, W. J., Schrale, R., Gunasekara, A., Amerena, J., Mussap, C. J., & Aylward, P. E. (2015). Practical experience with ticagrelor: An Australian and New Zealand perspective. *Current Medical Research and Opinion*.  
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Li, J., Krishna, S. M., & Golledge, J. (2016). The potential role of kallistatin in the development of abdominal aortic aneurysm. *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*.

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with abdominal aortic aneurysm diagnosis, size or growth. *Atherosclerosis*, 251, 19-24.

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Oates, M., Saxena, P., Cosic, F., & Yadav, S. (2016). Bilateral gluteal compartment syndrome after thoracic surgery: an unusual complication. *ANZ Journal of Surgery*, 86(11), 952-953.

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Saxena, P., Smail, H., Yong, M. S., & Fitzgerald, M. (2016). Pleural drain management: time to develop standard protocols? *ANZ Journal of Surgery*, 86(11), 953-954.

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## SURGICAL SERVICE GROUP

## RGO APPROVED RESEARCH

**2015**

**Investigator:** Dr Denise Blake

**Department:** Hyperbaric Medicine

**Title:** An assessment of the flow rate of the Baxter Elastomeric Large Volume (LV 10) Infusor pump under hyperbaric conditions

**Investigator:** Dr Siva Senthuran

**Department:** ICU

**Title:** Prehabilitation of frail patients undergoing elective colorectal surgery - a feasibility pilot study

**Funding Source:** Private Practice Research Education Trust Fund \$40,000 Balance from previous ICU study

**Investigator:** Dr Matthew Wilkinson

**Department:** Orthopaedics

**Title:** A prospective, multi-centre randomised comparative study of implant fit, clinical outcomes and satisfaction with the Stryker Accolade II® Hip Stem compared to the Corail Hip Stem

**Funding Source:** Stryker Australia Pty Ltd

**Investigator:** Laltaksh Wangoo (James Cook University)

**Department:** Surgical Services

**Title:** Compliance and Surgical Team Perceptions of World Health Organisation Surgical Safety Checklist

**Funding Source:** James Cook University Funded

**Investigator:** Dr Claire Furyk

**Department:** ICU

**Title:** A pilot study assessing the Cook Staged Extubation Set for endotracheal tube insertion in simulated difficult airway in patients undergoing routine intubation for elective surgery.

**Investigator:** Dr Richard Gartrell

**Department:** General Surgery

**Title:** Influence of mechanical bowel preparation on survival in colorectal malignancy

**Investigator:** Dr Ramesh Velu

**Department:** Surgical Services

**Title:** BIOTRONIK - A prospective, international, multi-centre, post-market allcomers registry

**Funding Source:** Biotronik Australia Pty Ltd

**Investigator:** Dr Raibhan Yadav

**Department:** Cardiology

**Title:** Phase 3 Multi-Center, Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel Group Evaluation of the Efficacy. SPIRE 1-1

**Funding Source:** Julius Clinical

**Investigator:** Dr Raibhan Yadav

**Department:** Cardiology

**Title:** Phase 3 Multi-Center, Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel Group Evaluation of the Efficacy. SPIRE 2-1

**Funding Source:** Julius Clinical

**Investigator:** Dr Matthew Oates

**Department:** Surgical Services

**Title:** Spectrum of PET positive benign thoracic lesions in a series of patients undergoing surgical intervention in a North Queensland centre

**Investigator:** Dr Matthew Oates

**Department:** Surgical Services

**Title:** Prevalence of sternal wounds in North Queensland post cardiac surgery postoperatively: A review of demographics morbidity and mortality

**Investigator:** Miss Elzerie de Jager

**Department:** Surgical Services

**Title:** The effects of the long term implementation the World Health Organisation Surgical Safety Checklist

**Funding Source:** James Cook University Honours Project Funding

**Investigator:** Cindy Woods (James Cook University Cairns)

**Department:** Surgical Services

**Title:** Interns' preparedness for hospital practice

## 2016

**Investigator:** Dr Siva Senthuran

**Department:** ICU

**Title:** Clinical Management Practices Regarding Acute Severe and Life-Threatening Asthma in the Intensive Care Unit: A Clinical Audit of Current Practices in Queensland and Northern Territory

Hospitals

**Investigator:** Dr Matthew Wilkinson

**Department:** Orthopaedic / Townsville Cancer Centre Stem Cell Laboratory

**Title:** Assessment of the Viability of an in vitro Chondrocyte line supported by Adenosine, Lignocaine and Magnesium (ALM)

**Funding Source:** THHS Research & Education Trust Fund - \$14,184

**Investigator:** Mrs Jan Cobb

**Department:** Surgical Nursing

**Title:** Management of the open abdomen

**Investigator:** Dr Stephanie Moore

**Department:** Otorhinolaryngology

**Title:** A multi-centered retrospective audit comparing the outcomes of treatment with hyperbaric oxygen therapy and steroids versus steroids only in the treatment of acute sensorineural hearing loss

**Investigator:** Dr James Lonie

**Department:** Surgery

**Title:** Outcomes of emergency appendicectomy in Australia - a multi-centre prospective study  
**Funding Source:** Not funded

**Investigator:** Dr Melita Trout

**Department:** ICU

**Title:** Evaluating the educational environment in Queensland Intensive Care Units using the Postgraduate Hospital Educational Environment Measure

**Funding Source:** James Cook University \$900/yr sought

**Investigator:** Dr Melita Trout

**Department:** ICU

**Title:** National study of family experiences of

organ and tissue donation

**Funding Source:** Organ & Tissue Authority

**Investigator:** Mrs Maria Shilova

**Department:** Dept of Surgery - Medical Imaging

**Title:** Angiosomes of the foot and their anatomical variation

**Investigator:** Dr Ryan Schrale

**Department:** Cardiology

**Title:** Administration of TicagRElor in pAtients with ST elevation myocardial infarction treated with pharmacological Thrombolysis (TREAT Trial)

**Funding Source:** SAHMRI

**Investigator:** Ms Diana Freer

**Department:** Neurosurgery / Pharmacy

**Title:** A Retrospective Review of the Pharmacological Management of Patients with Subarachnoid Haemorrhage Due to Ruptured Aneurysm in an Australian Tertiary Referral Hospital: Identification of Potential Influences on Nimodipine Efficacy.

**Investigator:** Dr Siva Senthuran

**Department:** ICU

**Title:** Improving outcomes from high-risk surgery: patient-centred advanced care planning

**Funding Source:** THHS Research Trust Fund - \$20,000

**Investigator:** Dr Ryan Schrale

**Department:** Cardiology

**Title:** A phase III, double-blind, randomized placebo—controlled study to evaluate the effects of dalcetrapib on cardiovascular (CV) risk in a genetically defined population with a recent Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS): The dal-GenE trial

**Funding Source:** Medpace Australia Pty Ltd

**Investigator:** Mrs Sonja Brennan

**Department:** Medical Imaging

**Title:** The renal parenchyma - Evaluation of a novel ultrasound measurement to assess fetal renal development

**Funding Source:** James Cook University Graduate Research school \$500/yr, Study Education Research Trust Account \$20,000 THHS Medical Imaging Dept - In Kind Support

**Investigator:** Ms Kathryn Sloots

**Department:** Clinical Measurements Unit

**Title:** Quality of Life outcome comparison examining Sacral Nerve Stimulation and Biofeedback as management of Faecal Incontinence

**Funding Source:** James Cook University - \$500

**Investigator:** Dr Denise Blake

**Department:** Hyperbaric Unit, Emergency Department

**Title:** First responder and pre-hospital oxygen treatment of decompression sickness

**Funding Source:** Sought Emergency Medicine Foundation Grant \$29,926

**Investigator:** Dr Laurence Marshman

**Department:** Gerontology/Neurosurgery

**Title:** Measurement of serum Tau-tubulin-kinase-1 (TTBK1) and Tau protein in patients referred to The Townsville Hospital & Health Service Gerontology service with a presumptive diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia

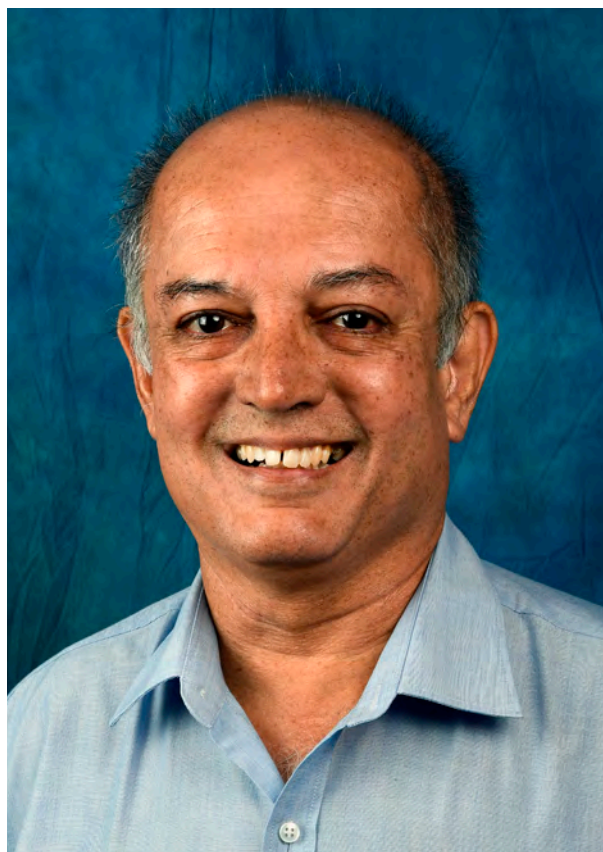
**Funding Source:** Study Education Research Trust Account funding



The background features a dark blue hexagonal grid pattern. Within the hexagons are various white line-art icons representing scientific and technological concepts: an atom, an hourglass, a satellite dish, a sine wave, a coiled spring, a lightbulb, a test tube, a computer monitor, a power plug, and a gear.

# QUEENSLAND PATHOLOGY AT THHS

KEY RESEARCHERS



Dr Robert Norton, is the Director of Microbiology and Pathology, Townsville Hospital. He has an active portfolio of research projects relating to melioidosis, rheumatic fever, invasive group A streptococcal disease and Q-fever. Dr Norton is part of the Infectious Diseases and Immunopathogenesis Research Group which includes clinicians and academic staff of James Cook University.

### Publications

#### 2015

Alex R. Hoffmaster, David AuCoin, Prasith Baccam, Henry C. Baggett, Rob Baird, Saithip Bhengsri, David D. Blaney, Paul J. Brett, Timothy J.G. Brooks, Katherine A. Brown, Narisara Chantratita, Allen C. Cheng, David A.B. Dance, Saskia Decuypere, Dawn Defenbaugh, Jay E. Gee, Raymond Houghton, Possawat Jorakate, Ganjana Lertmemongkolchai, Direk Limmathurotsakul, Toby L. Merlin, Chiranjay Mukhopadhyay, Robert Norton, Sharon J. Peacock, Dionne B. Rolim, Andrew J. Simpson, Ivo Steinmetz, Robyn A. Stoddard, Martha M. Stokes, David Sue, Apichai Tuanyok, Toni Whistler, Vanaporn Wuthiekanun, Henry T. Walker. Melioidosis Diagnostic Workshop, 2013. *Emerging Infectious Diseases* 2015;21, 2.

Bridson T, Matthiesson A, Owens L, Govan B, Norton R, Ketheesan N. Diabetes: a contributor to tuberculosis in tropical Australia. *Am J Trop Med Hyg.* 2015 Jun 8. pii: 15-0264.

Hsu C, Singh D, Kwan G, Deuble M, Korah I, Norton R. Neuromelioidosis: craniospinal MRI findings in *Burkholderia pseudomallei* infection. *J NeuroImaging* Hsu CC, Singh D, Kwan G, Deuble M, Aquilina C, Korah I, Norton R. *J Neuroimaging.* 2015 Aug 10. doi: 10.1111/jon.12282.



Robertson G, Sorenson A, Govan B, Ketheesan N, Houghton R, Chen H, AuCoin D, Dillon M, Norton R. Rapid diagnostics for Melioidosis. A comparative study of a novel lateral flow antigen detection assay. *J Med Microbiol.* 2015 Jun 7. pii: jmm.o.000098. doi: 10.1099/jmm.o.000098.

Ebner J, Koehler AV, Robertson G, Bradbury RS, Haydon SR, Stevens MA, Norton R, Joachim A, Gasser RB. Genetic analysis of *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium* from people in Northern Australia using PCR-based tools *Infect Genet Evol.* 2015 Aug 29. pii: S1567-1348(15)00357-3. doi: 10.1016/j.meegid.2015.08.034.

## 2016

Andrew Henderson, Gabriel See, Tom J O'Donohoe, Chaw Aye, Fiona Parsonson, Cathy Engler, Robert Norton. Misidentification of *Brucella suis* as *Ochrobactrum anthropi* in a patient with a chronic septic arthritis of a native knee joint. *Clin Micro Newsletters* 2016.

Aye C, Henderson A, Yu H, Norton R. Cryptococcosis – The Impact of Delay to Diagnosis. *Clin Microbiol Infect.* 2016 May 9. pii: S1198-743X(16)30119-7. doi: 10.1016/j.cmi.2016.04.022.

Johnson SL, Bishop-Lilly KA, Ladner JT, Daligault HE, Davenport KW, Jaissle J, Frey KG, Koroleva GI, Bruce DC, Coyne SR, Broomall SM, Ketheesan N, Mayo M, Hoffmaster A, Elrod MG, Wuthiekanun V, Tuanyok A, Norton R, Currie BJ, Wagner DM, Keim P, Li PE, Teshima H, Gibbons HS, Palacios GF, Rosenzweig CN, Redden CL, Xu Y, Minogue TD, Chain PS. Complete Genome Sequences for 59 *Burkholderia* Isolates, Both Pathogenic and Near Neighbor. *Genome Announc.* 2016 Apr 21;4(2). pii: e00313-16. doi: 10.1128/genomeA.00313-16.

Bridson, T, Govan B, Ketheesan N, Norton, R. Overrepresentation of Diabetes in Soft Tissue

Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Infections.. *Am J Trop Med Hyg.* 2016 Sep 7;95(3):528-30. doi: 10.4269/ajtmh.16-0104.

Anson V, Koehler A, Spratt D, Norton R, Warren S, McEwan B, Urkude R, Murthy S, Robertson T, McCallum N, Parsonson F, Bradbury R, Gasser R. More parasitic myositis cases in humans in Australia, and the definition of genetic markers for the causative agents as a basis for molecular diagnosis. *Infect Genet Evol.* 2016 Jun 14;44:69-75. doi: 10.1016/j.meegid.2016.06.026.

Primary amoebic meningoencephalitis in North Queensland: the paediatric experience. Nicholls CL, Parsonson F, Gray LE, Heyer A, Donohue S, Wiseman G, Norton R. *Med J Aust.* 2016 Oct 3;205(7):325-8.

Robertson G, Koehler A, Watts M, Norton R, Gasser R, Bradbury R. Application of real-time PCR for the diagnosis of strongyloidiasis in North Queensland. *Pathology.* 2016 Feb;48 Suppl 1:S57-S58. doi: 10.1016/j.pathol.2015.12.142.

Gowda H, Norton R, White A, Kandasamy Y. Late Onset Neonatal Sepsis - A 10 Year Review from North Queensland, Australia., *Pediatr Infect Dis J.* 2017 Feb 1. doi: 10.1097/INF.0000000000001568.

## RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

James Cook University

Centre for Disease Control Atlanta

University of Melbourne

## QUEENSLAND PATHOLOGY

## RGO APPROVED RESEARCH

**2016**

**Investigator:** Dr Fiona Parsonson

**Title:** Epidemiology of strongyloidiasis in Queensland 2003-2015

**Investigator:** Dr Fiona Parsonson

**Title:** Compliance with VRE screening protocols at The Townsville Hospital and cost analysis of VRE screening procedures, including a model for the reduction of VRE transmission associated with the introduction of a rapid test in a high risk ward.



The background features a dark blue hexagonal grid pattern. Within the hexagons are various white line-art icons representing scientific and technological concepts: an atom, an hourglass, a satellite dish, a sine wave, a lightbulb, a computer monitor, a gear, a plug, a beaker, and a coil. 

# RESEARCH SNAPSHOT

RESEARCHERS OF THE FUTURE

## RESEARCH SNAPSHOT

### DEANNE AUGUST



Dee August has established a landmark multi-national study to investigate risk factors for skin injuries in premature and post-term babies while working as a neonatal clinical nurse. As the principal researcher, this study will be the basis for Dee's PhD that she is undertaking at James Cook University. The study will involve the neonatal population and the adverse skin events that follow necessary care procedures such as drips, nasal oxygen prongs and other life-saving interventions.

The multi-site investigation involving 450 babies in The Townsville Hospital's neonatology unit and neonatology units in Dunedin and Brisbane is the first of its kind. "There are no reliable or proven predictive risk factors for skin injuries in babies who are undergoing specialised neonatal care," Dee said.

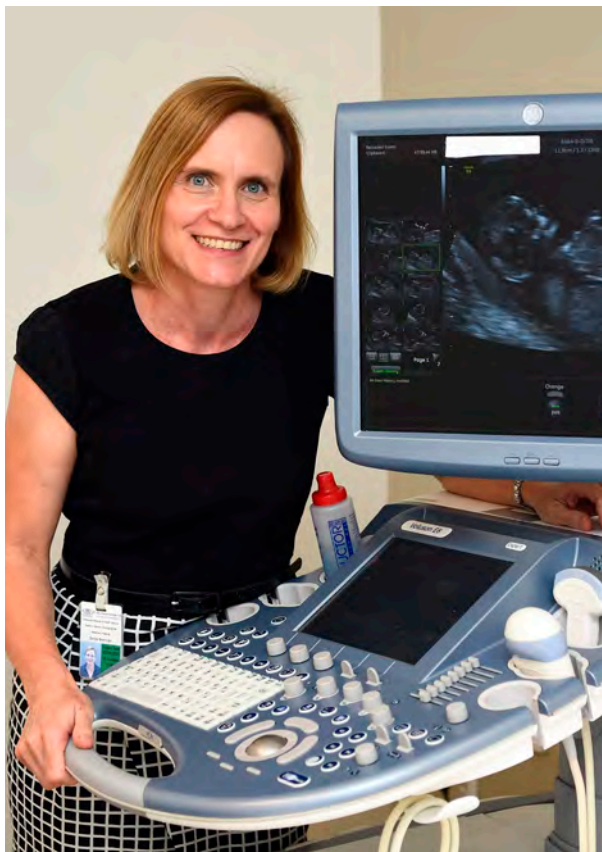
Mums with children in the neonatal units are very pleased to have their babies involved in the study. One the mothers of a baby born at 24 weeks' gestation has said, "It's hard to watch babies go through some of their treatments; I know Dee's study will help them."

Dee said skin injuries were a frequent occurrence in neonates. "Part of the problem has been that the current systems used to identify risks for skin injuries have been built around adults who have healthy, fat tissue or thinner tissue with known risk factors." Neonatologist Dr Yoga Kandasamy said he was thrilled to be part of such a ground-breaking study. "Our current thinking in this area is based on adult injuries; we know babies are very different so I'm very excited about the potential for this study to inform future neonatal care globally."

The study is being funded by the Townsville Hospital and Health Service, Mona Kendall Nursing Development Research Fund, Australian College of Neonatal Nurses, and James Cook University.

## RESEARCH SNAPSHOT

### SONJA BRENNAN



Consultant sonographer Sonja Brennan will analyse kidney development in utero to see what effects foetal growth may have on these organs in later life. Sonia was drawn to the research through her special interest in foetal and neonatal ultrasound and is undertaking her PhD at James Cook University in this field. Her research is being supported by SERTA grants from THHS.

“I currently do a lot of work with babies both in utero and with pre-term babies after birth,” she said. “My research will look at the effects of both restricted and excessive foetal growth in utero on babies’ kidneys after birth. This will be compared to the kidney development of a baby who has had normal growth in the womb to see where the risks and anomalies are.”

Sonja said her research would involve around 60 babies and help find ways to minimise the chances of abnormal kidney development.

“Abnormal kidney growth can lead to hypertension (high blood pressure) and chronic kidney disease in adulthood. The research I’ll be undertaking will look at kidney development in-utero and I’m hoping that my findings will have an impact on lifelong kidney health,” she said.





Dee and Sonja are two of the THHS staff who are currently doing higher degrees by research at James Cook University (JCU). Our staff receives great support from the JCU Cohort Doctoral Studies program. This program is designed to support and nurture doctoral students through their studies by providing workshops, seminars, coursework, peer learning facilitation and writing workshops in a cohort model where students commence and progress through their program as a group. Students benefit from the help of an experienced academic mentor, peer support and greater contact with academic staff generally.

Among the recent Cohort students are; paediatricians, oncologists, psychologists, nutritionists, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, a pain specialist, radiation therapist, pharmacists, speech therapist and paramedics.

This very successful program is enriching the research experience of our hospital staff as they deal with the challenges of doctoral studies.



# INDIGENOUS HEALTH SERVICE GROUP

RESEARCH

## INDIGENOUS HEALTH SERVICE GROUP

### RGO APPROVED RESEARCH

2016

**Investigator:** Dr Timothy O'Rourke

**Department:** Indigenous

**Title:** Understanding the importance of architectural design for improving Indigenous experiences of health care

**Funding Source:** Australian Research Council

**Investigator:** Ms Amanda Wood

**Department:** Joyce Palmer Health Service

**Title:** Understanding the benefits of surgery for the treatment of otitis media for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in remote communities in Queensland.

**Funding Source:** Deadly Ears Program

**Investigator:** Prof Graeme Maguire

**Department:** Joyce Palmer Health Service

**Title:** Better Indigenous Risk stratification for Cardiac Health

**Funding Source:** Australian Catholic University  
Grant \$150,000/yr for first year



# MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE GROUP

RESEARCH

## 2015

Balaratnasingam, S., Anderson, L., Janca, A., & Lee, J. (2015). Towards culturally appropriate assessment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social and emotional well-being. *Australasian psychiatry : bulletin of Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists*, 23(6), 626-629.

Chen, K. Y., Evans, R., & Larkins, S. (2016). Why are hospital doctors not referring to Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry? - a systematic review. *BMC Psychiatry*, 16(1).

**Department:** Child & Youth Mental Health Service;  
Child and Young Community Health Service

**Title:** An investigation of a collaborative interagency service model of an intensive day program for mothers with a perinatal mental illness and their infant children under 12 months of age

**Funding Source:** Qld Centre for Perinatal and Infant Mental Health (QCPIMH)

## RGO APPROVED RESEARCH

**Investigator:** Corianne Richardson

**Department:** Mental Health

**Title:** Relapse Prevention Enabling Continuous Assessment & Early Intervention on Smartphone

**Funding Source:** Private Practice Trust Fund Grant & University of Southern Qld Grant

**Investigator:** Ms Sonia Macdonald

**Department:** Four adult mental health in-patient units

**Title:** What are the perceptions and experiences of stigma from nurses working in adult mental health inpatient units and the implications for education?

**Investigator:** Ms Susan Hunt

**Department:** Mental Health Service

**Title:** Beyond Policy: Participation Through the Lens of Public Sector Mental Health Managers

**Investigator:** Ms Marianne Bonassi

**Department:** MHSB - occupational therapists

**Title:** Professional identity of Australian occupational therapists working in a mental health regional setting

**Funding Source:** Central Queensland University - \$3,500 - no funding for THHS site

**Investigator:** Ms Kathryn Eadie

**Department:** Evolve Therapeutic Service

**Title:** Validity testing of a measure used for children and young people in out-of-home care with complex mental health issues.

# RURAL HOSPITALS SERVICE GROUP

RESEARCH

## RURAL HOSPITALS SERVICE GROUP

### PUBLICATIONS

2015

Poulsen, K. A., Millen, C. M., Lakshman, U. I., Buttner, P. G., & Roberts, L. J. (2015). Satisfaction with rural rheumatology telemedicine service. *International Journal of Rheumatic Diseases*, 18(3), 304-314.

2016

Starmer, G., & Schrale, R. (2016). Heart of the tropics: Delivering evidence-based care for acute coronary syndromes in northern Australia. *Rural and Remote Health*, 16(4).



## RURAL HOSPITALS SERVICE GROUP

### RGO APPROVED RESEARCH

2015

**Investigator:** Dr Michael Clements

**Department:** Rural Hospital Service Group

**Title:** Fatigue Risk Assessment for three rural hospitals in QLD

2016

**Investigator:** Peter Snelling

**Department:** Paediatrics

**Title:** PRE-scripted debriefing for Paediatric simulation Associated with Resuscitation Education

**Investigator:** A/Prof Sabe Sabesan, Mr Tarsh Pandit

**Department:** Rural Hospitals Service Group

**Title:** Managing medical emergencies in rural

areas: North Queensland: what are the training needs?

**Funding Source:** James Cook University \$635 for duration of project (no funds being paid to THHS))

**Investigator:** Ms Amanda Ostrenski

**Department:** Maternity

**Title:** Evaluating organizational cultural Competence in Maternity Care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women

**Funding Source:** Australian Health Minister's Advisory Council \$50,000

**Investigator:** Mrs Nicole Whiteing

**Department:** Rural/Nursing

**Title:** The practice of Registered Nurses in rural and remote areas of Australia: Case study researchite

**Funding Source:** \$6000 Central Queensland University for PhD



