



Auckland District Health Board

Research

Annual Report 2015



AUCKLAND
DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD
Te Toka Tumai

WELCOME

Having an excellent programme of research distinguishes great hospitals. Auckland District Health Board – ADHB - is the largest tertiary care centre and the largest clinical research facility in New Zealand. Our research portfolio comprises over 1300 projects and our doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and scientists engage in research that attracts funding, participation and peer esteem both from New Zealand and internationally.

ADHB's hospitals are teaching hospitals and ADHB partners with the University of Auckland in an Academic Health Alliance. Its goals, to deliver research-informed healthcare alongside clinical teaching and training, will fast-track translation of research findings from "bench to bedside", and onwards to communities and families.

ADHB provides a first-class setting for research across the health spectrum. We serve a diverse population (with rapidly expanding migrant population) of over 478,000 as the local provider, and over 1.3 million as regional provider of specialist health services. Acute services are provided together under one roof so researchers can access participants under the care of skilled multidisciplinary teams of specialists with specialist equipment. ADHB's accredited laboratory facility, LabPlus, provides a range of on-site laboratory services for clinical research, including diagnostic and genetic analysis, storage, disposal and shipping to central laboratories worldwide.

Research at ADHB pays for itself – over 100 staff and a multitude of medical and laboratory procedures for research are paid for from external sponsorship, both commercial and charitable. The A+ Trust provides robust management of research monies, and interest earned on Trust funds is fed back into the organisation as a contestable research grants programme worth a half million dollars annually.

ADHB is committed to preserving our status as a centre of clinical excellence by fostering our involvement in research activity, critiquing health care approaches and investigating new initiatives. We celebrate our contribution to health through research with our annual ADHB Research Excellence Award, Young Investigator Award, Best Research Posters and now the best summer students reports. Within the diversity, integral to all ADHB research is a desire by our committed staff to build a strong evidence base for our clinical, community and policy work, and ultimately, the good health and well-being of our patients.

[Welcome to the ADHB Annual Research Report for 2015.](#)

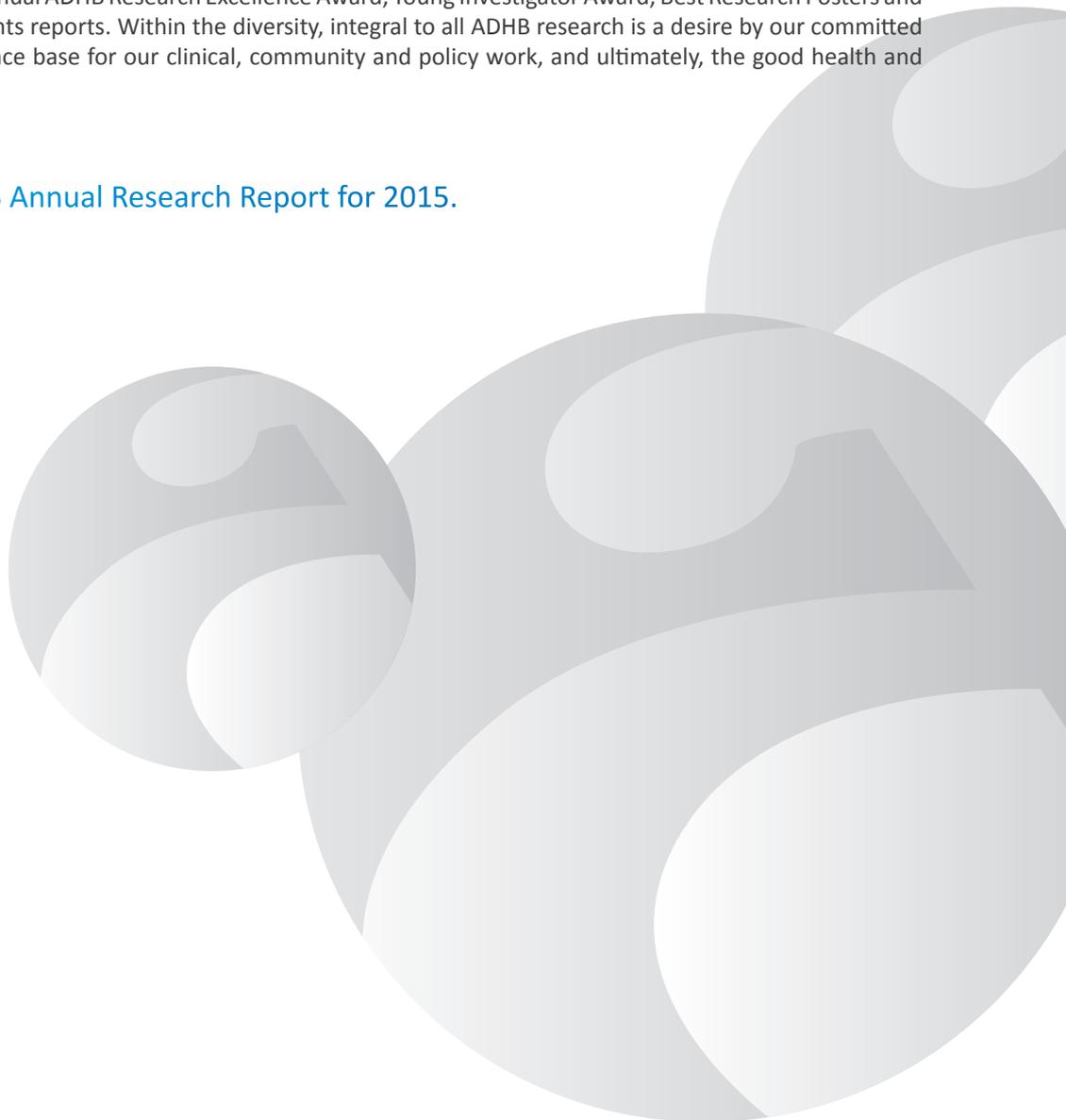


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INTRODUCTION FROM THE CLINICAL ADVISOR FOR RESEARCH

Research capability is one of the key attributes of a high-performing health service, bringing earlier access to new treatments, leading a culture of enquiry and learning, and attracting and helping retain key staff. This report highlights the ADHB's recent research achievements which cover an extensive range of services and many individuals. However, although we are a major player in the New Zealand health research scene we have not fully realized our opportunities to grow research. The strategic vision we set in 2015 was to deliver the largest and highest quality clinical research portfolio in New Zealand. This will be recognised in the volume and quality of our publication output, building our competitive grant and commercial funding, the participation and training of more clinical staff in research and the translation of research results into health care practice.

Among the strengths identified from the strategy review were the sound research infrastructure already in place including governance and financial systems, clinical diversity and volumes, clinical and discharge coding databases, strong laboratory and other support services, links with many collaborative groups and commercial sponsors, and growing links with the University of Auckland. However we also recognise weaknesses such as a low number of major grants, lack of research performance and output tracking, limited interest from clinicians in some services, and a lack of organisational and health system incentives for research. Development in many of these areas is planned to further strengthen our research platform.

Auckland DHB's scientific review board, the Research Review Committee (RRC), now in its second decade of operation has a mature process informed by the broad range of discipline experts who have sat around the committee table over the years - I warmly thank 2015 retiring members Helen Pilmore, Jane Alsweiler and Elizabeth Broadbent for their valuable contributions. Our Maori Advisor for Research, Dr Helen Wihongi, provides Maori representation and guidance that has enabled a number of key initiatives including the establishment of the Auckland Regional Tissue Bank. The Auckland DHB Research Office maintains a database of over 7000 projects and facilitates the approval of more than 300 new studies annually.

Auckland DHB research continues to operate as cost-neutral to the organisation by attracting significant funding from many sources, both commercial and publically-funded. Our dedicated charitable trusts, the A+ Trust, the Green Lane Research and Education Fund and the Starship Foundation together invested more than \$2 million into research that will make a difference for our patients, both child and adult. The inaugural Auckland Academic Health Alliance Collaboration grant round in 2015 provided additional momentum for our strategic partnership with the University of Auckland to seed new connections between the researchers of our respective organisations. Five collaborative research projects to a total of \$400,000 were approved for funding and commitment from both sides has seen the scheme continued in 2016.

Even with our advantages there remains an unmet need for funding to support important Auckland DHB research. As the largest clinical research provider in New Zealand, Auckland DHB needs to seize the opportunity offered by better funding and support from key ministries. The recent announcement of a \$97 million funding boost to the Health Research Council over the coming four years, the new partnership for Precision Driven Health, support for translational cancer research from the Li Family Trust and the just announced Starship Foundation Research Investment for child health research will expand both broad and niche research opportunities. Auckland DHB clinician-researchers should rise to the challenge to bid into these competitive rounds. Nearly everything we do would benefit from further scientific enquiry – be it existing clinical treatment choices, models of care delivery, health disparities, end-of-life care, or health literacy, to name but a few. Examine the options, find the best match for your ideas and the funders' scope and priorities and maximise your chances of funding success.

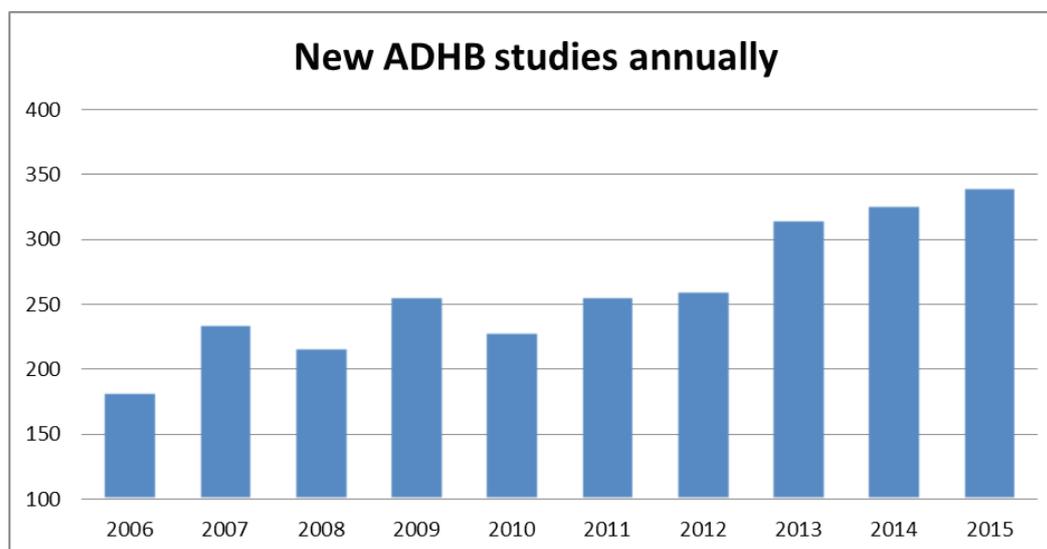
Aim High - Angamua!

Colin McArthur

Clinical Advisor for Research, Chair of Research Review Committee

A WORD FROM THE AUCKLAND DHB RESEARCH OFFICE

This document is a snapshot of the research activities that commenced at Auckland District Health Board in the year 2015. During this period 341 new study protocols were reviewed, approved and initiated. Nearly every Auckland DHB service or department was involved with research.



The upward trend in volume of new research activity annually, that has been observed since our counting began, continued in 2015. The number of commercial clinical trials approved has doubled since 2010 and our portion of annual Health Research Council funding has increased fourfold. Several hundred Auckland DHB staff have been trained in ICH-GCP, the international quality standard for the conduct of clinical research. Many more have made personal commitments to further hone their research skills and are enrolling in higher research degrees.

HIGHLIGHTS

The research driven by our investigators is diverse and exciting. Auckland DHB-led research has informed the world about new treatments and health technology. Here are just two examples...

Dr Ed Gane's (NZ Liver Transplant Unit) landmark Health Research Council funded study, for which he was awarded the prestigious Bevan Medal, was completed. It was the longest natural history study ever conducted in a community cohort with untreated chronic hepatitis B virus infection. A cohort of over 500 Maori from the Kawerau community originally identified as carrying the virus in 1984 were followed up 28 years later in 2012. A number of those followed up had gone on to develop liver cancer. One of the major findings was that the surface antigen of the hepatitis B virus is a better baseline predictor of long term hepatitis B related liver morbidity outcomes, included liver cancer, than the standard viral DNA level. This result will empower improved surveillance of people in New Zealand with chronic hepatitis B. Earlier identification of disease progression will lead to better outcomes, longer survival and reduce need for liver transplantation. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26957439>

Dr Barry Snow's (Neurology) collaboration with Australasian biotech firm Living Cell Technologies has established a research platform to test a novel and highly promising technology to enhance treatment options for patients who have Parkinson's Disease. The safety of the new technology, which involves injecting a gel-coated, porcine-derived capsule, NTCELL, into the human brain to augment new brain cell growth, has been shown to be safe to deliver for four patients treated at Auckland City Hospital. The technology has the potential to be used for multiple central nervous system indications. It is now in the next phase of testing at Auckland DHB. <http://www.parkinsons.org.nz/news/1-june-2015/press-release-living-cell-technologies-ntcell%C2%AE-clinical-study-parkinson%E2%80%99s-meets-end>

WHAT'S ON THE RADAR?



The Auckland Academic Health Alliance (AAHA) between Auckland DHB and the University of Auckland will be a significant driver of translational research. The potential for collaborations between the organisations to create research networks to bridge the barriers between “basic” science and clinical science was evidenced in the first AAHA funding round in 2015.

Also happening...

A network for Maori review of DHB research with our own Dr Helen Wihongi (Maori Advisor for Research) as a leader.

An AAHA-led joint Auckland DHB and University of Auckland Clinical Ethics Committee.

The establishment of the Auckland Regional Tissue Bank (read more later).

Huge investment by the Starship Foundation into children’s research in the pipeline.

Here are some of our outputs in 2015. Please read more and discover what Auckland DHB research is accomplishing.

Number of active research projects in 2015	1271
New projects commencing in 2015	341
Published research articles in 2015	530
Successful research grant applications involving ADHB in 2015	78
Value of research grants involving ADHB in 2015	>\$6.9 million



Mary-Anne Woodnorth

Auckland DHB Research Office



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Associate Professor Cathy Stinear - Clinical researcher

Trans-Tasman investment in ICU trials a huge success

In 1994, a small group of intensive care specialists set up the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society Clinical Trials Group (ANZICS CTG). Their mission: to improve clinical research and the quality of evidence in intensive care medicine. With the support of the Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC) and its Australian equivalent, the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), the group is estimated to have saved the New Zealand health care system well over \$150 million per year over the past 10 years, and the lives of hundreds of New Zealanders.

More than 20,000 New Zealanders are treated in an intensive care unit (ICU) each year. Most are admitted because they have a potentially reversible life-threatening condition. The majority of ANZICS CTG research compares the relative effectiveness of standard treatments for these patients.

One of the areas where ANZICS CTG has made a substantial contribution to worldwide clinical practice is fluid therapy. The group's first study to be published in the prestigious New England Journal of Medicine – the HRC/NHMRC-funded SAFE study – evaluated the risk of death in 7000 ICU patients receiving cheap saline intravenous fluid (\$1.60/litre) compared with expensive albumin fluid (\$332/litre).

The SAFE study in New Zealand was led by Dr Colin McArthur from the Auckland District Health Board, who has been involved in the trial group since soon after its inception and is currently lead researcher on three HRC-funded clinical trials. He says the SAFE study's findings have influenced ICU practice around the world.



NEWSFLASH



Department of Critical Care Medicine's Dr Colin McArthur with research team members Lynette Newby, Yan Chen and Rachael McConnochie

Landmark result for ICU research funding

Research aimed at improving outcomes for some of our most unwell patients has received recognition and a major funding boost. In its main funding round announcement for 2016, HRC has awarded nearly \$6 million to research led by the Department of Critical Care Medicine's Dr Colin McArthur. Dr McArthur was awarded a programme grant (\$4.9 million) to conduct research into treatments for community-acquired pneumonia, a disease that results in more than 17,000 hospitalisations a year in New Zealand. The programme will employ an innovative trial design simultaneously investigating the best of multiple options for the management of pneumonia in four areas of intensive care and hospital practice. The five year HRC programme is a significant milestone for Auckland DHB research and a national landmark as it is the first of these elite grants to be awarded to a full-time, hospital-based clinician. The study will be undertaken in conjunction with colleagues throughout New Zealand, and in Australia and Europe. Dr McArthur's \$943,000 project grant is a collaboration with paramedics and emergency specialists to investigate whether severely injured patients benefit from early administration of tranexamic acid to prevent abnormal blood clot breakdown which can increase bleeding. If found to be effective, prophylactic tranexamic acid will become standard treatment in New Zealand ambulance services and Emergency Departments.

Another project grant awarded to Dr Shay McGuinness of the Cardiothoracic and Vascular Intensive Care Unit completes a trio of results for Auckland DHB's intensive care researchers in this HRC round. Dr McGuinness will lead New Zealand's contribution to an international randomised controlled trial of over 4500 patients to determine what degree of anaemia requires blood transfusion in high risk patients undergoing cardiac surgery. This study may have important outcomes for patients and healthcare services as both the risk and the costs of unnecessary blood transfusions will be reduced if this trial demonstrates the safety of a restrictive transfusion strategy. All three grants will be managed centrally by the Wellington-based Medical Research Institute of New Zealand (MRINZ). The MRINZ intensive care research division had further success, with two more project grants awarded to intensive care specialist Dr Paul Young. Drs McArthur, McGuinness and Young are all collaborators of the ANZICS-CTG.

Article courtesy of the Health Research Council of New Zealand.

“The SAFE study showed that the expensive albumin fluid was not better than the much cheaper saline fluid, and it was actually harmful in patients with traumatic brain injury, increasing their risk of disability and death. If you’re a young patient with severe traumatic brain injury and you’re disabled, requiring lifelong hospital care, the cost to society is enormous.”

An independent economic agency in Australia, Access Economics, has estimated the cost savings from the SAFE study to be in the vicinity of \$687 million per year. Dr McArthur says savings for New Zealand may well be proportionally similar – that is more than \$137 million per year.

The global impact of ANZICS CTG’s research extends into other areas of ICU practice as well. In 2005 the HRC, NHMRC, and Canadian Institutes of Health Research jointly funded the ‘NICE-SUGAR trial’ of 6000 critically ill patients who were being treated in an ICU to evaluate the effect of “tight” control of blood sugar – the global standard of care at the time for treating blood sugar levels, which are commonly elevated in critical illness.

Contrary to expectations, the group found that tight blood sugar control of ICU patients – where insulin is used to keep blood sugar in the normal range – actually increased mortality.

HRC Chief Executive Professor Kath McPherson says this is yet another example of the far-reaching benefits of investing in high quality clinical research.

“As a direct result of this study, tight blood sugar control is not routinely practiced in New Zealand. Every year this research is estimated to prevent three deaths for every 100 patients treated in ICUs. It’s completely changed clinical practice around the world,” says Professor McPherson.

The New England Medical Journal paper reporting the NICE-SUGAR trial findings has been cited some 3,347 times at last count. This makes it one of the most highly cited papers in the field of intensive care medicine ever.

Clinical Research in Starship Blood and Cancer Centre

Throughout the Western world all the children’s haematology oncology services have formed national and international collaborations in order to conduct clinical research with the aim of providing children who have cancer with the best possible chance of being cured.

“ At a clinical level our participation in research would not be possible without the commitment of our cytotoxic pharmacists, the entire nursing staff of the Starship Blood and Cancer centre and of course all the senior and junior doctors of the department.”

In the 1950s and 60s a number of new chemotherapy drugs were developed for both adults and paediatrics, and fortunately these were particularly active in a variety of children’s cancer namely, leukaemia’s, Wilms tumours, Hodgkin’s disease. How to best use the combinations and dosages of these medications has been the work of the following four decades. Clinical trials have to be very carefully constructed in order to answer the question of whether a new treatment has better outcomes for patients than an existing treatment. These trials require large numbers of patient enrolments along with extensive data safety monitoring. In addition it has become increasingly important to address the consequences of chemotherapy both in the shorter as well as long term to avoid or minimise the risk of long term unwanted side effects.

In 1999 the Starship Blood and Cancer centre became a full member of the Children’s Oncology Group (COG), a consortium of scientists and clinicians involved in cancer treatment throughout the United States and Canada. Today every children’s cancer treatment centre in Austrasia and almost all of the centres in America and Canada are members of COG.

Though our participation in COG we have upgraded the performance of our cytogenetic laboratory, which is now in the top 25% of institutions in COG. The necessary attention to detail and rigor associated with participation in clinical trials that has been instilled in our staff has been of benefit to all patients regardless whether they are on a clinical trial or not. Other services at Auckland DHB have also benefited by Starship’s participation in COG - the adult Haematology and Oncology services share in the international Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy (FACT) accreditation of bone marrow transplant services. Adult services also benefit from the opportunity to have young adults treated according to or even on COG trial protocols.

In order to comply with international study requirements, considerable effort is required from the Starship Blood and Cancer centre Clinical Research Associates, headed by Sarah Hunter. Sarah’s team are responsible for meeting

all national and international regulatory requirements, ethics committee submissions, monitoring of study patients and data submission, to mention just some of their tasks. At a clinical level our participation in research would not be possible without the commitment of our cytotoxic pharmacists, the entire nursing staff of the Starship Blood and Cancer centre and of course all the senior and junior doctors of the department.

We are currently have 29 clinical trials open and recruiting as well as 28 trials in follow up phase. Our participation enables us to have the most up to date treatments available as options for a wide range of the children we look after. Recently we were able to provide an exciting drug called blinatumomab, used in early phase studies for relapse leukaemia patients, to a child with relapse leukaemia as part of a phase 3 clinical study. Access to this sort of medication would not be possible without participation in COG. Through 90% plus of clinical trials open are from the Children's Oncology group the Starship Blood and Cancer also participates in a range of other collaborative group trials including trials for brain tumours and haemophilia.

Testament to the importance of our collaboration with the COG was a visit by the US ambassador on the 27th April 2016.

Common to all trials is the advantage to our patients of being able to access the most recent innovations in clinical cancer therapy as well as at the same time advancing the clinical science of cancer treatments.

Targeting stroke rehab for improved outcomes

Physiotherapists who manage upper limb rehabilitation therapy for stroke patients will now be able to tell in advance how much an individual patient's hand and arm function can be recovered. This has come about as a result of the TRIO study, a collaboration between the University of Auckland's School of Medicine and Auckland DHBs neurology and allied health teams. TRIO (Targeted Rehabilitation, Improved Outcomes) investigated the use of a three-step clinical algorithm called PREP (Predicting REcovery Potential) to inform clinical teams about the potential for recovery of upper limbs affected by stroke with appropriate therapy. Study Principal Investigator, Associate Professor Cathy Stinear, wanted to design a pragmatic clinical trial where the intervention was information about the patient's capacity for recovery being made available to the hospital clinical teams. The

clinical teams used this information to guide their own decisions about the best therapeutic focus for their patients. Patients admitted for stroke could be enrolled in the study if the PREP measurements could be initiated within 3 days of onset.

Step 1.

SAFE score was obtained by grading the patient's strength in shoulder abduction and finger extension. From SAFE alone, complete or good recovery could be predicted for 50% of patients that had high scores, with appropriate therapy.

Step 2.

Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS), a non-invasive test, was given to patients with low SAFE scores. TMS can detect functional connections between the nerves in the brain and hand. Patients can achieve a good recovery with appropriate therapy if connections are detected.

Step 3.

Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) was used to assess anatomical damage in the brain for patients without TMS connections. The degree of damage is indicative of whether partial recovery of the affected limb can be achieved with appropriate therapy. For patients with no potential for limb recovery the therapeutic focus should be on the unaffected limb.

The results of TRIO show when clinical teams are provided with the PREP assessment of patient's recovery potential their patients are on average able to be discharged from hospital rehab wards one week earlier than usual. Importantly, this was not at the expense of patient outcomes, indicating that PREP information can safely improve rehabilitation efficiency. This result reinforces the importance of the role of physio and rehab therapists in delivering care that supports the quality of life for our patients.

According to Associate Professor Stinear, one of the benefits of using the PREP test is that it can identify patients with potential for recovery that might otherwise go unrecognised. "People who come into hospital after having a stroke can present as very compromised and are often unable to move their arm and hand at all. What we have found using PREP is that if we can detect from TMS that the brain can still communicate with the limb, then the patient can achieve a recovery of the limb for most activities of daily life if the rehabilitation is focussed on promoting function. For patients who have had more severe strokes and the TMS can't detect

a functional motor pathway, the MRI can tell us whether there is still potential for the limb to partially recover with a therapeutic focus on movement, or whether the brain damage is too severe for the limb to recover. For these patients their best option is a therapeutic focus on compensation of the stronger limb and prevention of secondary complications such as pain and tightness.”



Associate Professor Cathy Stinear

To find out more about the PREP algorithm go to <https://prepforstroke rehab.wikispaces.com/>



COLLABORATIONS

The Auckland Regional Tissue Bank

Auckland Regional Tissue Bank – Te Ira Kāwai

VISION AND VALUES



The Auckland Academic Health Alliance

The Auckland Academic Health Alliance links the University of Auckland and the Auckland District Health Board with a goal of delivering better health outcomes for patients and our community.

The Alliance will deliver research-informed health care along with clinical teaching and training for Auckland, New Zealand and beyond. This innovation will underpin the ongoing development of New Zealand's health workforce by training, attracting and retaining highly skilled professionals.

The Auckland District Health Board and the University of Auckland are home to world-recognised leaders in health disciplines which are of critical importance to all New Zealanders. The Alliance brings this talent closer together and at the same time opens the way for other healthcare and research organisations to work collaboratively with us to focus on major illnesses facing all New Zealanders such as cancer, diabetes and heart disease.

History

The Auckland Academic Health Alliance (AAHA) helped make Auckland Regional Tissue Bank - Te Ira Kāwai a reality, by building on the long standing efforts of clinicians and researchers at Auckland-area district health boards and the University of Auckland's Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

Auckland-area clinicians and researchers have collected tissue for decades but New Zealand's 21st Century model of care demands a centralised, world-class tissue bank with governance structures and protocols that are efficient, robust, transparent, sustainable and culturally appropriate.

The AAHA guided planning, development and consolidation for the project, working closely with Auckland-area hospitals, Mana whenua and the University of Auckland. Our vision is to offer world-class tissue banking services that assist clinicians and researchers, particularly in Auckland-area hospitals and the University of Auckland, as they seek to unravel the mysteries of various diseases to inform the development of future treatments.

Auckland Regional Tissue Bank - Te Ira Kāwai, began to consolidate tissues from other locations and took a major step forward in 2014 when given guardianship of more than 800 tissue samples from the Middlemore Tissue Bank, which was established in 2010.

Pilot programmes were run, and construction of bespoke new tissue bank facilities within the University's Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences were constructed in 2015.

These new facilities were blessed on 3 February 2016.

The Maori wording in our name, 'Te Ira Kāwai', was gifted by Ngati Whatua. The name calls to mind imagery and words that include 'a strand of DNA, life principles, and whakapapa'. This established our name as "Auckland

Regional Tissue Bank - Te Ira Kāwai". Auckland Regional Tissue Bank - Te Ira Kāwai are Kaitiaki (Guardian) of all donated tissue.

Auckland Regional Tissue Bank - Te Ira Kāwai, encompasses facilities at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, Auckland City and North Shore Hospitals.

In addition the Middlemore Hospital Tissue Bank, while also part of the Auckland Regional Tissue Bank - Te Ira Kāwai umbrella, retains its highly valued Māori name 'Matatika Koiora', which was previously gifted by Tainui. 'Matatika' makes reference to ethics, the study of principles governing right and wrong conduct – pure; free of immoral behavior or qualities. 'Koiora' is an expression referring to wellbeing and life.

Vision

Auckland Regional Tissue Bank - Te Ira Kāwai, working in collaboration with Auckland-area District Health Boards and the University of Auckland, will be a critical component in New Zealand's 21st Century model of care.

Auckland Regional Tissue Bank - Te Ira Kāwai is initially targeting gynaecological tumours, blood cancers, sarcoma and melanoma. Over time the systems and processes developed for these collections will be applied to a broader range of tissue collections.

Auckland Regional Tissue Bank - Te Ira Kāwai includes new bespoke facilities in the Faculty of Medical and Health Services (Grafton Campus), blessed on 3 February 2016, and the existing tissue banks in Middlemore Hospital and North Shore Hospital.

Auckland Regional Tissue Bank - Te Ira Kāwai's aims to accelerate the rate in which researchers and clinicians can develop and improve cancer therapies and drugs that directly benefit New Zealand patients.

The continuing collaborative work between the Auckland Academic Health Alliance, mana whenua, local clinicians and researchers during 2015 has resulted in a robust and high quality framework of governance structures and processes for tissue banking in the metropolitan Auckland region. The approach is recognised as best practice nationally, and recognised for promoting transparency and setting high standards of involvement and protections for Māori and consumers.

(Board paper- Waitemata DHB)

SHIVERS project turns 5

THE SHIVERS PROJECT

SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE INFLUENZA AND VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS RESEARCH & SURVEILLANCE

The Southern Hemisphere Influenza, Vaccine Effectiveness, Research and Surveillance (SHIVERS) project has been operating in Auckland City and Starship Hospitals since 2012 to monitor severe respiratory disease and influenza among hospitalised patients. Since surveillance started, a dedicated research team has assessed around 13,000 patients for severe acute respiratory illness (SARI), with over 5,000 patients at Auckland DHB meeting the SARI case definition.

The success of the SHIVERS project in Auckland DHB is mainly due to the dedication, commitment and enthusiasm of the Research Nurse team and research leaders Cameron Grant (Paediatrics), Colin McArthur (Critical Care Medicine) and Sally Roberts (Microbiology). Professor Grant has also shown great leadership in introducing a chest xray scoring system as a method for assessing disease severity. As part of this process, all of the research team has received training on scoring the chest abnormalities recorded on chest xrays reports. Dr McArthur has been instrumental in expanding surveillance to include all acute respiratory illness patients admitted to intensive care. Dr Roberts continues to provide comprehensive and updated laboratory testing results for SHIVERS patients.

SHIVERS Objectives

1. To understand severe acute respiratory infections.
2. To assess influenza vaccine effectiveness.

SHIVERS also aims to:

- investigate interaction between influenza and other respiratory pathogens
- ascertain the causes of respiratory mortality
- understand non-severe respiratory illness
- estimate the annual risk of seasonal influenza infection through serology
- identify influenza risk factors
- study immune response to influenza
- determine economic burden of influenza.

Milestones – now in its fifth year, SHIVERS has

- established a hospital based platform for monitoring SARI-related hospitalisations that is the first of its kind in the developed world
- guided a change to NZ's vaccination policy for young children due to high influenza hospitalizations in these children
- resulted in the revision of the World Health Organization's case definition for severe acute respiratory illness for global influenza surveillance
- resulted in improved influenza vaccine strain selection using vaccine effectiveness assessment in the prevention of influenza-related consultations and hospitalisations
- been a key part of the global effort to establish a framework for pandemic influenza severity assessment
- identified and quantified risk factors for influenza hospitalizations (e.g. pregnancy), supporting national seasonal influenza vaccination programs
- helped the Ministry of Health to develop SHIVERS platforms beyond 2016 as an integrated respiratory disease surveillance for seasonal influenza control and pandemic preparedness

SHIVERS is an inter-disciplinary, multi-agency collaboration between the Institute of Environmental Science and Research, Auckland and Counties-Manukau DHBs, the Universities of Auckland and Otago and St Jude Children's Research Hospital, and was established and funded by the US Centre for Disease Control under award 5U01IP000480. SHIVERS continues to operate through funding from the New Zealand Ministry of Health. It is expected that the results of the study will have global significance and impact on the way influenza is managed in the future.



Research Nurses of the SHIVERS team – Pamela Muponisi, Bhamita Chand, Julianne Brewer and Kathryn Havens

The image features a large, abstract graphic composed of several overlapping circles in various shades of blue. The circles are arranged in a roughly vertical, descending sequence from top to bottom. The top circle is the largest, followed by a medium-sized one, and then a smaller one. The circles are semi-transparent, allowing the colors of the overlapping areas to blend. In the lower portion of the image, there is a faint, large, multi-pointed star shape, also in shades of blue, which appears to be part of the overall abstract design. The background is a light, gradient blue that transitions from white at the top to a deeper blue at the bottom.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Auckland DHB Research Excellence Award

This award, offered annually in conjunction with ADHB Healthcare Excellence Awards, recognises lead authors of significant, original research papers published in the preceding year. Applications are judged by a panel of top researchers for contribution to new knowledge, potential to inform best practice, stakeholders and clinical decision making, and potential to improve healthcare delivery.

2015 Winner – Dr Alan Barber and team – Neurology Department, Auckland City Hospital, for “Endovascular therapy for ischemic stroke with perfusion-imaging selection” (*The New England Journal of Medicine* 2015, 372:11 pp. 1009-1018)



Alan Barber, Ben McGuinness, Stefan Brew and Maurice Moriarty

How we are revolutionising the way we treat stroke

Strokes are the third largest killer and the major cause of serious adult disability in New Zealand. While largely preventable, Auckland DHB sees about 900 people each year with stroke, with the Auckland region seeing more than 2,000.

Our specialists are working hard alongside the international community to find other ways to get rid of the clots that can block an artery and cause a stroke. In December, EXTEND-IA – Endovascular therapy for ischemic stroke with perfusion-imaging selection – was selected as the Excellence in Research Winner for the Auckland DHB Health Excellence Awards. The research was presented at the International Stroke Conference (ISC) last February and published online in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Auckland DHB’s Professor Alan Barber, Neurologist; Dr Ben McGuinness, Interventional Neuro-Radiologist; Dr Stefan Brew, Interventional Neuro-Radiologist; and Maurice Moriarty, Neuro Radiologist were investigators on the study.

The Extending the Time for Thrombolysis in Emergency Neurological Deficits – Intra-arterial (EXTEND-IA) trial was one of a suite of studies that looked at a particular device called a solitary clot retriever where you go in through the femoral artery, feed up into the carotid artery and then into the middle cerebral artery and you can actually go through the clot and pull it out.

The trial showed convincing evidence of the benefit for this therapy in selected stroke patients using advanced imaging selection, recently developed devices, and earlier intervention.

“What we’ve found in our study is that this treatment is much more effective in restoring blood flow to the brain and that the patients are twice as likely to leave hospitals in a functionally independent state,” explains Dr McGuinness.

“It has forced us to try to address facets of the patient’s process through the hospital when they present with an acute stroke, so we’ve worked really hard to minimise the time between presentation and recognition for stroke,” adds Dr Brew.

At the moment, Auckland City Hospital is the most active centre in New Zealand performing clot retrieval, in part due to being involved with the study.

Value of Medicines Award

Amy Chan (Pharmacy) - The effect of an electronic monitoring device with audiovisual reminder function on adherence to inhaled corticosteroids and school attendance in children with asthma: a randomised controlled trial (\$20,000)

2015’s prestigious **Value of Medicines** award has been won by Auckland DHB pharmacist **Amy Chan**. For her doctoral research at the University of Auckland Amy focused on New Zealand children with asthma, investigating the impact of audio-visual reminders on inhaler use. Her study tracked 220 children, who had been admitted to hospital with uncontrolled asthma, who used a “smart inhaler” for six months. The device contains a microcomputer, which tracks how often the asthma medication is used and it reminds people to take it when they forget. Parents chose the times that children took their dose and the children could choose from the 14 ringtones available.

Amy’s study was one of the first studies in the world to show an improvement in asthma control. There was a

180 per cent improvement in inhaler use when the audio-visual function was switched on. The children also made a better improvement in their asthma morbidity score than the control children. The results from this work have the potential to raise asthma patient outcomes by reinforcing the fact that when patients truly adhere to their medication, they will receive the full benefit.

Through the Value of Medicines Award, Medicines New Zealand aims to support an outstanding piece of research that will improve the understanding, effectiveness or safety of the use of medicines or vaccines in New Zealand.

In an outstanding year Amy also won the 2015 Max Health Award at the New Zealand Hospital Pharmacists' Association Conference in Napier.

Find out more about Amy's study (The Lancet – Respiratory Medicine [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600\(15\)00008-9](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600(15)00008-9))



2015 Value of Medicines Award winner Amy Chan

NEWSFLASH - Li family grants boost cancer biomarker research

The first grants from the Li family's \$10 million cancer research gift to the University of Auckland will support research into cancer biomarkers.

In September 2015, Auckland entrepreneur, Mr Liangren Li and his family, announced a record \$10 million endowment fund to provide annual interest for investing in cancer research.

Mr Li was diagnosed with lung cancer in February 2015, despite never smoking, living a healthy lifestyle, and having none of the risk factors for lung cancer.

The major grant is the 2016 Li Family Cancer Research Project Grant which was made to **Dr Michelle Wilson** and her team, for a project called 'PROSPER – Profiling of Oncology Patients as part of Clinical care and Research'. The \$480,000 project will run over three years starting in September 2016 and focusses on biomarkers

for gynaecological cancers. It plans to expand to include other tumour types over this period.

Michelle Wilson is a medical oncologist with the Cancer and Blood Service at Auckland City Hospital and a clinical senior research fellow with the Department of Oncology at the University of Auckland.

This project recognises that while substantial progress has been made in the treatment of cancer through the use of targeted therapies, what works for one patient might not work for another. Biomarkers are specific characteristics of the cancer that may provide information about which cancers are more or less aggressive and which will or will not respond to a specific treatment.

"The increasing appreciation and identification of specific mutations that drive cancers, leaves us on the threshold of a new era in which biomarkers will be used to direct targeted agents to those patients most likely to respond," says Dr Wilson.

The study will collect tumour samples from previous surgery alongside fresh samples if a cancer has recurred and analyse them to provide biomarker information specific to a patient's cancer.

This will help doctors identify which clinical trials or treatments may be appropriate for the patient in the future.

"Gynaecological cancers are a major cause of mortality and morbidity internationally," she says. "In Auckland approximately 120 to 150 new patients with ovarian, endometrial or cervical cancer are seen by a medical oncologist each year."

"In general, when these diseases recur, there are few effective therapeutic options with little improvement in patient outcomes over the past 20 years," says Dr Wilson.

"Better therapeutic targets and treatments are an unmet need across these tumour types with treatment paradigms still based upon traditional platinum based therapy."

PROSPER will investigate the evolution of gynaecological cancers over time and in response to treatment to develop better biomarkers to guide treatment decisions and ultimately improve patient outcomes.

Biopsies at relapse will be collected and profiled with a 580 cancer gene panel. Circulating tumour DNA will also be collected and analysed alongside biopsies as a potential non-invasive alternative in the future.

"Linking genomic and clinical data will allow us to

learn more about these diseases which will help us to challenge our current paradigm of care,” she says.



Dr Michelle Wilson

A+ Trust Research Grants

A+ Trust Grants A+ Trust Research Grants offer contestable research funding by the Auckland DHB Charitable Trust via a twice yearly competitive round. The aim is to support ADHB researchers from all disciplines and specialties to undertake research across the health spectrum from patients to population, disease to prevention, and service delivery to cost effectiveness and beyond. Applications are externally peer reviewed and assessed by the Research Review Committee for scientific merit, feasibility, rationale and methodology, deliverables, and opportunities to develop the capacity of new researchers in the organisation. Here are the successful applications for 2015.

A+ Trust Project Grants

Jane Alswailer (Newborn Services) - Postnatal effects of Late Preterm birth: the LaP study (\$32,660)

Tin Chiu (Anaesthesia and Perioperative Medicine) - The use of post-operative regional analgesia rather than systemic analgesia to decrease the incidence of post-operative delirium after acute hip fracture surgery? A prospective randomised-controlled double-blinded pilot study (\$30,000)

Michael Collins (Renal Services) - Outcomes for Live Kidney Donors following Nephrectomy in Aotearoa New Zealand: the LIVE DONATE NZ study (\$30,000)

Eamon Duffy (Pharmacy) - Determining pharmacokinetics of antibiotics in pus (\$29,427)

Tom Gentles and Elza Cloete (Paediatric and Congenital Cardiac Services) - Pulse oximetry for the detection of congenital heart disease in newborn infants: a study assessing feasibility of a national screening programme (\$49,083)

Eileen Gilder (Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit) - Avoidance of Endotracheal Suction in the Post-Operative Cardiac Patient – A randomised clinical trial (\$28,450)

Hannah Jones (Paediatric Neurology) - Investigating the high incidence of Maori and Polynesian children with autoimmune neurological disease in New Zealand: A parallel study of anti-N-Methyl-D-Aspartate Receptor Encephalitis and Sydenham’s Chorea (\$24,852)

David McNamara (Paediatric Respiratory) - Pilot Study of Humidified High Flow Air via Nasal Cannulae (HHF) During Sleep for Children and Young People with Cystic Fibrosis (CF) (\$49,097)

Gina O’Grady (Paediatric Neuroservices) - The prevalence of abnormalities in cardiac function in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy boys without overt cardiac disease (\$45,900)

Victoria Oliver (NZ Liver Transplant Unit) - Pilot project to evaluate the ability of a Nurse-Led Clinic at the Auckland Central Needle Exchange to assess and diagnose Hepatitis C Virus infection in People Who Inject Drugs (\$15,000)

Helen Pilmore (Renal Services) - Canadian-Australasian RCT - Screening Kidney Transplant Recipients (CARSK) (\$49,523)

Fahimeh Rahnema (LabPlus Virology) - The prevalence of human papillomavirus (HPV) infections in squamous cell carcinomas of the head and neck in an Auckland, New Zealand cohort (\$29,240)

Jay van der Westhuizen (Anaesthesia and Perioperative Medicine) - FIB-UPFRONT PPH: the Effect of Upfront Administration of Fibrinogen concentrate in Postpartum Haemorrhage (\$37,000)

Michelle Wilson (Oncology) - A Phase II, Open-Label, Randomized, Multi-Centre Study, of Neoadjuvant Olaparib in Patients with Platinum Sensitive Recurrent High Grade Serous Ovarian/Primary Peritoneal or Fallopian tube Cancer (The NEO trial) (\$37,715)

Tanya Wright (Mother and Baby Unit) - Investigation of maternal psychopathology, interaction and caregiving, and infant health, development and socio-emotional wellbeing in mother- infant pairs co-admitted to a psychiatric Mother-Baby Unit (\$10,000)

A+ Trust Summer Student Grants

Jocelyne Benatar and Ralph Stewart (Cardiology) - Does Ethnicity affect frailty syndrome in Cardiovascular Disease patients over 60 years old?

Jocelyne Benatar (Cardiology) - Does cognitive function in elderly patients with cardiovascular disease have effects on in-hospital adverse outcomes?

Emme Chacko (Mental Health Services for Older People) - Metabolic side effects of Atypical Antipsychotics in Older Adults

Julie Chambers (Starship Trauma Service) - Removing barriers to the safe travel of children – are we there yet?

Gary Cheung (Mental Health Services for Older People) - A statistical analysis of factors that lead to death wishes in the elderly in residential communities in New Zealand

Kevin Ellyett (Respiratory Measurement Laboratory) – Cabin Altitude Simulation Test in older, normal adults

Syed Hussain (Respiratory Medicine) - Cost of repeated attempt at pressure determination by auto titration devices

Sinan Kamona (Adult Emergency department) - Chest Pain in the Emergency Department: Safety of a Rapid Assessment Pathway

Alison Leversha (Community Child Health and Disability Services) - Immunisation Practice for children admitted to Starship Children's Hospital: Have measures taken to raise awareness of immunisation status improved immunisation practice and communication at Starship?

Rohit Ramchandra (Physiology) - Hypoxia and the Baroreflex

Peter Ruygrok (Cardiology) - Factors influencing time to restoration of coronary blood flow in patients presenting with an ST elevation myocardial infarction

Helen Wihongi (He Kamaka Waiora) - Karanga – A Literature Review

A+ Trust grant informs major study for at risk babies

A single dose of dextrose (sugar) in a gel suspension might be the key to reducing neonatal intensive care admissions for at risk newborns. With the aid of a project grant from the A+ Trust, Dr Jo Hegarty (Newborn Services) has conducted a randomised controlled trial to investigate whether the gel can prevent hypoglycaemia

(low blood sugar) in newborn babies. "Hypoglycaemia is common and occurs in 30% of newborn babies, but is more common in "at risk" babies, those who are very small or very large, premature babies and babies whose mothers are diabetic. About half of these babies become hypoglycaemic and 1 in ten need to be admitted to neonatal intensive care. Not only can this lead to separation of mother and baby and interruption of breast feeding, neonatal hypoglycaemia is also associated with longer term developmental problems. Clinical teams caring for at risk babies need to have simple strategies to prevent the occurrence of hypoglycaemia". The aim of Dr Hegarty's study (The pre-hPOD trial) was to determine the most effective dose and most effective frequency of oral dextrose gel for prevention of hypoglycaemia. The gel is easy to apply – it is rubbed into the inside of the baby's cheek before a feed. The study recruited 415 babies at risk for hypoglycaemia. Although it was found that any dose of dextrose gel reduced the incidence of hypoglycaemia compared with placebo, the most effective dose was the lower dose, single application of 40% dextrose. This is an important finding because the single, low dose was more acceptable to parents and easier to administer.

The next phase of the research for Dr Hegarty and her colleagues, led by Professors Jane Harding and Caroline Crowther (University of Auckland) and Dr Jane Alsweiler (Auckland DHB and University of Auckland), will be a definitive study of whether the dextrose gel can prevent admission of babies to intensive care (The hPOD trial). According to Dr Hegarty "This feasibility study has allowed us to identify a dose of the gel that reduces the incidence of neonatal hypoglycaemia for babies at risk and this dose is now being used in a large, multicentre, randomised trial. Should oral dextrose gel be effective, this will revolutionise how blood sugars are managed both nationally and internationally. We would expect such a finding to prevent unnecessary separations of mother and baby and positively impact breast feeding as well as reducing healthcare costs in the millions. The main hPOD study will also investigate whether the intervention improves later developmental outcomes for children who might otherwise have been affected by their experience of low blood sugar early in life."



Dr Jo Hegarty

Auckland Academic Health Alliance Collaboration Fund

Stefan Bohlander (UOA Molecular Medicine and Pathology), **Neil van de Water** (ADHB Diagnostic Genetics) - Minimal Residual Disease (MRD) Diagnostics in Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) using Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS)

Jillian Cornish (UOA Medicine), **John Ferguson** (ADHB Orthopaedics) - Clinical efficacy of bone dust harvested at the time of orthopaedic spinal surgery

Johanna Montgomery (UOA Physiology), **Jonathan Skinner** (ADHB Paediatric and Congenital Cardiac Services) - Joining of hearts and minds to address the cellular basis of Long QT Syndrome

Peter Stone (UOA Obstetrics and Gynaecology), **Kevin Ellyett** (ADHB Respiratory Measurement Laboratory) - The effect of maternal sleep practice on maternal and fetal physiology: a link with stillbirth

Darren Svirskis (UOA Pharmacy), **Ian Costello** (ADHB Pharmacy) - Development of a stability database to support transition to an ambulatory infusion chemotherapy service model



Successful Auckland Academic Health Alliance collaborators

Grants totalling \$400,000 for collaborative research projects between scientists and clinicians from the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences and the Auckland District Health Board were in August 2015.

One of the first significant initiatives of the two organisations under the **Auckland Academic Health Alliance** was the establishment of the co-funded Research Collaboration Fund.

The scheme is co-funded by the A+ Trust (Auckland DHB's charitable trust) and the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, and is designed to support joint research projects and develop relationships between Auckland DHB and FMHS staff.

"The Research Collaboration Fund was able to make three grants of \$100,000 and two grants of \$50,000, each involving a researcher from both institutions," said Chair of the A+ Trust, Dr Richard Frith at a function to mark the first grants made by the Fund.

"There were 23 excellent applications to the inaugural grant round," said Professor Andrew Shelling who announced the successful projects. "The successful applicants did extremely well in a tough funding round with many high-quality applications."

Auckland Medical Research Foundation

William Abbott (NZ Liver Transplant Unit) - HBeAg Seroconversion (\$123,428)

Rohan Ameratunga (Immunology), Klaus Lehnert, Euphemia Leung, **See-Tarn Woon** (LabPlus) - Epistaxis in COVID (\$67,415)

Qi Chen, **Katie Groom**, Larry Chamley, **Peter Stone** (National Women's Health) – Melatonin and preeclampsia (\$53,274)

Verity Oliver, **Andrea Vincent**, Fulton Wong (Ophthalmology) – Retinol dystrophy and titin (\$146,413)

Michelle Wilson (Oncology) – Sir Harcourt Caughey Award: Challenges facing clinical trial design in medical oncology (\$25,000)

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists

Damian Castanelli, **Jennifer Weller**, Brian Jolly (Anaesthesia and Perioperative Medicine) - Using workplace-based assessments to make decisions on trainee progression through the ANZCA Training Program (\$41,495)

Jennifer Weller, Alan Merry, Simon Mitchell, Tanisha Jowsey (Anaesthesia and Perioperative Medicine) - Safety and team cultures in the operating room: using WHOBARs to understand clinician attitudes to participation in the Surgical Safety Checklist (\$25,251)

Cure Kids

Jane Alsweiler (Newborn Services) - Oral dextrose gel to prevent low blood sugar levels in newborn babies

Cass Byrnes (Paediatric Respiratory) – Bronchiectasis exacerbation study (BEST)

Genesis Oncology Trust

Michael Findlay (Oncology) - Establishing the framework for international comparisons of colorectal cancer management and outcomes – the TRI-PIPER project (\$49,572)

Maggie Kalev-Zylinska (LabPlus) - Biology of megakaryocytic cancers (\$50,000)

Simone McMillan (Haematology) Professional development award (\$2,400)

Sozick Mesnage (Oncology) – Murray Jackson Clinical Fellowship (\$135,759)

Green Lane Research and Education Fund

The Green Lane Research & Educational Fund was established at Green Lane Hospital in 1971 and incorporated under the Charitable Trusts act in 1976. Its aims then and now are to advance research and education within the departments of Cardiology, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Paediatric Cardiology and Surgery, Cardiothoracic Anaesthesia and Respiratory Medicine, within the Auckland District Health Board.

The Fund supports a Senior Research Fellowship, annual large and small project grants on a merit contested basis, a PhD Scholarship, conference support for nurses and technical staff and salary support for specified research positions. The Fund hosts an annual Scientific Session followed by the Green Lane Dinner, at which a past member or members' professional achievements are honoured.

During the 2015 year, the Fund awarded a total of \$990,991. It supported salaries to the value of \$287,358 (John Neutze Research Scholarship and secretarial support for this, statistician and desktop administrator), awarded \$295,350 in research support, a PhD Scholarship valued at \$105,000 and \$33,354 in conference support to nurses, technicians and other paramedical staff. An additional \$259,370 was released from 'tagged' research funds for various research projects and salaries, a Transplant Fellowship and support for the Auckland Medical Museum (the Bravehearts Exhibition). At the Green Lane Dinner the Fund celebrated the achievements of three esteemed cardiologists, Drs Kevin O'Brien, Nigel Bass and Trevor Agnew.

Brian Anderson (Paediatric Anaesthesia) Characterisation of the pharmacokinetics of routine prophylactic antibiotics in order to improve dosing regimens when given to children undergoing cardiopulmonary bypass surgery (\$19,800)

David Crossman, **Peter Ruygrok** (Cardiology) - Structure of the human aortic valve - improving outcomes of allograft aortic valve replacement by detailed structural evaluation of unused clinical donor valves (\$26,000)

Tom Gentles, Kathryn Rice (Paediatric and Congenital Cardiac Services) - Detection of liver and renal abnormalities after the Fontan procedure (\$20,000)

Ghaz Jabur (Clinical Perfusion) - Effect of emboli exposure on cerebral autoregulation during cardiopulmonary bypass (\$105,000)

Alison Leversha (Community Child Health and Disability Services) - Rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease: system review (\$74,000)

Chris Lewis (Respiratory Services) – Salary support to enable research activities (\$20,000)

Monique Reid (Cardiology) – Mornington Brennan Nurses Scholarship (\$2,121)

Mary-Anne Ross (Cardiology) – Mornington Brennan Nurses Scholarship (\$3,268)

Health Quality and Safety Commission

Jennifer Weller, Kaylene Henderson (Anaesthesia and Perioperative Medicine) – Auditor training for SSC (\$20,365)

Jennifer Weller, **Ian Civil** (Trauma), **Alan Merry**, Kaylene Henderson, Jane Torrie, **Simon Mitchell** (Anaesthesia and Perioperative Medicine) - Perioperative Harm Reduction Intervention (\$45,900)

Health Research Council of New Zealand

Michael Findlay (Oncology), Bruce Baguley, Katrina Sharples, **David Porter** (Oncology), Tony Lambert - Magnesium for endocrine-related cognitive problems in breast cancer (\$149,995)

Ed Gane (NZ Liver Transplant Unit), Chris Cunningham, **Fahimeh Rahnama** (LabPlus Virology), Chris Moyes, Barry Bormann – Molecular predictors of liver cancer in Māori with chronic hepatitis B (\$529,899)

Naida Glavish, **Helen Wihongi** (He Kamaka Waiora) - The health benefits of karanga (\$199,030)

Gayl Humphreys, **Chang-Ho Yoon**, **Mark Thomas** (Infectious Diseases) - Development and implementation of an app to support antimicrobial prescribing (\$200,000)

Ralph Maddison, Debbie Holdsworth, **Rob Doughty** (Cardiology), R Scott, Anna Rolleston, Robin Whittaker, **Ralph Stewart** (Cardiology), Yannan Jiang - Text4Heart – improving adherence in people with heart disease (\$198,000)

Ralph Maddison, E Hargreaves, Cliona Ni Mhurchu, **Andrew Jull** (Quality and Safety), J Heke, Stephen Kara, Ofa Dewes, Cindy Gray, Kate Hunt, Sally Wyke, Yannan Jiang - Professional rugby clubs as a vehicle to deliver weight loss programmes for men (\$149,968)

Fiona McBryde, Ailsa McGregor, Carolyn Barrett, **Alan Barber** (Neurology), J Paton - Hypertension after stroke – therapeutic or pathological? (\$1,055,738)

Mark McKeage (Oncology) - Lung cancer genetic testing in New Zealand (\$1,182,641)

Brent McSharry, **Stuart Dalziel** (Paediatric Intensive Care Unit) - 0.9% saline vs Plasma-Lyte® as standard fluid therapy in hospitalised children (\$149,664)

Ralph Stewart (Cardiology) – Registry-based clinical trials (\$800,000)

Dr David Porter, Clinical Director Medical Oncology, Auckland City Hospital, is the study principal clinician investigating the treatment of the poor memory and concentration often experienced by women receiving treatment such as tamoxifen for breast cancer. He and investigators from the University of Auckland and Cancer Trials New Zealand are testing whether these side-effects could be reversed in patients by taking a magnesium supplement. The Health Research Council (HRC) last week announced it will fund the study.

Dr Porter says “This grant provides us the opportunity to see whether we can alleviate an important side effect of breast cancer treatment that can impair women’s ability to conduct their daily lives and potentially their willingness to remain on their cancer treatment.”

Among the other recipients is Dr Brent McSharry, of Starship Children’s Hospital’s Intensive Care Unit. Dr McSharry says the funding awarded to his team will help them investigate the practicality and acceptability of undertaking a clinical trial to compare the effect of two commonly prescribed intravenous fluids on the outcomes of children admitted to hospital. The trial will be designed to determine how any differences in the clinical effects between 0.9% saline and Plasmalyte® 148 can best be measured and also the potential for cost savings.

National Health and Medical Research Council (Australia)

Cass Byrnes (Paediatric Respiratory) - Bronchiectasis Exacerbations Study (\$86,000)

National Heart Foundation

Helen Pilmore (Renal Services) - Canadian-Australasian randomised trial of screening kidney transplant recipients for coronary artery disease (CARSK study) (\$150,000)

Ralph Stewart, for the Oxygen Therapy in Acute Coronary Syndromes Registry Trial Group (Cardiology) - Oxygen Therapy in Acute Coronary Syndromes (\$150,000)

Newmarket Rotary Charitable Foundation

Nicole Kramer (Pathology) - Oncology internship at the University of Auckland’s Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

Starship Foundation Research

Elza Cloete (Newborn Services) - Pulse oximetry screening for the detection of critical congenital heart disease in newborn infants

Craig Jefferies (Paediatric Endocrinology) - Type 1 Diabetes TrialNet Study

Craig Jefferies (Paediatric Endocrinology) - Athlæ Lyon Starship Research Fellowship

Naveen Pillarisetti (Paediatric Respiratory Services) - Athlæ Lyon Starship Research Fellowship

Hiran Thabrew (Child and Adolescent Psychiatry) - Game for Health

Andrew Thompson (Consult Liaison) – Extraordinary children

William Wong (Paediatric Nephrology) - A study of Dent's disease

University of Auckland

Cliona Ni Mhurchu, Mark Gahegan, **Andrew Jull** (Quality and Safety) - Virtual childhood obesity prevention laboratory (\$10,000)



Starship Foundation and A+ Trust fund life-saving pulse oximetry trial for early detection of congenital heart defects in newborns

National children's hospital Starship, in conjunction with the Liggins Institute, University of Auckland, launched a pilot in April 2016 with the potential to save lives and improve health outcomes for New Zealand babies born with congenital heart defects.

The pilot introduced pulse oximetry screening of newborn babies as a tool to help detect critical congenital heart defects (CHD), the most common birth defect. Starship is the only hospital in New Zealand with on-site paediatric cardiac specialist services and facilities for paediatric cardiac intervention. An infant pulse oximeter is a small Band-Aid-like wrap that is placed around the baby's foot, with a light sensor inside that measures oxygen saturation of the blood. It is a simple, non-invasive test that can be completed in a matter of minutes.

The pilot includes babies born at Auckland City Hospital, or delivered under midwives and delivery units affiliated with

the ADHB. A second phase will include Counties Manukau DHB, made possible thanks to funding and support from the Middlemore Foundation for Health Innovation. Under the pilot, infants not achieving the predetermined oxygen saturation threshold are referred for a paediatric clinical assessment.

CHD affects between four and ten per thousand live-born infants, and is a leading cause of infant death, accounting for more deaths than any other type of malformation. Many CHD babies require cardiac surgery immediately after birth or within their first year of life.

In New Zealand the national standard for CHD screening is via antenatal ultrasound and physical examination at birth. However, some babies born with an undetected heart defect may not display any physical symptoms until 24 hours or more post birth. There is regional and socioeconomic variability; the ultrasound method picks up, on average, just 45% of critical congenital heart defects for New Zealand-born babies.

A recent review estimated 15 New Zealand-born babies a year will receive a late diagnosis of critical CHD, and four will die as a result. Pulse oximetry screening would likely have detected 50% of these infants with a late diagnosis of critical CHD, with early intervention decreasing the risk of permanent disability or death.

Professor Frank Bloomfield, Neonatologist for ADHB, Director of the Liggins Institute and Professor of Neonatology at the University of Auckland, explains: "Early detection of a congenital heart defect gives us the best chance to save a baby's life, and/or greatly reduce the impact on a child's quality of life. Non- or late-detection can severely compromise the cardiovascular system, with significant long-term effects on neurodevelopment.

"This pilot will be an important step towards the realisation of a national screening standard that will improve the outcome of those babies who are born with cardiac abnormalities."

Pilot funding from the Starship Foundation includes the purchase of 30 Masimo Rad-5 Pulse Oximeters, consumables and the development of resources to initiate the screening pilot at the ADHB. This includes the development of screening guidelines and educational resources for medical staff and parents.

Starship Foundation Chief Executive, Brad Clark, says; "Together with the A+ Trust and Middlemore Foundation for Health Innovation, the Starship Foundation has raised the bulk of the funds required to establish this important pilot at the ADHB and CMDHB. It is an exciting development that will go a long way to mitigating the impact on babies and families affected by a late diagnosis of critical congenital heart disease."

The pilot picked up its first baby with a previously undetected heart defect just two weeks after it commenced. The early detection may prove to be life-saving for this baby.





CELEBRATING OUR PEOPLE

Research Posters

Auckland DHB Celebration Week (final week, November) was the occasion, and ACH Level 5 Atrium was the venue, for the 2015 Research Poster Competition displays. Continuing the success of previous years, over 60 posters were on display, showcasing the commitment of our staff to research, and our expertise across a diverse range of disciplines and topics. Winners for the three judging categories are below;

Health Professions (Allied, Scientific, Technical)

2015 Winner – *Barbara Cormack*, Clinical Dietetics, “Iron status of preterm infants post hospital discharge”

Medical

Winner – *Annaliese Blincoe*, Paediatric Immunology, “Do defects in the innate immune system contribute to bronchiectasis in Māori and Pacific Island children?”

Nursing

2015 Winner – *Sharlene McCleary-Diallo*, Community Child Health and Disability Service, “School Health Teams”

Starship Best Children’s Research Poster

2015 Winner - *Barbara Cormack*, Clinical Dietetics, “Iron status of preterm infants post hospital discharge”

Auckland DHB Young Investigator Award

The quality and impact of research undertaken by our junior clinical staff was also highlighted with the oral presentations for the Young Investigator Award, 2015. Five outstanding candidates were selected from a competitive field of entries by a multidisciplinary panel. The Physicians Grand Rounds, held at the University of Auckland Grafton Campus, was attended by a large number of clinical and academic staff both past and present to hear the finalists’ presentations, which are listed below.

2015 finalists

Mirjam van den Boom, The Microbiology of Septic Arthritis in Young Auckland Children – A Hospital Case Series

Sonakshi Sharma, Bone mineral density, bone mass acquisition and nutritional status in children and adolescents with cystic fibrosis

Frances Downen, Use of visual aids in promoting patient understanding of survival with treatments for end stage kidney disease

Nicola Culliford-Semmens, Adherence to secondary prophylaxis for patients diagnosed with Rheumatic Heart Disease by echocardiographic screening

Junaid Beig, Is recurrent hepatitis C after liver transplantation associated with post-transplant diabetes mellitus?

Sonakshi Sharma was judged the winner and Mirjam van den Boom the runner-up. Prizes for the winner and runner up were generously donated by the A+ Charitable Trust



2015 Young Investigator winner Sonakshi Sharma with YIA Chair, Associate Dean (Research) of the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, University of Auckland, Professor Andrew Shelling

2015 Summer Students Awards

Student researchers work at Auckland DHB during the summer months each year. These studentship projects are well regarded as being one of the best ways to utilise local talent to find out things Auckland DHB is interested in knowing, and for a very small investment. The A+ Trust supports Auckland DHB staff to devise projects which will answer important clinical question by funding stipends for student workers. Thirteen of these projects were active in the summer of 2015-2016. The scheme runs under the auspices of the Auckland Academic Health Alliance, with the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences administering the grants. The end-of-project reports prepared by the students were recently assessed for scientific quality by an expert panel. The winner and runner up of the 2015 A+ Trust Summer Studentship prize for best students’ reports were

Lydia Hingston (winner), supervised by Rohit Ramchandra and Kevin Ellyett (Respiratory Physiology Laboratory) “Do changes in chemoreceptor activity impair the baroreflex control of heart rate?”

Matthew Kent (runner up), supervised by Peter Ruygrok (Cardiology) *"Identification of factors influencing time to restoration of coronary blood flow in patients presenting with an ST elevation myocardial infarction"*

The prizes to Lydia and Matthew were announced by the Auckland DHB Clinical Advisor for Research, Dr Colin McArthur at an AAHA event held at the University of Auckland Grafton Campus in May 2016. Congratulations to Lydia and Matthew.



2015 Best Summer Student prize winner Lydia Hingston with Dr Colin McArthur and Professor Andrew Shelling

NEW RESEARCH UNDERWAY

Auckland DHB researchers are instigators and leaders of projects in almost all clinical and support services of the organisation. Many participate in international, collaborative, multi-centre studies, and in commercially funded clinical trials of pharmaceuticals and medical devices. ADHB also provides essential resources and partnerships for researchers from other organisations.

Below is presented a snapshot of the 341 new research projects that commenced at Auckland DHB in 2015, along with the lead investigator.

Allied Health – Audiology, Nutrition, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Social Work, Speech & Language:

Ian Costello - Development of a stability database to support transition to an ambulatory infusion chemotherapy service model

Jill Depledge - The effect of exercise and bracing on the width of the rectus abdominis diastasis in early postnatal women

Lynn Gillanders - Clinical classification of adult patients with Chronic Intestinal Failure: an international cross sectional survey to compare the home parenteral nutrition activity among countries

Lynn Gillanders - Serial measurements of Selenium using different methodology in HPN patients in New Zealand

Harry McNaughton - Self-directed rehabilitation RCT after stroke: a practical, low cost programme. The Taking Charge after Stroke (TaCAS) Study

Joe Monkhouse - An audit of acute stroke guideline compliance in Auckland City Hospital

Alison Paulin - Augmentative and Alternative Communication in Intensive Care Units in New Zealand: Experiences of Healthcare Professionals

Suzanne Purdy - Behavioural and evoked potential measures of auditory processing in people with unilateral hearing loss

Andrew Thompson - Extraordinary children: how do families and health professionals work together and relate together when a child has a complex or undiagnosed neurological disorder

Rob Ticehurst - Investigating oxycodone prescribing patterns in ADHB patients over 80 years of age

Tim Winstone - Delivering and sustaining change with a management operating system - the journey towards medicines optimisation

Anaesthesia – Adult, Cardiothoracic, National Women's and ORL:

Debashish Biswas - Iron infusions in elective surgery patients

Natalie Jarvis - Venous thromboembolism prophylaxis in obstetric patients at National Women's Hospital: an audit of current practice

Helen Lindsay - Does adherence to the five moments of hand hygiene using alcohol hand rub result in detectable breath alcohol in routine anaesthetic practice?

Alice Loughnan - Adult emergency cricothyroidotomy survey on practice and training

Elizabeth Maxwell - Perioperative anaesthetic management of patients undergoing hepatopertoenterostomy procedure

Elizabeth Maxwell - Regional Anaesthesia and Breast Cancer Recurrence

Alan Merry - Evaluation of the World Health Organisation Behaviourally Anchored Rating Scale (WHOBARS) tool

Mark Moll - Audit of difficult and failed intubation in obstetric anaesthesia

Nigel Robertson - Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) Using Conscious Sedation

Tim Short - Perioperative Vascular Events in Unrecognized Obstructive Sleep Apnea (POSA)

Tim Short - A Single-Blinded, Randomized, Controlled Study to Evaluate the Safety and Effectiveness of EVICEL® Fibrin Sealant (Human) Compared to a Hydrogel Sealant as an Adjunct to Sutured Dural Repair

Maartje Tulp - A patient experience survey of epidural pain relief during the different stages of labour

Christopher Wong - Vascular Case Conference Mortality Audit

Anaesthesia (Starship):

Brian Anderson - Blood pressure, pulse and oxygen saturation values in neonates and preschool children

Brian Anderson - Audit of drug errors in children

Brian Anderson - Clinical pharmacology based rationalisation of beta-Lactam dosing in critically ill children (OPTIMOME)

Brian Anderson - Antibiotic effectiveness when used with extracorporeal circuits in children

Brian Anderson - A randomised, single-blind, parallel group, comparison of the pharmacokinetic profiles, dose response, analgesic effectiveness and safety of a high and low dose of a paracetamol and ibuprofen fixed dose combination in children undergoing tonsillectomy

Paul Baker - A prospective observational study of humidified high flow nasal gas (Optiflow™) in the paediatric post-anaesthetic care unit (PACU)

Lena Tan - Audit of Postoperative Pain in Paediatric Tonsillectomy Patients

Michael Tan - Spinal surgery blood product audit

Cardiology (Adult):

Jocelyne Benatar - A Longterm Outcomes Study to Assess Statin Residual Risk Reduction with Epanova in High Cardiovascular Risk Patients with Hypertriglyceridemia (STRENGTH)

Jocelyne Benatar - Phase 3 multi-centre, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel group evaluation of the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of Bococizamab (PF-04950615), in reducing the occurrence of major cardiovascular events in high risk subjects

Jocelyne Benatar - Phase 3 multi-centre, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel group evaluation of the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of Bococizamab (PF-04950615), in reducing the occurrence of major cardiovascular events in high risk subjects

Jocelyne Benatar - Does cognitive function in elderly patients with cardiovascular disease have effects on in-hospital adverse outcomes?

Patricia Ding - Balloon catheter tip study

Robert Doughty - Timing of Emerging Markers with Prognostic potential for Optimising Regime Algorithms in Heart Failure. TEMPORAL-HF

Irene Lee - An exploration of the relationship between health literacy and engagement with cardiac rehabilitation programmes

Malcolm Legget - Multi-Ethnic New Zealand Study of Acute Coronary Syndromes (MENZACS)

Victoria Lesatele - Samoan patients with CVD

Nigel Lever - Anonymous feedback on information document sent out by electrophysiology department prior to a booked electrophysiology study

Jen-Li Looi - Illness Perception in Patients with Apical Ballooning Syndrome (ABS)

Khang-Li Looi - Adherence to the current guideline for bradycardic pacing in an octogenarian and nonagenarian population

Khang-Li Looi - Device-therapy in heart failure management in New Zealand population

Arynah Paul - The use of mobile devices in an inpatient setting

Peter Ruygrok - Identification of factors influencing time to restoration of coronary blood flow in patients presenting with an ST elevation myocardial infarction

Ralph Stewart - Evaluation of frailty and co-morbidity in patients with ischemic heart disease

Ralph Stewart - Improving evaluation of functional capacity in elderly patients with cardiovascular disease

Ralph Stewart - Registry based clinical trials

Mark Webster - A Prospective Randomised Multicenter Study to Assess the Safety and Effectiveness of the Orsiro Sirolimus Eluting Stent System in the Treatment Of Subjects With up to Three De Novo or Restenotic Coronary Artery Lesions

Mark Webster - Safety and Performance Study of the Edwards CENTERA Self Expanding Transcatheter Heart Valve

Mark Webster - Biotrace: A Feasibility Study of the Tempo™ Temporary Pacing Lead when used for Temporary Transvenous Intracardiac Pacing

Mark Webster - A Feasibility Study to Assess Safety and Efficacy of the Transapical and Transfemoral JenaValve Pericardial TAVR System in the Treatment of Patients with Symptomatic Severe Aortic Stenosis (AS) (CA-0001)

Miriam Wheeler - Not so innocent heart murmur: a five year experience

Cardiology (Starship):

Tom Gentles - Improving functional outcomes after Fontan surgery by a cross-sectional study of the outcomes following variation in practice in Australia and New Zealand: focus on anticoagulation and cardiac shunting by the fenestration

Luciana Marcondes - DISCO study. An international cohort study on DISCORDant atrio-ventricular connection

Anna Mulholland - Comparison of ages and stages developmental screening data between high and low risk paediatric cardiology patients

Jon Skinner - Beta-blocker adherence in familial long QT syndrome

Jon Skinner - Joining of hearts and minds to address the cellular basis of Long QT Syndrome - modelling a sympathetically triggered disorder in cardiomyocytes derived from patient-induced pluripotent stem cells

Rachel Webb - Outcomes of valve surgery for rheumatic heart disease in New Zealand Children: 1990- 2005

Cardiothoracic Surgical Unit:

Krish Chauduri - Coronary angiogram imaging of one patient with triple vessel disease

Tim Willcox - Audit of air handling of integrated and non-integrated oxygenators during cardiopulmonary bypass

Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit:

Eileen Gilder - Avoidance of Endotracheal Suction in the Post-Operative Cardiac Patient – A randomised clinical trial

Shay McGuinness - An international, multi-centre, randomised controlled trial to assess blood transfusion thresholds in patients undergoing cardiac surgery

Shay McGuinness - Ventilation management of patients with extracorporeal membrane oxygenation for acute respiratory distress syndrome: an international multicenter observational research project

Shay McGuinness - Prophylactic INtra-aortic BALloon Counterpulsation in High-Risk Cardiac Surgery: A Pilot Randomised Controlled Trial

Shay McGuinness - Left Atrial Appendage Occlusion Study III

Rachael Parke - An observational study of patients undergoing thoracic surgery for lung cancer

Rachael Parke - Prevalence of Acute and Chronic Kidney Disease treated by Renal Replacement Therapy in the ICU Environment (PEACE)

Dermatology:

Steven Lamb – An Observational Study of the Effectiveness of Adalimumab on Health and Disability Outcomes in New Zealand Patients with Immune-Mediated Inflammatory Diseases

Diabetes Service (Adult)

Anna Friis - Does Kindness Matter? A Randomised Controlled Trial investigating the role of self-compassion in reducing depression and improving compliance in diabetes patients

Robyn Whittaker - SMS4BG: A randomised controlled trial of a text message based diabetes self-management support intervention

Emergency (Adult):

Sarah Buller - Alcohol and Injuries in the Emergency Department

Sinan Kamona - Auckland Emergency Department Chest Pain Rapid Assessment Pathway Pilot

Emma Lawrey - Auckland Regional Emergency Trainee Mentoring Uptake Survey (ARETMUS)

Bronwyn Tunnage - Paramedic response to acute stroke

Emergency (Starship):

Stuart Dalziel - High Flow Cannula Therapy in Bronchiolitis, a Randomised Controlled Trial

Stuart Dalziel - Paediatric emergency critical skills survey

Olivia Marti - Management of the febrile under six week old baby in New Zealand emergency departments

Endocrinology (Adult):

Emma Billington - A randomized controlled trial to assess the effect of dexamethasone on the incidence of the acute phase response following treatment with zoledronic acid

Endocrinology (Starship):

Eleanor Gunn - Referral practices for children with new onset type one diabetes in Auckland

Craig Jefferies - Determinants of partial remission (PR) and acute complications in children and adolescents with type 1 diabetes mellitus, Starship Auckland

Craig Jefferies - The change in functional mobility within the elderly following a period of rehabilitation within the Older Peoples Health sector of ADHB, and how this may impact on discharge destinations

Craig Jefferies - A Phase III, Multicenter, Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo- and Metformin-Controlled Clinical Trial to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Sitagliptin in Pediatric Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus with Inadequate Glycemic Control

Denise Steers - Disorder of Sex Development - what drives decision making for children born with DSD?

Gastroenterology (Adult):

Mark Lane - A Phase 2, randomized, placebo-controlled, multicenter study to investigate the efficacy and safety of apremilast (CC-10004) for treatment of subjects with active ulcerative colitis

David Orr - A Phase 3b, Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Multicenter Study Evaluating the Effect of Obeticholic Acid on Clinical Outcomes in Subjects with Primary Biliary Cirrhosis

David Rowbotham - A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Parallel-group, Multicenter Protocol to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Ustekinumab Induction and Maintenance Therapy in Subjects with Moderately to Severely Active Ulcerative Colitis

Gastroenterology (Starship):

Andrew Day - Crohn's and Colitis in children in the South Island

Adam Dennison - Infections in paediatric liver transplant patients - a single centre experience in 115 consecutive transplants

Stephen Mouat - Reflex testing of two infant conjugated bilirubin levels in two Auckland laboratories

General Medicine:

Robert Young - Simvastatin treatment for patients with COPD and elevated CRP

Haematology (Adult):

Leanne Berkahn - Audit of patients with early stage Nodular Lymphocyte Predominant Hodgkin Lymphoma treated in the Auckland region

Leanne Berkahn - A multicentre, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, phase III study of idasanutlin, an MDM2 antagonist, with cytarabine versus cytarabine plus placebo in patients with relapsed or refractory acute myeloid leukaemia (AML)

Paul Ockelford - A randomized, multicentre, open-label, Phase III clinical trial to evaluate the efficacy, safety and pharmacokinetics of prophylactic R05534262

Paul Ockelford - A phase 3B prospective randomized open-label, blind evaluator (PROBE) study evaluating the efficacy and safety of (LMW) Heparin/Edoxaban versus Dalteparin in venous thromboembolism associated with cancer

Nigel Patton - 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

Lucy Pemberton - A Randomized Controlled Phase 3 Study of Oral Pacritinib versus Best Available Therapy in Patients with Thrombocytopenia and Primary Myelofibrosis, Post-Polycythemia Vera Myelofibrosis, or Post-Essential Thrombocytopenia Myelofibrosis

Laura Young - The significance and extent of bleeding in women who are carriers of haemophilia in the Greater Auckland region

Haematology/Oncology (Starship):

Kirsten Ballantine - The incidence and survival of children diagnosed with cancer in New Zealand between 1978 and 1999

Nyree Cole - Audit of time to therapeutic cyclosporin levels and associated acute graft versus host disease in allogeneic stem cell transplant patients at Starship Childrens Hospital, 2009 – 2014

Sarah Hunter - FUTuRE Fertility: Fertility through Registry and Evaluation - Themes 1 & 2

Stephen Laughton - Case series of Paediatric Primary Mediastinal B-Cell Lymphoma - is there a case for central nervous system therapy?

Stephen Laughton - SJMB12: A Clinical and Molecular Risk Directed Therapy for Newly Diagnosed Medulloblastoma

Jane Skeen - Developing a model of care for the long term follow up of childhood cancer survivors

Lochie Teague - BIOGEN PUPS B Haemophilia study

Lochie Teague - IntReALL SR 2010: International Study for Treatment of Standard Risk Childhood Relapsed ALL 2010 (IntReALL)

Lochie Teague - An Open-Label, Multicentre Evaluation of the Safety and Efficacy of Recombinant Coagulation Factor VIII Fc Fusion Protein (rFVIII-Fc; BII031) in the Prevention and Treatment of Bleeding in Previously Untreated Patients With Severe Hemophilia A. (PUPS A)

Mark Winstanley - COG ANBL1232: Utilizing Response and Biology Based Risk Factors to Guide Therapy in Patients with non High Risk Neuroblastoma

Mark Winstanley - COG AOST1322 – A Phase II Study of Eribulin in Recurrent or Refractory Osteosarcoma

He Kamaka Waiora:

Helen Wihongi - The health benefits of karanga for kaikaranga

Immunology-Clinical:

Galia BarHave-Montieth - Being seen as a “Whole”: What can clinicians learn about caring for chronic illness from persons’ experiences of non-dualistic healthcare in a biomedical setting

Karen Lindsay - A national audit of Hereditary and Acquired Angioedema

Kahn Preece - Improving outcome of baked food challenges at Starship Children’s Hospital

Kahn Preece - Paediatric hymenoptera venom immunotherapy in New Zealand

Jan Sinclair - Prospective audit of the use of Oral Food Challenges in the management of food allergy in New Zealand

Infectious Diseases (Adult):

Jacqueline Benschop - Is the family pet a risk factor for multi-drug resistant bacterial infections?

Rupert Handy - MK-1439A Protocol 021 - A Phase III Multicenter, Double-Blind, Randomized, Active Comparator-Controlled Clinical Trial to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of MK-1439A Once-Daily Versus ATRIPLA™ Once-Daily in Treatment-Naïve HIV-1 Infected Subjects

Poonam Kumari - What are the service outcomes and the patient experiences of the OPIVA service at Auckland City Hospital

Rebekah Lane - Follow-up audit of cefuroxime and metronidazole use in the surgical wards at Auckland City Hospital after introduction of a new dosing guideline

Mitzi Nisbet - Tuberculous mastoiditis audit

Mitzi Nisbet - Audit of the management of Multidrug resistant TB by the Respiratory Service ADHB

Mitzi Nisbet - Tuberculosis and diabetes mellitus audit

Stephen Ritchie - A Phase 2 Randomized, Double-blind trial of MHAA4549A, A Monoclonal antibody in Combination with Oseltamivir versus Oseltamivir for Treatment of Severe Influenza A Infection

Mark Thomas - Treatment of gonorrhoea in Auckland: are guidelines followed?

Mark Thomas - A Survey of New Zealand Public Concerns about the Ebola Virus

Infectious Diseases (Starship):

Diana Lennon - Are we winning? Serious Staphylococcal and Streptococcal infections in children

Mirjam van den Boom - Microbiology of septic arthritis in children in New Zealand

Lesley Voss - The Australian and New Zealand Paediatric Tuberculosis clinical database

LabPlus (Genetics, Immunology, Microbiology, Virology):

Chi Sing Leo Lam - The role of catecholamines and their metabolites as tumour markers in the diagnosis and monitoring of patients with neuroblastoma

Rebecca Lucas-Roxburgh - Human papillomavirus associated oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma

Sally Roberts - Legionnaires' Disease In New Zealand (LegiNZ Study): Improving Diagnostics and Treatment

Callum Wilson - Proposal to investigate the natural history of children with analyte levels just below the cutoff on newborn screening for fatty acid oxidation and aminoacid breakdown disorders

Liver Transplant Unit:

William Abbott - Search for therapeutic targets that initiate HBeAg seroconversion and decrease the risk for liver cancer in chronic hepatitis B

Adam Bartlett - Thermal properties of the liver and hepatic tumours – improving understanding and outcome from microwave ablation of liver cancers

Ed Gane - Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NALFD) and Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HC) clinical characteristics and outcome: a single centre experience

Ed Gane - A study of INO-1800 alone or in combination with INO-9112 followed by electroporation in Chronic Hepatitis B patients to evaluate safety, tolerability, and immunogenicity

Ed Gane - Collection of Plasma Samples From Individuals Initiating Therapy with Entecavir or Tenofovir for Chronic Hepatitis B Virus Infection for the Clinical Evaluation of the Aptima HBV Quant Assay

Ed Gane - A study to investigate the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics and antiviral effects of RO6864018 in virologically suppressed entecavir treated patients with Chronic HBV infection

Ed Gane - Multipart, Open-label Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Ombitasvir/Paritaprevir/Ritonavir With and Without Dasabuvir Coadministered With and Without Ribavirin in Adults With Genotype 1 or 4 Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection

Ed Gane - A phase II, open-label, single arm, multicentre, international trial of sofosbuvir and GS-5816 for people with chronic hepatitis C virus infection and recent injection drug use

Ed Gane - A phase 3 randomised, open-label study comparing Pexa-Vec (Vaccinia GM-CSF)/Thymidine kinase-deactivated virus) followed by Sorafenib versus Sorafenib alone in patients with advanced hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) without prior systemic therapy

Ed Gane - A Single-Arm, Open-Label, Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of ABT-493/ABT-530 in Renally-Impaired Adults with Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Genotype 1 – 6 Infection (EXPEDITION-4)

Ed Gane - A phase IV open-label, multicentre, international trial of paritaprevir/ritonavir, ombitasvir, dasabuvir with or without ribavirin for people with chronic hepatitis C virus genotype 1 infection

Ed Gane - A Phase 2/3 Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of ISIS 420915 in Patients with Familial Amyloid Polyneuropathy

Ed Gane - Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NALFD) and Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HC) clinical characteristics and outcome: a single centre experience

Victoria Oliver - A Pilot project to evaluate the ability of a Nurse-Led Clinic at the Auckland Central Needle Exchange to assess and diagnose Hepatitis C Virus infection in People Who Inject Drugs

Mental Health (Adult):

Emme Chacko - Metabolic Side Effects of Atypical Antipsychotics in Older Adults

Gary Cheung - Acute hospital admission of older people with schizophrenia

Gary Cheung - Death wishes in older New Zealander living in aged residential care facilities

William Leasi - Samoan perceptions of the Mental Health Act – A study about the application and experience of compulsory psychiatric treatment amongst Samoans in Aotearoa

Bruce Russell - Development of a personalised predictive model of clozapine response for people with treatment-resistant schizophrenia

Ian Soosay - General practitioner and patient perspectives on the discharge of individuals with an ongoing clozapine prescription to primary care

Mental Health (Starship):

Marion Doherty - Families' perspectives on the infant mental health assessment process

Davin Tan - Juvenile fitness to stand trial in Auckland: correlates of fitness to stand trial and dispositional outcomes

Tanya Wright - Investigation of maternal psychopathology, interaction and caregiving, and infant health, development and socio-emotional wellbeing in mother- infant pairs co-admitted to a psychiatric Mother-Baby Unit

National Women's Health – Fertility Plus, Gynaecological Oncology, High Risk Maternity, Midwifery, Obstetrics and Gynaecology:

Philip Baker - Nutritional intervention preconception and during pregnancy to maintain healthy glucose metabolism and offspring health. NiPPeR

Patricia Bolton - Audit of smoking in pregnancy

Ineke Crezee - Are spoken card discharge instructions in community languages useful for patients who do not have English as their preferred language of medical care?

Lois Eva - A review of Outcomes of NZ women with endometrial cancer reviewed at MDMs in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin

Ruth Hughes - PINTO: Pre-diabetes in pregnancy, can early intervention improve outcomes?

Bev Lawton - SAMM Kids: Assessment of delivery outcome from Severe Acute Maternal Morbidity

Zaid Matti - Audit of antenatal renal pelvic dilation on ultrasound scan

Lesley McCowan - The HUMBA (Healthy mUMs and Babies) Demonstration Trial

Debbie McGregor - What are the barriers and support for LMC midwives that impact on birthing low-risk women at Birthcare, Auckland?

Ed Mitchell - "How is your baby moving?" A study of recording fetal movements

Emma Parry - Introduction of a national programme of fetoscopic treatment for severe twin to twin transfusion syndrome – the New Zealand experience

Susan Wells - Quality improvement in perineal trauma management and follow-up barriers and facilitators to best practice care

Michelle Wise - The TIBB Study: Time Interval Between Births

Michelle Wise - Weight gain during pregnancy: does it affect birth outcome in trial of labour after Caesarian

Neurology (Adult):

Alan Barber - Nutrition and hydration in stroke audit

Peter Bergin - Randomised controlled trials of patients with new onset epilepsy; EpiNet-First

Jayaganth Jayabal - Retrospective analysis of anti-NMDA testing in patients suspected of Autoimmune Encephalitis

Ailsa McGregor - A randomised trial of varenicline for the treatment of cognitive and affective symptoms in Huntington's Disease (VCAS-HD)

Ben McGuinness - Investigation for subclinical cerebral microembolic changes secondary to Echocardiogram Bubble Studies

Luciana Pelosi - Role of neuromuscular ultrasound in immune-mediated neuropathies

Jennifer Pereira - Fingolimod/natalizumab – prescreening and drug initiation feedback questionnaire

Cathy Stinear - Identification of biomarkers of functional recovery in stroke. BARISTA

Frederick Sundram - Non-epileptic seizures in individuals attending neurological services

Ernest Willoughby - A Phase 3, Multi-centre, Randomized, Double-blind, Double-dummy, Active-controlled, Parallel Group Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of RPC1063 Administered Orally to Relapsing Multiple Sclerosis Patients

Neurology (Starship):

Hannah Jones - Investigating the high incidence of Maori and Polynesian children with autoimmune neurological disease in New Zealand: A parallel study of anti-N-Methyl-D-Aspartate Receptor Encephalitis and Sydenham's Chorea

Neurosurgery:

Abhinav Jain - Survival analysis of all patients undergoing surgery for intradural spinal tumours at Auckland City Hospital: 2003-2015

Abhinav Jain - Outcome analysis of all patients undergoing a cranioplasty following decompressive craniectomy at Auckland City Hospital: 2003-2015

Newborn:

Jane Alsweiler - A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-blind, placebo-controlled study evaluating the efficacy and safety of a human monoclonal antibody, REGN2222, for the prevention of medically attended RSV infection in preterm infants

Jane Alsweiler - Audit of oral dextrose gel use in hypoglycaemic babies before and after implementation of the "Oral dextrose gel to treat neonatal hypoglycaemia guideline"

Frank Bloomfield - Fat mass in term and preterm New Zealand born babies and factors that influence fat mass at term-corrected age in preterm babies

Cath Conlon - Parental reporting of feeding practices of infants after discharge from Newborn services at ADHB: An observational study

Jane Harding - The hPOD Study: A randomised trial of oral dextrose gel for prevention of hypoglycaemia in at risk newborn babies

Jo Hegarty - Audit of effect of new NICU medication chart on medication errors

Wingchi Leung - Evaluation of a protocol to reduce donor exposure in an Auckland Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

Nitin Rajput - Assessment of school readiness in children born very pre-term in New Zealand

Kathryn Williamson - Defining thresholds of neonatal hyperglycaemia associated with adverse short and long term outcomes

Nursing:

Barbara Daly - Trends in the Community Management of Diabetes by Primary Health Care Nurses in Auckland

Michelle Honey - Raising the option of tissue donation in the Intensive Care Department: the impact of simulation education among nursing staff

Linda Jackson - In-service Nurse Education and Knowledge Transfer: Nurses' Views

Andrew Jull - A randomized, blinded, placebo controlled trial of adjuvant low dose aspirin for venous leg ulcers, Aspirin4VLU

Anecita Lim - Nurses' perception on the risks of chemotherapy exposure

Junel Padigos - Assessing health literacy on anti-microbial resistance and role perceptions on antimicrobial stewardship amongst registered nurses

Julia Slark - What is the experience of pain and pain management in the first three days after discharge from an acute admission to a general surgical ward

Anne Turner - The lived experience of participating in a clinical trial

Leonie Walker - Nurses as caregivers - An exploration of the barriers and enablers facing older nurses in the workplace as they seek to balance the caring responsibilities for children, parents or both with their careers

Tineke Waters - Registered nurses understanding and utilisation of research

Older People's Health:

Vianca Du Toit - The change in functional mobility within the elderly following a period of rehabilitation within the Older Peoples Health sector of ADHB, and how this may impact on discharge destinations

Oncology (Adult):

Anna Bashford - A randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 3 study of nonsteroidal aromatase inhibitors (anastrozole or letrozole) plus LY2835219, a CDK4/6 inhibitor, or placebo in postmenopausal women with hormone receptor-positive

Aaron Chindewere - 20 year observational study following radiation treatment for Stage 1 seminoma

Dragan Damjanovic - Randomized Phase 2 Trial Evaluating Pharmacokinetics and Safety of Four Ramucirumab Dosing Regimens in Second-Line Gastric or Gastroesophageal Junction Adenocarcinoma

Sanjeev Deva - MK-3475-062-00 A Randomised, Active-Controlled, Partially Blinded, Biomarker Select, Phase III Clinical Trial of Pembrolizumab as Monotherapy and in Combination with Cisplatin+5-Fluorouracil versus Placebo+Cisplatin+5-Fluorouracil

Sanjeev Deva - A Safety Study of Oraxol (HM30181 + oral paclitaxel) in Cancer Patients

Sanjeev Deva - A Randomized Crossover Study to Determine the Bioequivalence of Three Consecutive Daily Doses of Oraxol in Cancer Patients Treated with Intravenous Paclitaxel

Timothy Elliot - 18F-fluoroethyl tyrosine PET CT imaging of glioma recurrence patterns, and assessment of its influence on clinical management pathways

Rosalie Fisher - A Phase I/II study to assess the safety and efficacy of MK-3475 in combination with Trametinib and Dabrafenib in subjects with advanced melanoma

Rosalie Fisher - Adjuvant immunotherapy with anti-PD-1 monoclonal antibody Pembrolizumab (MK-3475) versus placebo after complete resection of high-risk Stage III melanoma: A randomised, double-blind Phase 3 trial of the EORTC Melanoma Group

Peter Fong - Randomised phase 3 trial of enzalutamide in first line androgen deprivation therapy for metastatic prostate cancer: ENZAMET

Geeta Gala - Regional upper gastrointestinal cancer tumour stream: review of current services vs national standards, patient audit

Vernon Harvey - LOTUS: An international multi-centre long term follow up study of the long term outcomes and impact of cancer treatments in "triple negative" breast cancer

Nuala Helsby - An observational case-control study to detect predisposition to 5-FU toxicity using a thymine test

Andrew Macann - A pilot of the use of oxygen-enhanced MRI in head and neck cancer

Ben Lawrence - The identification of non-invasive tests for neuroendocrine tumours

Mark McKeage - A randomised, multicentre, Phase III, open-label study of Alectinib versus Crizotinib in treatment-naive anaplastic lymphoma kinase-positive advanced non-small cell lung cancer

Mark McKeage - A Phase II, multi-center, open-label, five-arm study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of oral ceritinib treatment for patients with ALK-positive non-small cell lung cancer metastatic to the brain and/or to leptomeninges

Mark McKeage - A Phase IB/II, open label, multicenter study of INC280 administered orally in combination with gefitinib in adult patients with EGFR mutated, c-MET-amplified non-small cell lung cancer who have progressed after EGFR inhibitor treatment

John Parsons - Testicular cancer: New Zealand survivors experience

David Porter - A Phase II Clinical Trial of Pembrolizumab (MK-3475) as Monotherapy for Metastatic Triple-Negative Breast Cancer (mTNBC)

David Porter - Randomised phase II trial of neoadjuvant chemotherapy +/- concurrent aromatase inhibitor endocrine therapy to down-stage large oestrogen receptor positive breast cancer

David Porter - A Feasibility Study of Magnesium for Endocrine Related Cognitive Problems in Breast Cancer

Rita Sasidharan - A phase Ib/II trial of LEE011 in combination with everolimus (RADO001) and exemestane in the treatment of postmenopausal women with estrogen receptor positive, Her2 negative locally advanced or metastatic breast cancer

Anna Wojtacha - *Pyllodes breast tumour - epidemiology, chemotherapy regimens, outcomes and sites of relapse*

Ophthalmology:

Shuan Dai - *Clinical outcomes following extraction of infantile cataract - intraocular lens insertion vs contact lens*

Shuan Dai - *Neonatal and Infant Eye Screening for congenital abnormalities including retinal haemorrhages and retinopathy of prematurity - digital photographic methods and long term outcomes in a diverse New Zealand population*

Jay Meyer - *A 25 year retrospective review of corneal grafts performed within the Auckland region*

Stuti Misra - *Anterior segment optical coherence tomography for evaluating peripheral corneal thinning disorders*

Ken Ng - *The use of anti-vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) in retinopathy of prematurity (ROP)*

Robert Ng - *The public's awareness of optometric services in Auckland, New Zealand*

Hussain Patel - *Understanding barriers to disease and medication management faced by glaucoma patients of the ADHB Greenlane Clinical Centre*

David Squirrel - *Demographics of central serous chorioretinopathy presenting to a tertiary Ophthalmology Department in New Zealand*

David Squirrel - *Diabetic retinopathy in children with Type 1 diabetes: are we following the guidelines?*

David Squirrel - *Study of the treatment patterns and long term outcomes of polypoidal choroidal vasculopathy in Australian and New Zealand patients*

Oral Health:

Erin Mahoney - *An audit of the dental late effects of oncology treatment on New Zealand children*

Daniel Sundaresan - *Referral patterns for Special Needs Patients at the Auckland District Health Board's Oral Health Unit*

ORL – Head and Neck Surgery:

David Vokes - *A Correlation between VHI and VAPP Scores*

David Vokes - *In-office secondary tracheosopageal puncture*

ORL (Starship):

Maayan Gruber - *Paediatric day-stay recurrent respiratory papillomatosis surgery: assessment of safety and evaluating the reduction of economic burden by employing this approach*

Graeme van der Meer - *An audit of ORL infections admitted to Starship Hospital*

Orthopaedics (Adult):

Gurvinder Benipal - *To explore the importance and effectiveness of patient education prior to elective and total hip or knee joint replacement surgery*

Scott Bolam - *Audit reviewing the management and outcomes of Vancouver B2 periprosthetic femoral fractures*

Kong Kho Chuan - *Retrospective audit: Comparing re-rupture rate of primary patella tendon repair vs augmentation with wire or suture*

Jacob Munroe - *Why do we revise contemporary primary total knee arthroplasty? A multicentre retrospective review*

Jacob Munroe - *Tranexamic acid in total knee joint surgery - a randomised, controlled trial (TRACKS study)*

Orthopaedics (Starship):

Haemish Crawford - *An assessment of normal thoracic growth in children*

John Ferguson - *Preservation of Thoracic Kyphosis and Coronal Curve Correction as a Function of Rod Stiffness in the Surgical Treatment of Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis with the Use of the K2M MESA Rail Deformity System*

Andrew Graydon - *Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis (LCH) Starship Experience from 2002-2012*

Richard Nicol - *Analysis of femoral head shape in hip developmental dysplasia*

Tim Roberts - *The relationship between placement of k-wires in the sagittal plane and subsequent displacement in supracondylar fractures of the distal humerus in patients at Starship Hospital - a retrospective review*

Tim Roberts - *Medial opening wedge supracondylar osteotomy for correction of cubital varus*

Tim Roberts - *Traumatic arthrotomy with pneumarthrosis of the knee*

Susan Stott - *Outcomes of Hip Interventions for Children with Cerebral Palsy – An International Multi-Centre Prospective Comparative Cohort Study*

Susan Stott - *The Treatment of Progressive Early Onset Spinal Deformities: A Multi-Center Outcome Study*

Paediatrics:

Sarah Leadley - *Behavioural assessment and treatment to transition children from enteral to oral nutrition*

Alison Leversha - *Immunisation: Has the introduction of the immunisation fields on the EDS had any impact in primary care?*

Alison Leversha - *What happens after valve repair and replacement for Rheumatic Heart disease? How well do we manage anticoagulation, secondary prophylaxis and rehabilitation?*

Alison Leversha - *Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease: System Review*

Helen Petoussis-Harris - *Effectiveness of the New Zealand Pertussis Vaccine Schedule*

Paediatric Intensive Care Unit:

John Beca - Paediatric delirium: a multi-institutional point prevalence study

John Beca - Approaches and Decisions for Acute Pediatric TBI (ADAPT)

John Beca - Sedation Practice in Paediatric Intensive Care in Australia and New Zealand Baby-SPICE Pilot Study

John Beca - A multicentered, prospective, observational study of the process of obtaining consent from parents/legal guardians during the Baby SPICE Study

Pain Service

Duncan Edwards - The effects of acute and chronic pain on emotional regulatory skill

Palliative Care (Adult):

Dean Fourie - Documentation of resuscitation status and patient goals of care

Anne O'Callaghan - Survey evaluation of a communication skills training workshop for New Zealand renal clinicians

Jackie Robinson - The role of the hospital in palliative care with a focus on the benefits and burdens of hospital admissions for patients with a life limiting illness: phase 2

Physiology

Kevin Ellyett - The effects of maternal sleep practices on maternal and fetal physiology: a link with stillbirth

Kevin Ellyett - Assessment of the Cabin Altitude Simulation Test in normal individuals over 50 years of age

Kevin Ellyett - Do changes in chemoreceptor activity impair the baroreflex control of heart rate?

Public Health:

Simon Thornley - Is dental caries a risk factor for mortality, and hospital treatment for rheumatic fever, cancer, asthma, pneumonia, middle-ear infection, and behavioural disorders?

Radiology (Adult):

Andrew Holden - Physician Initiated Audit of Chimney EVAS Procedures

Andrew Holden - Shockwave Lithoplasty™ DISRUPT Trial for Peripheral Artery Disease (TD 0232)

Andrew Holden - A Multicenter, Parallel, Blinded, Randomized Comparison of the Safety and Performance of Balloon Angioplasty plus Intraluminal SBCV to Balloon Angioplasty alone for Treatment of Stenosis or Occlusion with the Femoropopliteal Artery

Andrew Holden - A Feasibility Study of the InterVene ReLeaf Catheter System in the Creation of Tissue Leaflets in the Femoral and/or Popliteal Vein

Andrew Holden - Aorfix™ Generation IV Delivery System "IntelliFlex™" Study

Andrew Holden - PQ Bypass Systems for Femoropopliteal Bypass II

Mark Macdonald - Audit of DWI and SWI positive regions following diagnostic and therapeutic cerebral angiography over a two year period at a single institution

Alan O'Grady - Endovascular treatment of cerebral vasospasm following subarachnoid haemorrhage - a retrospective analysis of safety and clinical outcome

Shyam Sankaran - An assessment of image quality for the performance of CT neck examinations at 120 Kilovoltage compared with 90 Kilovoltage at Auckland District Health Board

Nicolas Willmore - Audit identifying pick up rate of fungal lung infections using CTPA instead of non-contrast CT scan for immunocompromised patients

Renal Services (Adult):

Michael Collins - Plasma exchange and glucocorticoid dosing in anti-neutrophil cytoplasm antibody associated vasculitis: an international randomized controlled trial. PEXIVAS

Michael Collins - Outcomes for Live Kidney Donors following Nephrectomy in Aotearoa New Zealand

Michael Collins - Pharmacokinetics and safety of ABT493 and ABT530 in renal impairment

Ian Dittmer - Audit of day 1 creatinine level post laparoscopic donor nephrectomy in comparison to pre-operative creatinine to determine acceptable elevation post-donation

Kalpa Jayanatha - Retrospective review of 3-month protocol renal transplant biopsies in the Auckland Regional Transplant Group (ARTG) 2001-2015

Thu Nguyen - Peritoneal Dialysis Outcomes and Practice Patterns Study, (PDOPPS)

Paris Nicholls - What factors increase or inhibit the engagement of predialysis patients in planning for dialysis and transplant?

Helen Pilmore - Assessment of Scoring for Renal Transplantation Survival: comparison of methodology and patient perceptions

David Semple - Audit of home haemodialysis outcomes at ADHB

Jun Seok Suh - Incidence and treatment outcome of tuberculosis in patients with end stage renal disease in Auckland, New Zealand

Tina Sun - Identifying factors affecting access to pre-emptive live donor kidney transplantation in Auckland City Hospital chronic kidney disease patients

Renal Services (Starship):

Tonya Kara - Health and wealth in children and adolescents with chronic kidney disease in New Zealand and Australia

Chanel Prestidge - A Randomized, Open-label, Controlled Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of Cinacalcet HCl in Paediatric Subjects With Secondary Hyperparathyroidism and Chronic Kidney Disease Receiving Dialysis

Chanel Prestidge - An open-label, single-arm study to assess the safety and tolerability of cinacalcet HCl in addition to standard of care in paediatric subjects age 28 days to < 6 years with chronic kidney disease and secondary hyperparathyroidism receiving dialysis

Chanel Prestidge - Conversion to generic tacrolimus in a paediatric renal transplant programme

Respiratory Services (Adult):

Sandra Hotu - The rates of non-attendance to the respiratory outpatient clinic at ADHB for Maori and Pacific patients with chronic airways disease and features which may influence non-attendance

Syed Hussain - A Randomised, Double-blind, Double Dummy, Chronic Dosing (56 week) Placebo-controlled, Parallel Group, Multicentre, Phase III Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of 3 Doses of Benralizumab (MEDI-563)

Syed Hussain - Cost of repeated attempt at pressure determination by auto titration devices

John Kolbe - Patient feedback on physician performance

John Kolbe - A Randomized, Double-Blind, Multi-Center, Parallel Group Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of PT010 Relative to PT003 and PT009 on COPD Exacerbations over a 52-Week Treatment Period in Subjects With Moderate to Very Severe COPD

Tanya McWilliams - Audit of factors affecting renal function after lung transplant

Tanya McWilliams - A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase II study to investigate the efficacy and safety of riociguat (0.5mg, 1.0mg, 1.5mg, 2.0mg and 2.5mg TID) in patients with symptomatic pulmonary hypertension

Margaret Wilsher - Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) – a mechanistic study using morphologic and functional data in a computational lung model

Respiratory (Starship):

Mei-Ling Blank - Proton pump inhibitor use and risk of pneumonia and other lung infections in New Zealand infants

Naveen Pillariseti - A study of lung microbiome in children with non-CF bronchiectasis during stability and infective exacerbations compared to healthy children

James Revie - myAIRVO 2 Optiflow Junior Cannula Home Usability Study

Rheumatology (Adult):

Estine Chow - Smoking cessation audit in patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis

Nicola Dalbeth - ALLO-402: A Study to Determine the Presence and Volume of Monosodium Urate Crystals as Assessed by Dual-Energy Computed Tomography in Patients with Gout Treated with Allopurinol

Nicola Dalbeth - The patient experience of musculoskeletal imaging: a mixed models study

Nicola Dalbeth – External validation of the 2012 Gout Flare definition + patient perception of flare as a measure of outcome

Nicola Dalbeth - Cartilage damage and monosodium urate crystal deposition: understanding why urate crystals form

Sexual Health Services:

Jeannie Oliphant - Genital warts diagnoses - five years of quadrivalent vaccine and how low can we go?

Helen Petoussis-Harris - Feasibility study of human papillomavirus infection, awareness and vaccine acceptability in men

Surgery (Adult):

Ian Bissett - Understanding Polyp Types in Bowel Screening

Ian Bissett - A retrospective review of the clinical time course of post-operative ileus (POI) after colorectal surgery

Ian Bissett - Extraperitoneal vs transperitoneal stomas: occurrence of parastomal hernias

Ian Bissett - In vivo characterisation of large bowel pressure wave movement in sigmoid diverticular disease using a high resolution manometry catheter

Ian Bissett - Defining a Biomarker profile for Anastomotic leakage following colonic surgery

Ian Bissett - Development of a risk prediction system for the occurrence of complicated acute diverticulitis in a tertiary hospital setting

Ian Bissett - Antibiotics in acute diverticulitis

Ian Bissett - The rectosigmoid brake as a neuromodulation target for faecal incontinence

Kavitesh Deo - Temporal Artery Biopsy - Auckland City Hospital 2009-2014

Richard Douglas - The effect of Xylitol nasal irrigations on the sinus microbiome in patients with chronic rhinosinusitis

Max Petrov - Comparing local practice and management of chronic pancreatitis against recently published international guidelines

Lindsay Plank - Validating Cross-Sectional Psoas Area as a Measure of Sarcopenia in Surgical Patients and Chronic Liver Disease

Jane Wilkinson - A comparison of the metabolic effects of two bariatric procedures

John Windsor - Effect of warm humidified insufflated carbon dioxide on wound bacterial load in open elective gastrointestinal surgery: a pilot investigation

Jason Wong - Sleeve gastrectomy with a twist - the role of omentopexy - a case report

Surgery (Starship):

Julie Chambers - Removing barriers to the safe travel of children – Are we there yet? What are the safe travel practices of families and whanau at Starship and has a law change made a difference?

Megan Grinlinton - Ureterocele in the paediatric population at Starship Hospital from 1996-2014: a review of our experience

Shareena Lala - Resource utilisation in paediatric surgery: a prospective review of incurred costs in elective paediatric urology

Trauma Service

Paula Kersten - Outcomes After Trauma Study (OATS)

William Ormiston - Epidemiology of blunt cerebrovascular injuries at Auckland City Hospital

Urology:

Stephanie Loeft - Review of patient presentation that have presented with symptomatic urolithiasis

Nadya York - Prostate biopsy sepsis rates across Auckland comparing public and private sepsis rates

Vascular Service

Venu Bhamidipaty - The costs of managing a diabetic foot wound: an Auckland experience

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