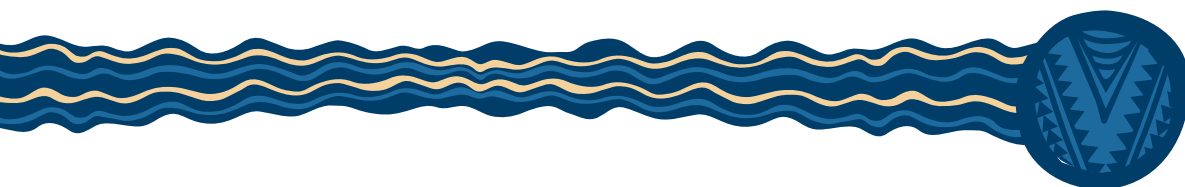




# 2017 Research Report





Gold Coast Health would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the Gold Coast, the Yugambah speaking people, whose land, winds and waters we all now share; and pay tribute to their unique values, and their ancient and enduring cultures, which deepen and enrich the life of our community.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and recognise those whose ongoing effort to protect and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures will leave a lasting legacy for future Elders and leaders.

Artwork produced for Queensland Health by Gilimbaa.

### Public availability statement

An electronic copy of this publication is available at:  
<https://publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/gold-coast-health-research-annual-reports>

For further information, or to request a hard copy of this publication, please contact the Office for Research Governance and Development, Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service, by phone +61 (0) 7 5687 0237 or email [researchgoldcoast@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:researchgoldcoast@health.qld.gov.au)

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# From the Chief Executive and Research Committee Chair



**Mr Ron Calvert**  
Chief Executive, Gold Coast Health

**Prof Allan Cripps, AO**  
Chair, Research Committee of the Board

The Gold Coast region is in a state of rapid expansion, and is forming an identity as a research and technical innovation hub. The pivotal role of research in the health sector has never been more evident than in the past 12 months. This year's report is testament to our maturation into a research-informed health service.

The legacy of the Commonwealth Games places the Gold Coast in a unique position, particularly the development of the Health and Knowledge Precinct on the Athletes Village. The Precinct has already attracted attention across government and the global business community, due to its unique placement of a university, a private hospital and a public tertiary hospital, alongside options for high-tech industry development. As the Precinct is further established, Australia's brightest minds and those from further afield can come together to find solutions for tomorrow's health challenges.

Our clinicians are already reaping the benefits of our close partnership with co-located Griffith University and strong collaborations with Bond University, Southern Cross University and an array of academic partners. Research is in its essence a collaborative activity, and this report details many examples of how we combine our partners' complementary strengths to drive patient-focused research.

Our goal to become a major innovative research organisation in outer urban and regional health is achievable if we work to capitalise on the programs already underway in areas as diverse as trauma, nutrition and mental health. As a healthcare institution, our research maintains a unique and dedicated focus to directly improving care and supporting our patients' quality-of-life. This can be achieved by working alongside our partners in academia, industry, health, and community services to deliver collective solutions.

This is a significant point in our development as a research-focused institution with the launch of our Research Strategy and Roadmap (2018–2022). Defining our priorities on the journey to a research-focused organisation will ensure we have a strong foundation for the future.

This year we bid farewell to founding Board member and research champion, Professor Allan Cripps AO. Allan has been a leader across all facets of health as a medical scientist, researcher, senior health and academic administrator, and Chair of the Research Committee of our Board. His drive to embed and grow research within our service has left a strong legacy which is reflected in this report.



# Research Committee

The Research Committee advises the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Board in relation to building long-term collaborations in research and enhancing clinical service delivery founded on sustainable and trusting partnerships. These research programs are facilitated by a shared collective vision with clear benefits to all parties which will help to position the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct as a world-class health precinct of national and international significance. In addition to Professor Cripps AO, the Research Committee consists of:



**Professor Judy Searle**

Professor Judy Searle is a Fellow of The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. She started her career as a medical specialist before moving primarily into leadership and management positions in academia both in Australia and the UK, including roles at Griffith University's School of Medicine and as a member of the Academic Corporate Governance Board.



**Professor Helen Chenery**

Professor Helen Chenery is Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine at Bond University. Professor Chenery is a leading clinical researcher, with more than 130 peer reviewed publications and substantial grant income.

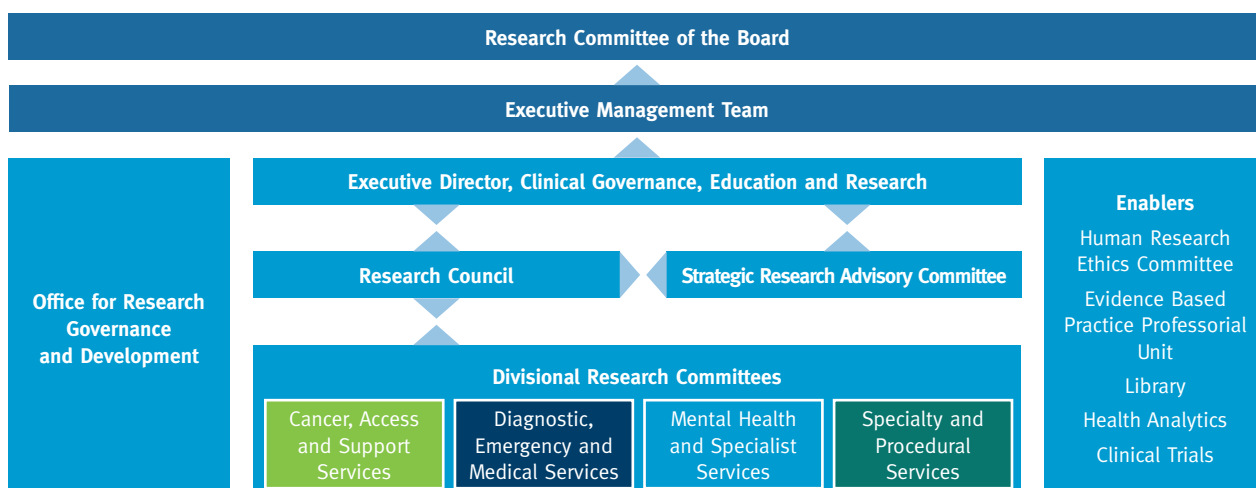


**Dr Andrew Weissenberger**

Dr Andrew Weissenberger is Practice Principal at Hope Island Medical Centre and has been in the medical profession for more than two decades. His interests include aged care and chronic disease management.

## The Structure of Research at Gold Coast Health

Our structure includes operational and strategic governing bodies at all levels and across all divisions of the organisation. Our core governance structure develops and drives an organisation-wide research agenda, supported by our research enablers and partners.



# Our research performance



**Prof Marianne Vonau, OAM**  
Executive Director, Clinical  
Governance, Education and Research

**Dr Greta Ridley,**  
Director, Office for Research Governance  
and Development

Research is a key part of Gold Coast Health's vision of delivering a world-class health service, one where high-quality research is systematically translated into patient care. The past year has seen a period of growth in research capability as a result of our efforts to entrench a research culture and consolidate our research architecture.

This growth has been enabled by our research structure, which includes our research advisory committees, research enablers and research partners. The Office for Research Governance and Development lies at the centre of this structure, as the main coordinator of research support activities.

There has been significant growth in our office and its ability to support research capability over the past year. This has included the creation of two key research support positions, a Grants Coordinator and a Clinical Trials Monitor for monitoring research projects and developing clinical trials capacity.

In conjunction with the Research Council and the Strategic Research Advisory Committee, we advanced several key initiatives in 2017, informed by our five strategic goals:

## **Embedding research as core business**

The role of research as a core part of service delivery is reflected in the formation of several new research collaboratives this year, as well as significant growth in established collaboratives. Several new conjoint appointments were also established with Griffith University and Bond University to support clinicians in their research activity, particularly in the fields of Emergency Medicine and Mental Health.

## **Building research capacity**

Research capacity was supported through our 2017 Research Week Conference and Research Grants Scheme. Training opportunities were held throughout the year to support staff to develop their research capability in evidence-based practice, knowledge translation, grant writing, conference presentations and research finance management.

In addition to this, research consultations with our biostatistician and advanced research development officer were key to providing project-specific support to clinical staff, with a total of 333 hours of face-to-face support provided during 2017.

Research capacity was also supported by our other research enablers, detailed in the Enablers section of this report.

## **Providing effective governance and support**

The Office for Research Governance and Development continued to provide timely and expert ethical and governance review this year. Our office engaged with Queensland Health service-wide networks of ethics and governance officers, resulting in improvements to processes and development of new innovations, including a secure Queensland Health Research Data Repository and promotion of our research activity through a central Queensland Health Database.

Our strong links with the Health Innovation, Investment and Research Office have enabled Gold Coast Health to be recognised as a primary

site in Queensland for telehealth trials and the pilot site for the Giving Information to Research (GIFTR) initiative, which will create a streamlined consent process for use of patient information for research purposes.

### Strengthening partnerships

Our relationships with key partners grew in 2017 and new partnerships were developed. Incorporation of external partners on our Strategic Research Advisory Committee has encouraged the development of collaborative opportunities and supported our goal to become a centre for health research in our region. Statements from our key partners are provided in the Partners section of this report.

We also strengthened our collaboration with the Gold Coast Hospital Foundation this year to deliver the first joint Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation research grant scheme, which allowed us to expand on our previous scheme to deliver more research funding to our staff.

### Translating research to care

Translation of research evidence into practice is key to delivering a world-class health service. A Knowledge Translation 'Community of Practice' was formed in 2017, and staff had the opportunity to attend a workshop jointly organised by Gold Coast Health, the Evidence Based Practice Professorial Unit and St Michael's Hospital, Toronto. This focus was maintained through the inclusion of questions about translation of research findings

within research protocols, grant applications and in Research Week presentations. This report also contains many specific examples of how our research has been translated into care, in both our research highlight stories, and research group profiles.

### Future Statement

Research at Gold Coast Health is set to expand rapidly, with a number of key initiatives in development for 2018. The Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct will begin to form on the Gold Coast University Hospital campus following the 2018 Commonwealth Games, creating new research opportunities. We are investigating models for a centralized Clinical Trials Service, which would expand Gold Coast Health's capacity to partner with industry to develop novel treatments.

Our relationships with academic partners will continue to expand in 2018, with plans for joint training opportunities and grant schemes. The Bond University Evidence Based Practice Professorial Unit is also expanding, with the appointment of a new Professor to strategically support the translation of evidence into practice in the health service. It is an exciting time to conduct research at Gold Coast Health.



159  
research projects



244  
active  
researchers



76  
national and  
international  
partners

258  
publications



1468



patients recruited to active  
clinical trials



\$2.9m in research grants\*

\*portion of grant funding recieved by Gold Coast Health

# Research Grants Scheme

**The first joint Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation Research Grants Scheme was administered in 2017, signifying a tangible contribution towards our vision of being recognised as a centre of excellence for world-class healthcare.**

The funding allowed Gold Coast Health clinicians to pursue research projects which demonstrated strong collaborations and a focus on translation into care.

Funded projects extended across a wide range of clinical areas and research methodologies. A diversity in collaborative partners was also well-represented in the selected projects, including other health services and university, industry and community partners.

Investigators	Collaborating Institutions	Project Title	Funded Amount
R Ajjawi, A Teodorczuk, S Billett, C Noble, J Hilder	Griffith University, Deakin University	Enriching medical trainees' learning through practice: Towards a focus on patient-inclusive learning.	\$99,964
A Carrasco, J Fenwick, D Creedy, K Baird, J Boddy, J Nelson, E Callander, K Tighe, R O'Malley	Griffith University, James Cook University, Gold Coast, DV Prevention Centre, Queensland Women's Legal Service and Maternity Choices Australia	Responding to domestic and family violence in the context of maternity care: Applying a trauma and violence informed care framework to better understand how to optimise an integrated response.	\$100,000
M Coppieters, H Thomson, K Evans, L Bisset, J Kelley, J Dearness, K Conway, C Morris	Griffith University	Identifying responders and non-responders to the UPLIFT program for people with persistent low back pain: A prospective cohort study.	\$19,974
S George, L Schlapbach, L Coin, K Grimwood, A Schibler, A Blumenthal, S Bialasiewicz, P Snelling, P Sargent, S Moloney	Children's Health Qld, Lady Cilento Children's Hospital and University of Queensland	Rapid diagnosis of sepsis in acutely ill children – the RAPIDS (Rapid Acute Paediatric Infection Diagnosis – Sepsis study).	\$99,874
B Gillespie, F Lin, R Walker, S Roberts, W Chaboyer, P Nieuwenhoven, J Perry	Griffith University, Princess Alexandra Hospital	Identifying acute wound care priorities to inform research and an evidence-based practice agenda across two hospitals.	\$40,352
M Sabaratnam, N Morris, S Sabapathy, R Jayasinghe	Griffith University	Does the addition of high intensity single muscle group training improve exercise training efficiency in heart failure?	\$19,977
A Sabet, S Broadley, R Bedlack, E Russo, B Urbi	Griffith University, Duke University, Phytects	A randomised, double-blind, single-centre study on the safety, tolerability and efficacy of Cannabis-based Medicine Extract in slowing the progression of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis or Motor Neurone Disease (EMERALD).	\$99,860
M Simmonds, J Winearls, G Tansley, J Moore, S Provenzano, A McNamee	Griffith University and Sunshine Coast University Hospital	Combined mechanical and oxidative stresses during cardiopulmonary bypass: Defining the role of altered blood rheology on microcirculatory function.	\$17,510
B Sriram, A Cox, A Cripps, D Zagami, Z Fountain	Griffith University	Why do patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and under nutrition state have poor clinical outcomes? A project exploring inflammatory pathways to discover novel treatment paradigms.	\$19,802



# Research Week Conference



Ms Sarah Czuchwicki, Dr Karl Bagraith, Ms Rachael Oorloff, Dr Rachel Wenke and Ms Karyl Foster

**Gold Coast Health's extensive health research activity was under the spotlight at the inaugural Gold Coast Health Research Week Conference. The three-day event involved our partners Griffith University, Bond University, Southern Cross University and the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct.**

The conference theme, 'Towards a Healthier Gold Coast', reinforced the role of research in improving our health service for the community. Each presentation ended with a slide which outlined the translational element of the research. Presenters were asked to consider what they wanted stakeholders to change, or to know, as a result of their research.

The conference was formally opened by Professor Allan Cripps, who acknowledged the recipients of the 2017 Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation grants, and announced the new clinical trials agreement with Griffith University. A packed schedule of events included the well-received 'Lightning Talk' sessions, which challenged researchers to present their project in 3 minutes using a single slide, and the public forum on 'Dementia Caregiving and Technology' which was co-sponsored with Griffith University. Two panels were held on the topics of 'Growing Health Professional Resilience: Fix Our Staff or Fix Our System?' and 'Better Health Through Research'. Networking evenings were also held by both Menzies Health Institute Queensland and AusBiotech, offering staff an opportunity to develop new collaborations with academia and industry.

**28-30**  
Nov 2017  
**3 day**  
event involving  
key partners

**300+**  
registrants



**62**  
full presentations

**165**  
abstract  
submissions  
**33** lightning  
talks

**75**  
posters

# Research enablers

## Strategic Research Advisory Committee

The Strategic Research Advisory Committee is the peak advisory body for developing research strategy in Gold Coast Health. The committee has a particular focus on collaborating with academic and corporate partners to grow research capacity. Membership includes key influencers from Gold Coast Health, Griffith University, Bond University, Southern Cross University and the Gold Coast Primary Health Network. Professor Sharon Mickan has served as Chair of the Committee from 2015 to 2017. As she steps down from the role, the research community has expressed gratitude for her valued leadership in driving research forward in our health service. A listing of members can be found on page 112.

## Research Council

The Gold Coast Health Research Council is the peak communication and coordination body for aligning priorities and processes and supporting research across Gold Coast Health. Research Council works alongside the Office for Research Governance and Development to deliver on the research strategy and support the growth of a research culture in our health service. The Council is chaired by Professor Andrea Marshall, and is made up of research active staff, capturing different disciplines and varying levels of research experience. A listing of members can be found on page 113.

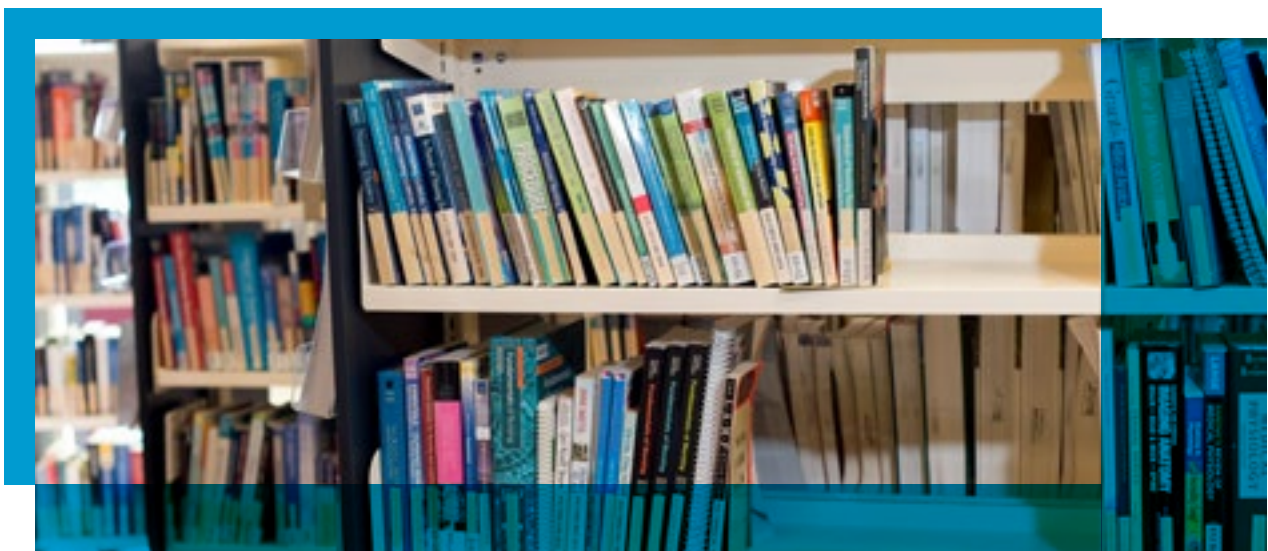
## Evidence Based Practice Professional Unit

The Evidence Based Practice Professorial Unit is a joint initiative between Bond University and Gold Coast Health. The Unit operates on the principle that incorporation of quality evidence in routine clinical care leads to the best outcomes for patients.

Members of the Unit, themselves active researchers and evidence-based practitioners, aim to cultivate a sustainable culture of evidence-based practice and research in the health service. Research capability is built through delivery of workshops, support of knowledge translation initiatives, and individual consultations to assist staff in designing research studies, as well as membership of and contribution to several strategic committees within the health service, including Strategic Research Advisory Council, Research Council, and the Pharmacy Research Collaborative.

In 2017, the Unit provided Evidence Based Practice, Systematic Review, Knowledge Translation, and Protocol Writing workshops to 64 staff members. Unit staff also chaired and sponsored the two innovative and well-received 3 minute 'Lightning Talk' sessions at the Research Week Conference.

**64** staff members  
actively supported



## Library Services

The Gold Coast Health Library delivers responsive and innovative information services and resources to support research, evidence-based practice, ongoing review and production of guidelines, as well as professional and service development initiatives across the health service. Specialist Research and Training Librarians provide a literature search service for researchers, clinicians and support staff. A consultation service and training program supports staff in key stages of the research cycle.

The Library team is committed to fulfilling the information requirements of the Gold Coast Health community, in relation to learning, evidence-based practice and research. This includes proactive book purchases and document delivery and a continually diversifying training program to meet staff needs. The Library team also engages in staff orientation programs and in-service sessions specifically tailored to the needs of the Gold Coast Health community.

 Up to **5000** visitors supported monthly

## Health Analytics Service

Many research projects require access to clinical records or the data contained in clinical information systems used within Gold Coast Health. The Health Analytics service provides expert assistance for research data requests from both internal and external researchers. This includes discussion of the objectives of the research and advice on data sources, availability and access, through to data custodian approval, data extraction and reporting. Support of research data requests from projects with governance and Public Health Act approval ensures that health data is accessible to answer important research questions that will ultimately improve our health service's policies and practices.

**114** research requests supported 

## Clinical Trial Services

Gold Coast Health routinely participates in both commercially sponsored and not-for-profit clinical trials. Our passion for supporting the conduct of clinical trials lies in their tangible benefit for our patients, who are able to access cutting-edge pharmaceuticals and medical devices, while also adding to the global evidence base on best treatments.

All phases of Clinical Trials (I-IV) are able to be accommodated at Gold Coast Health. There are 17 staff who have dedicated time in their roles for clinical trial support across the health service.

Key clinical trials hubs are led by expert staff, including:

- Cancer Access and Support Services led by Clinical Trials Manager Jacob Darch.
- Diagnostic and Emergency Services led by Nurse Manager Clinical Trials Rachael Dunning.
- Intensive Care Unit trials led by Research Coordinator Mandy Tallott.
- Trauma Services led by Research Coordinator Elizabeth Wake.

Our clinical trials service was noted for the following achievements in 2017:

- High recruiter for a post-marketing trial of an immunoglobulin supplied by CSL Behring, in collaboration with the Australian Red Cross, to treat patients with immune disorders.
- Highest recruiter in Australia for the NAVIGATE ESUS trial.
- Recruitment for the FEISTY trial completed 9 months ahead of schedule.
- Selection as a primary site in Queensland for the tele-trials initiative for cancer treatments.

# Human Research Ethics Committee

The Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) was established to evaluate the ethics of research involving staff and/or patients at Gold Coast Health and to ensure research is in the best interests of our community.

The HREC operates in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's (NHMRC) Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007) and Queensland Health directives and policy.

The HREC is chaired by Emeritus Professor Drew Nesdale and has a committee membership constituted in accordance with NHMRC requirements (see table below). It is certified to review multi-centre Phase 1, 2 and 3 clinical trials, device trials, clinical interventional research, qualitative research and research on the topic of mental health.

A key highlight from 2017 was our collaboration with the Metro South Hospital and Health Service to jointly deliver HREC member training. The first training day was held on 19 June 2017 with subsequent training events organised for 2018.

Several members concluded their membership of the HREC in 2017, including Ms Vicki Engel, Mr Jacob Owen, Professor Randy Bindra and Ms Zoe Kaesehagan. The current HREC and the Office for Research, Governance and Development wish to express gratitude and appreciation to the past members for their efforts and contributions.

## Human Research Ethics Committee Members at December 2017

### Category A: Chairperson

Emer Prof Drew Nesdale  
*Professor of Psychology, Griffith University*

### Category B: Layperson with no affiliation with the institution

Mr Robert Lee  
*Layperson*

Ms Jillian Koschade  
*Layperson*

### Category C: Knowledge of, and current experience in, the professional care, counselling or treatment of people

Dr Gregory Comadira (Deputy Chair)  
*Intensive Care Physician*

Ms Jillian Mohoney (Deputy Chair)  
*Allied Health Workforce Development Officer*

Ms Yvonne Elliott-Kemp  
*Rehabilitation Services Director*

Dr Amy Johnston  
*Senior Research Fellow, Emergency Care, Griffith University and Gold Coast Health*

Dr Jagadeesh Kurtkoti  
*Staff Specialist, Renal Dialysis*

Ms Hazel Bassett  
*Team Leader, Homeless Health Outreach Team (HHOT)*

Dr Polly Spencer  
*Staff Specialist, Anaesthetist*

Dr Mark Boschen  
*Senior Lecturer in Clinical Psychology and Honours Program Director, Griffith University*

Dr Annetta Kit Lam Tsang  
*Paediatric Dentist*

Dr Simon Platt  
*Senior Staff Specialist, Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery*

### Category D: Performs a pastoral care role in community

Father John Pinson  
*Honorary Priest Assistant, Anglican Parish of Southport*

### Category E: Lawyer, where possible who is not engaged to advise the institution

Ms Hayley Carswell  
*Lawyer*

Prof Charles Lawson  
*Lawyer*

### Category F: Current research experience that is relevant to research proposals to be considered at the meetings they attend

A/Prof Roselyn Rose-Meyer (Deputy Chair)  
*Pharmacology and Physiology Researcher, Griffith University*

Dr Vinod Gopalan  
*Lecturer in Histopathology and Medical Education, Griffith University*

A/Prof Mary Sidebotham  
*Director, Midwifery Postgraduate Programs, Griffith University*

A/Prof Laurie Grealish  
*Associate Professor of Subacute and Aged Nursing, Griffith University and Gold Coast Health*

Dr Michelle Krahe  
*Senior Research Fellow, Health Group, Griffith University*



# Research partners and collaborations



COLLAB-  
ORATION



Ariel view of Griffith University alongside Gold Coast University Hospital.  
Image courtesy of City of Gold Coast, Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct





Griffith University, co-located with the Gold Coast University Hospital and the emerging Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct, undertakes cutting-edge health and medical research through informed, innovative and sustainable solutions. The University boasts award-winning learning and teaching staff, state-of-the-art facilities and world-renowned research programs. The \$150 million Griffith Health Centre is the most comprehensive health facility in Australia, providing a unique environment for cross-collaborative research and unrivalled clinical experience.

As Griffith University's largest research institute, Menzies Health Institute Queensland (MenziesHIQ) continues to drive remarkable outcomes aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities. MenziesHIQ's corporate strategy aligns with their research strengths and enhances the commitment to local, national and international health priorities. The four areas of interdisciplinary research include: Disability and Rehabilitation, Infectious Diseases and Immunology, Applied Health Economics, and Healthcare Practice and Survivorship.

Griffith University and Gold Coast Health have 36 conjointly appointed staff. A number of conjoint staff are undertaking critical research including the causes of stillbirth; identifying novel targets for treating cancer, such as bowel cancer; understanding disease mechanisms underlying multiple sclerosis; and improving the treatment and prevention of common respiratory and gastrointestinal infections. Other important research taking place by conjoint appointees include trials maximising wound healing; optimising nutrition in critically or chronically ill patients; and preventing healthcare-associated infections.

The hospital workplace environment can be stressful for both health professionals and patients. Conjoint appointed healthcare staff are working to identify and address these causes in areas such as the Emergency Department and Obstetric Wards, and in so doing are seeking to improve health outcomes by further increasing the quality and efficiency of these services.

Another major research breakthrough by Gold Coast Health Orthopaedic and MenziesHIQ researchers is creating new hope for sufferers of serious wrist ligament injuries through world-class 3D printing technology. The technological advancements gained from this collaboration demonstrates the importance of such fruitful partnerships.

Griffith University's long-standing collaboration with the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service creates a unique opportunity that is capable of producing remarkable improvements for patients. The emerging Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct will also create a platform for innovation, where researchers and healthcare professionals can address significant health challenges of the 21st century.

Griffith University's ongoing partnership with Gold Coast Health will continue to flourish, through the integration of contemporary teaching, research and healthcare facilities, creating better healthcare solutions and services across the globe.



Bond University is a leader in health and medical based research, with a number of world class Research Centres and Research Groups. These include the Centre for Research in Evidence-Based Practice, the Centre for Urology Research and the Clem Jones Research Centre for Regenerative Medicine.

There is significant research investment and productivity in the fields of medicine, public health and allied health (particularly exercise and nutrition). Research with Gold Coast Health and partners covers a range of current and emerging health challenges, such as the increasing health burden associated with ageing, disability and high obesity rates; growing hospitalization rates and costs; the life expectancy gap for indigenous Queenslanders; and disparity in regional health outcomes and adverse effects of socio-economic factors.

Research is also undertaken in relation to the processes and implementation of Evidence-Based Practice, to more intelligently and efficiently close the gaps between best available evidence and current clinical practice. Research teams work on big, neglected problems in health care such as antibiotic resistance, overdiagnosis and neglected non-pharmaceutical treatments. This is supported by work on the development of methods, tools and implementation strategies with Gold Coast partners, with a shared vision for a sustainable health system where patients, families and clinicians make fully informed choices based on the best available evidence.

The Evidence Based Practice (EBP) Professorial Unit, based at Gold Coast University Hospital, is a key joint initiative of Bond University and Gold Coast Health, which endeavours to ensure health care workers are skilled users of research evidence.

Bond University is looking forward to expanding collaborations and innovative research activity on the Gold Coast and growing the team in 2018, welcoming a conjoint Gold Coast Health and Bond appointment, as Professor of Health Systems Research and Translation. Bond University's passion and emphasis on implementation and translation of research into practice continues, impacting both the local and national health economy, and achieving better health care for all.



Southern Cross University is a dynamic university with a vibrant and innovative research program which focuses on issues that are both regionally relevant and globally significant. The University works closely with industry, the government sectors, and the community to fulfil this program. Southern Cross University's contemporary campuses, with purpose-built state-of-the-art facilities, are located on the east coast of Australia – at the Gold Coast in Queensland, and in Lismore and Coffs Harbour in New South Wales.

Addressing the national research priorities with a high level of research excellence is high on the agenda. Southern Cross University's research framework allows for the strategic and sustainable growth of research enterprise and sets a solid foundation to extend research capacity over the coming years. The function of the University Health Clinic is central to achieving research excellence.

Southern Cross University's research often involves partnerships with health services, and clinical research at the Gold Coast campus has led to strong links with Gold Coast Health. A key example of this partnership is the Domestic and Family Violence Screening in the Emergency Department study. This research brings together expertise in psychology from Southern Cross University investigator Dr Sally Sargeant with Emergency Medicine specialists from Gold Coast University Hospital to investigate how we can better identify and support people experiencing domestic violence who present to Emergency Departments.

Southern Cross University is also working with the Gold Coast City–Health Cities Initiative and is developing a dynamic education and research partnership with the Bond University School of Health and Medicine.

This integration of service, education and research is the cornerstone of the University's research endeavours. Through this synthesis the impact of both inter-professional care and pedagogical development in the generation of knowledge in the fields of health, well-being and social care, is addressed.





## HEALTH AND KNOWLEDGE PRECINCT **GOLDCOAST™**

Asia-Pacific's emerging health and innovation hub, the 200-hectare Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct is a unique global business location for high-tech industry development, research collaboration and jobs of the future – a new way ahead for the Gold Coast and crucial to the city's transformation.

Home to Gold Coast University Hospital, Griffith University and the Gold Coast Private Hospital, the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct hosted the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Athletes Village which is now being transformed into a vibrant \$550 million mixed-use community to live, work and learn. Supported by \$5 billion in health, education, transport infrastructure and high-speed fibre optic cabling, the Precinct, which already employs almost 10,000 people, is set to eventually employ over 26,000 people – generating gross value of \$2.9 billion for the city's economy.

For the City's health and research community, the Precinct provides an epicentre for health innovation, research partnerships and clinical trials, and the opportunity to collaborate with leading global companies set to be attracted into the Precinct to drive clinical best practise, research and commercial opportunities.

From additive manufacturing, to bio-technology, robotics, medical imaging and devices, preventative health, artificial intelligence and development of new high-tech materials, the Precinct will leverage existing world-class expertise to attract business, investment and talent from around the globe and establish itself as a leading Asia-Pacific medical training hub.

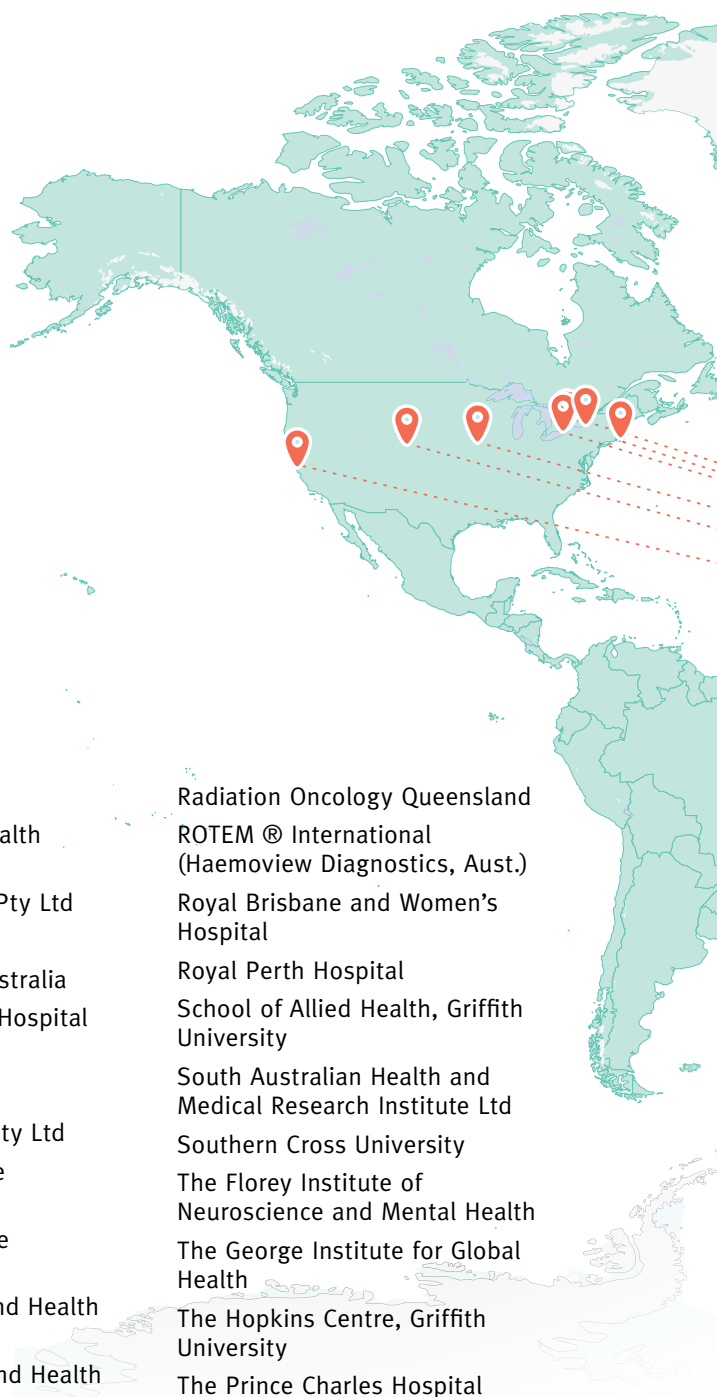
The Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct Office, funded by Gold Coast Health, City of Gold Coast and Griffith University, has been established to ensure the best companies are attracted to the region, leveraging the existing expertise of clinicians and researchers in key areas of niche strength.

Through partnership with the Gold Coast University Hospital, leading talent are being attracted by the access to a strong clinical environment and links to top researchers for collaboration in the development of medical technologies and therapies. The key focus for the Precinct is to ensure there is a research and development and commercial innovation aspect to the operations of companies located here, so the Precinct can grow with a genuine global reputation in areas of niche strength.

The Precinct Project Office will continue to actively identify and drive global research and industry collaborations in partnership with Gold Coast Health's priority areas of research and clinical strength, to raise international credibility and attract world leading researchers and talent to the Precinct.

# 2017 research collaborations

Listed below are collaborations included on new projects conducted within Gold Coast Health in 2017.

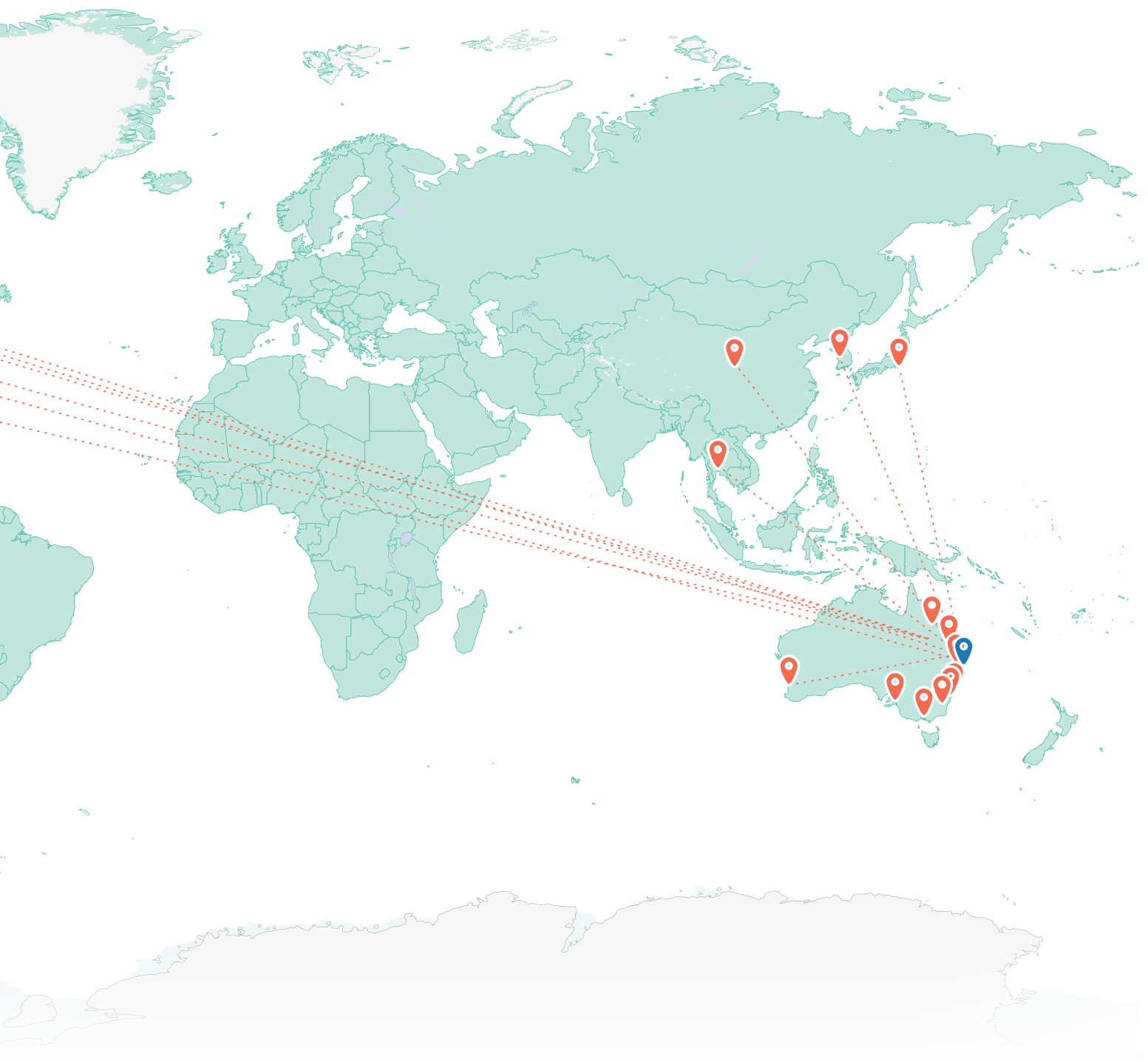


## National collaborations

Astra Zeneca (Australia)  
 Austin Health  
 Australia and New Zealand Intensive Care Society (ANZICS) - Clinical Trials Group  
 Australian Institute of Ultrasound  
 Australian Prevention Partnership Centre  
 Australian Red Cross Blood Service  
 Australian Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition  
 Bond University  
 Caboolture Hospital  
 Central Queensland University  
 Commonwealth Serum Laboratories (CSL) Ltd  
 Department of Health, Australian Government  
 Dietitians Association of Australia  
 Eli Lilly Australia Pty Ltd  
 Emergency Medicine Foundation  
 Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine, Bond University  
 Flinders University  
 GeNeuro Australia Pty Ltd  
 Gold Coast City Council  
 Gold Coast Orthopaedic Research and Education Alliance (GCORE), MenziesHIQ  
 Gold Coast Primary Healthcare Network

Griffith University  
 Hunter New England Health District  
 INC Research Australia Pty Ltd  
 La Trobe Institute  
 Laboratories Servier Australia  
 Lady Cilento Children's Hospital  
 Macquarie University  
 Mater Hospital  
 Medtronic Australasia Pty Ltd  
 Menzies Health Institute Queensland  
 Merck Sharp and Dohme (Australia) Pty Ltd  
 Metro North Hospital and Health Service  
 Metro South Hospital and Health Service  
 Murdoch Children's Research Institute  
 National Blood Authority  
 Neurosurgical Society of Australasia  
 Novartis Australia  
 Palliative Care Clinical Studies Collaboration  
 Parexel International  
 Princess Alexandra Hospital Foundation  
 QIMR Berghofer  
 Queensland Ambulance Service  
 Queensland University of Technology

Radiation Oncology Queensland  
 ROTEM ® International (Haemoview Diagnostics, Aust.)  
 Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital  
 Royal Perth Hospital  
 School of Allied Health, Griffith University  
 South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute Ltd  
 Southern Cross University  
 The Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health  
 The George Institute for Global Health  
 The Hopkins Centre, Griffith University  
 The Prince Charles Hospital  
 The Sax Institute  
 The University of Queensland  
 Thrasher Research Fund  
 Townsville Hospital  
 Trans-Tasman Radiation Oncology Group  
 University of Sydney  
 University of Tasmania  
 University of Western Australia  
 West Moreton Hospital and Health Service



## International collaborations

Ark Biosciences Pty Ltd,  
Shanghai, China

ASAN Medical Centre, Seoul,  
South Korea

Boston Biomedical, Boston, MA,  
USA

Chulalongkorn University,  
Bangkok, Thailand

Clinical Evaluation Research Unit  
at Kingston General Hospital,  
Kingston, ON, Canada

Flex Pharma, Boston, MA, USA

Iowa Department of Health, Des  
Moines, IA, USA

Karyopharm Therapeutics,  
Newton, MA, USA

Population Health Research  
Institute of Canada, Hamilton,  
ON, Canada

Queens University, Kingston, ON,  
Canada

St Michael's Hospital, Toronto,  
ON, Canada

University of California, Berkeley,  
CA, USA

University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan

Wyoming Department of Health,  
Evanston, WY, USA



**GOLD COAST  
HOSPITAL  
FOUNDATION**

Gold Coast Hospital Foundation (GCHF) is a local community organisation and the official charity of the Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service.

With a mission to relieve distress and hardship caused by illness, injury or disability, funding health-based research is important to us and something we have a long history of doing. The Foundation is proud to have partnered with Gold Coast Health to launch the new Gold Coast Health and GCHF Research Scheme. In its first round in 2017, it saw the joint approval and funding of nine promising projects. Grants of between \$10,000 and \$100,000 were provided to the Gold Coast Health-led research teams to conduct research that could have a huge impact on future health care delivery, and outcomes for children, adults and families.

The calibre of this year's projects and their potential to improve health care not just locally, but potentially nationally and even internationally, is inspiring to both the Foundation team and our supporters.

**For more information on the Foundation's work or to get involved visit [www.gchfoundation.org.au](http://www.gchfoundation.org.au)**

# Relieving medical hardship through innovation

## Testing the effect of medicinal cannabis on MND patients – Associate Professor Arman Sabet

One of the funded projects will test the effect of medicinal cannabis oil on helping to treat patients suffering from Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) or Motor Neurone Disease (MND), a neurodegenerative disease that has an unknown cause and still has no cure. Patients with MND usually live only two to three years after being diagnosed, and experience significant disability during this time.

The Gold Coast Health study team will treat 24 ALS and MND patients with medicinal cannabis over a six-month period, hoping to produce results that improve wellbeing and health outcomes for these patients.

## High-flow nasal cannula therapy in bronchiolitis – Associate Professor Susan Moloney

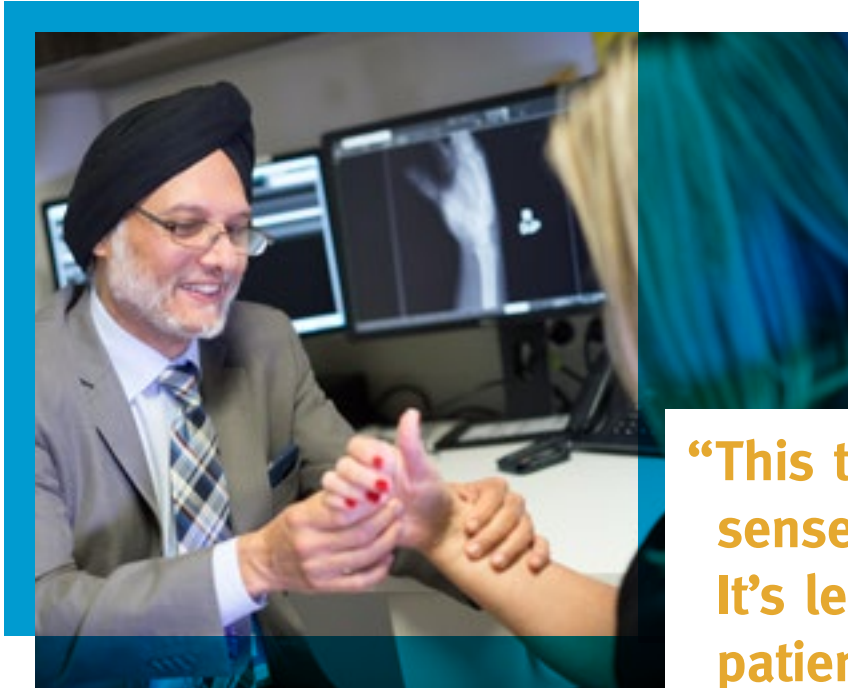
Recent research investigated the effect of high-flow nasal cannula therapy in bronchiolitis. The study examined how early optimal respiratory support could allow more treatments to be done in regional hospitals, which could significantly reduce the need for patient transfers and decrease health care costs.

The PARIS 1 – bronchiolitis high flow pilot study was eventually expanded to become a large multicentre trial across Australia and New Zealand. Results of the trial will be published in the New England Journal of Medicine, which is one of the top peer-reviewed journals worldwide.



# Research highlights

# New treatment helps patients avoid surgery



Innovative research has meant that Gold Coast patients with a common hand condition now have access to an injectable treatment that eliminates the need for orthopaedic surgery.

The study on the effectiveness and costs of treating patients suffering Dupuytren's contracture with collagenase injections was led by Gold Coast Health orthopaedic surgeon and Research Director of Orthopaedics, Professor Randy Bindra (pictured).

The condition is a progressive contracture of the fingers causing functional hand impairment and is traditionally treated by surgery. After surgery, patients usually have stitches for 10-14 days and attend physical therapy, but it takes one to three months before the fingers become fully flexible.

Through the new, less invasive treatment, a collagenase injection softens the contracture and allows specialists to gently straighten the finger the next day. This helps our patients get back to work and their regular activities much faster, with less need for aftercare.

Professor Bindra, an international leader in hand, wrist and peripheral nerve surgery, said our health service embraced research innovation for improved patient and health service outcomes by adopting the new treatment.

**“This treatment makes sense on many levels. It’s less stress for the patient, results are comparable to surgery, it’s more cost effective and it helps free up our theatres.”**

– Prof Bindra

Gold Coast University Hospital was the first public hospital in Queensland and only the second in Australia to be able to offer patients the XIAFLEX treatment. The research involved collaboration with Griffith University health economists and the treatment's creator Endo Pharmaceuticals.

“We expect to treat an estimated 50 patients with collagenase annually. That’s 50 people who will avoid surgery and spend less time recovering,” said Professor Bindra.

His presentation of findings to the Australian Hand Surgery Society and a number of Queensland and interstate orthopaedic departments has led to more hospitals now offering the treatment.

## Surgical trainees pioneer trainee-led collaborative research in Australia

The Queensland Surgical Trainee (QUEST) Collaboration, led by Gold Coast Health surgical advanced trainee Dr Tom Arthur, published the results of its first study this year. Established in 2015, QUEST was the first trainee-led research collaborative in Australia, with membership including surgical trainees from hospitals across Australia.

The trainee-led research collaborative model makes it easier for trainee medical and surgical specialists to engage in large-scale, multisite research projects by sharing research project tasks among members. This helps grow research skills in the medical workforce and ensure our doctors are skilled users of research evidence. The ultimate aim is to provide quality evidence to optimise patient care.

“The principal drive for creating the collaborative was to encourage trainees to perform research in unison across multiple sites instead of performing sub-optimal, single centre retrospective studies that often contribute little to the scientific literature,” said Dr Arthur.

The collaborative model allowed QUEST members to conduct the Australian Appendicectomy Audit – the largest prospective study to look at the outcomes of emergency appendicectomy in Australia. Appendicectomy is the most common emergency surgical procedure, with approximately 29,000 performed in Australia each year, however contemporary, broad-based research data was limited. This project aimed to change that, with data collected from 27 sites and 1,189 patients across Australia.

The study results suggested that there may be upwards of 3,000 potentially unnecessary appendicectomies performed each year across the country. The results will inform future systemic policy and procedure guidelines and ultimately improve the management of patients presenting with appendicitis.

The Collaborative is currently collecting data for their next study, Ileus management international (IMAGINE), performed in collaboration with research groups in Europe and New Zealand. QUEST aims to continue to contribute to the health landscape with the dual purpose of producing large-scale, clinically relevant research, and contributing to the development of research and evidence-based practice skills in surgical trainees.

The model’s success is reflected in the establishment of the new Queensland Anaesthetics Registrars’ Research Collaborative formed by Gold Coast Health Anaesthetics Fellow Dr Scott Popham.

## New model of care helps chronically ill patients receive care in their homes

Emeritus Professor Anne McMurray from Griffith University is leading research on the new Gold Coast Integrated Care Program, which aims to keep patients with chronic and complex health issues in their home environment. Early results from patient focus groups suggested most patients are highly satisfied with their care in the program.

The program was implemented in 2017 and aims to improve a patient’s journey, including unplanned hospitalisation, through enhanced services and better communication between health providers, including general practitioners (GPs), community services and Gold Coast Health.

By sharing knowledge and linking services to close gaps in the health care system, a single plan of care is developed and monitored by the patient’s GP with the support of our health service.

“A large amount of data has been gathered from patients, staff and stakeholders through surveys, focus groups and interviews with a wide range of staff members, revealing important feedback on process and outcome data,” Professor McMurray said.

“Patient control group focus groups were held for the first time in September 2017 which provided fascinating feedback on their experiences with this new model of care.”

One Integrated Care participant said: “I have found the program to be absolutely brilliant in that it provides 24-hour support and care. This allows for peace of mind when dealing with chronic illness.”

Professor McMurray credits the project as having a key role in growing the research capability of Gold Coast Integrated Care staff, including journal club discussions to support evidence-based practice.

“Together with clinical staff, our research team has been successful in peer-reviewed journal publications and presented preliminary findings at national and international research conferences,” she said.

“We provide regular reports to the Australian Government and Queensland Health on how our program is charting the course of changing health services within our health service.”



L–R: Prof Simon Broadley, Mr Joe Hanlon (GCHF), A/Prof Arman Sabet, Mr Berzenn Urbi and Prof Marianne Vonau

## Gold Coast Health clinicians drive trailblazing research into medicinal cannabis

Two studies led by our clinical researchers are investigating the potential benefits of medicinal cannabis for people with Motor Neurone Disease (MND) and cancer.

Our clinicians have teamed up with Griffith University researchers to lead the first clinical trial in humans which investigates the effect of medicinal cannabis in modifying MND's progression, as well as its effects on spasticity, pain levels, quality of life and weight loss.

There is no known cure for MND, a condition characterised by progressive degeneration of the neurons which control muscles. People with MND have an average life expectancy of 2.5 years after diagnosis.

Management of highly challenging symptoms and slowing of disease progression is vitally important for these people.

"We were hearing anecdotal stories and case reports of cannabis improving the symptoms of patients with MND and, after some pre-human trials showed some scientific basis for the claims, it became clear that this was something worthy of study," said Chief Investigator and Gold Coast Health neurologist Associate Professor Arman Sabet.

**"Outcomes of this study will help our understanding of the potential effects of medicinal cannabis as a disease modifying agent and a symptomatic treatment for Motor Neurone Disease."**

– A/Prof Arman Sabet

The study was made possible by a \$99,860 grant through the Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation Grants Scheme. It is expected that the results of this first study will lead to a larger program of research focused on improving outcomes for patients with MND.

Our health service also continues to lead the way in investigation of the merits of medicinal cannabis with a study on its role in symptom relief for cancer patients receiving palliative care.

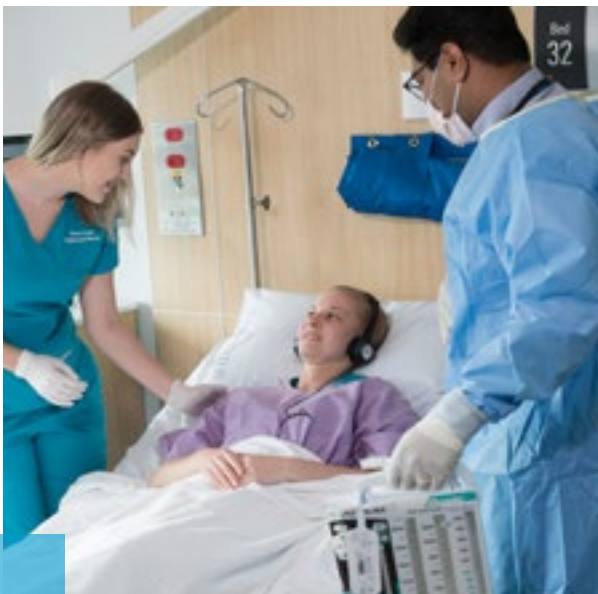
Palliative care physician Dr Andrew Broadbent is an investigator on the study which recently received a \$1.36 million grant from the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF). The research is led by Professor Janet Hardy and the Queensland Palliative Care Research Group (QPCRG), and our service will be a key recruitment site.



# Research into music therapy puts patient comfort first

Listening to music during pleural procedures reduces a patient's anxiety, blood pressure and pulse rate, according to a study by our Respiratory and Sleep Disorders Research Group.

The study investigated music therapy as a way of improving respiratory patients' experiences during pleural procedures, which involve the insertion of a needle or cannula between the ribs to drain fluid or air from their lungs. Although patients have local anaesthetic they often suffer discomfort and anxiety during the procedure.



**“When we looked at past research, we found evidence supporting music therapy for other procedures, but nothing on pleural procedures,” said research lead Associate Professor Krishna Sriram.**

**“We knew it was something that could be beneficial for our patients and wanted to investigate.”**

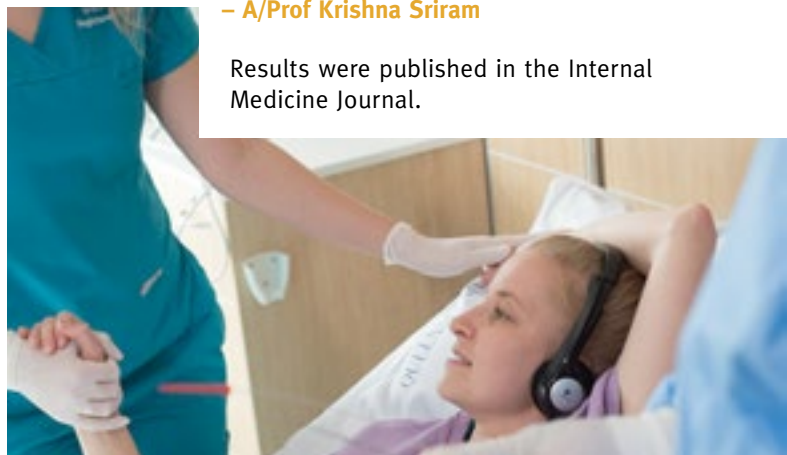
The idea was first raised by Nurse Unit Manager Kate Harland, who envisaged a collaborative research project involving respiratory ward nurses and doctors that would focus on improving patients' experience during their hospital admission.

Nursing and medical investigators from Gold Coast University Hospital (GCUH) participated in the randomised controlled trial, which has now led to all patients at the hospital being offered music during the procedure.

**“Music therapy is pleasant, inexpensive and, most importantly, without any side effects. We are hoping that by conducting this research and publishing the evidence, more health services will offer music to their patients.”**

**– A/Prof Krishna Sriram**

Results were published in the Internal Medicine Journal.



# Prestigious Junior Doctor Fellowship builds our research capability

One of our most promising young medical researchers Dr Kerina Denny (pictured) is leading research into the improved use of antibiotics in emergency and intensive care departments.

Her research career has gone from strength to strength as a result of winning one of five Queensland Government 2017 Junior Doctor Research Fellowships, awarded to our state's brightest junior doctors.

The \$250,000 fellowship has allowed Dr Denny, a Gold Coast University Hospital registrar, to tackle the issue of antibiotic resistance, which is a growing threat to public health.

"The fellowship allowed me the flexibility to pursue both my research and clinical interests," said Dr Denny.



**"My research seeks to describe current antibiotic prescribing practices and identify novel ways to ensure the right patients get the right antibiotics in high stakes environments like the Emergency Department and Intensive Care Unit."**

**– Dr Kerina Denny, Junior Doctor Fellow**

The fellowship program gives new doctors an opportunity to begin a research career pathway, and ultimately increases the state's medical research capacity.

Dr Denny's research career began during her PhD in immunology while at medical school.

Her research on the use of antibiotics in emergency departments received an Emergency Medicine Foundation grant in 2017. The study aims to find out how many patients are given antibiotics in the Emergency Department and what proportion of those are not required or have been given incorrectly.

It will also identify factors associated with poor antibiotic choices, including doctor experience and time of the prescription.

Dr Denny's strong research background includes the publication of 15 peer-reviewed papers, two book chapters and receipt of three other grants.

# Highly collaborative trauma research puts us on world stage

A locally-driven yet highly collaborative trial aimed at improving the care of trauma patients is underway at Gold Coast Health. A crucial treatment for the 7,000 Australians affected by severe trauma annually is the rapid administration of blood products to replace fibrinogen. The Fibrinogen Early In Severe Trauma Study (FEISTY) looks at the best way to replace this blood clotting protein in patients with severe trauma and critical bleeding.

A crucial treatment for the 7,000 Australians affected by severe trauma annually is the rapid administration of blood products to replace fibrinogen.

The clinical trial compares the more widely-used cryoprecipitate with fibrinogen concentrate to determine the quickest and most predictable dose response for this group of patients.

There are currently no published studies comparing a targeted dose of fibrinogen concentrate and cryoprecipitate in bleeding trauma patients.

Cryoprecipitate is a precious resource from healthy donors which is stored frozen in a blood bank and can take longer to administer than the concentrate which is stored in powder form. Fibrinogen concentrate has potential as an alternate treatment which is able to be reconstituted at bedside and administered quickly.

Recruitment for the FEISTY trial finished in September 2017, a full 9 months ahead of schedule. The study recruited patients from four major trauma centres in Queensland: Gold Coast University Hospital, Princess Alexandra Hospital, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and Townsville Hospital.

**“The research exemplifies how multiple departments, sites and funders can drive research which informs best-practice care of our most vulnerable patients.”**

– Dr James Winearls



“There’s a massive logistical effort that goes into this sort of trial,” said chief investigator, Gold Coast Health intensive care specialist Dr James Winearls (pictured).

The trial required multidisciplinary collaboration of departments and health care professionals involved in the treatment of trauma patients, including emergency, trauma, anesthesia and intensive care departments, as well as expertise from the Australian Red Cross Blood Service.

The research received over \$600,000 in funding from the Emergency Medicine Foundation, National Blood Authority and Gold Coast Health, and industry support from CSL Behring, TEM International and Haemonetics.

Results are being analysed, with plans for the project expanding to a multi-centre international trial.

The team has already received funding for the FEISTY Junior trial to investigate the same products in children experiencing severe traumatic bleeding.

The study will begin in 2018, led by Gold Coast Health children’s emergency specialists Dr Shane George and Dr Christa Bell.

# Gold Coast Health joins forces with international researchers to support Emergency Department staff

One of Australia's foremost emergency care researchers, Professor Julia Crilly, is leading an international program of research which aims to better understand the morale, stress and coping strategies of medical and nursing staff working in Emergency Departments (EDs).

Her role as Professor of Emergency Care, a joint position between Griffith University and Gold Coast Health, enabled a program of research which was highly clinically relevant.

"This is such an important area of research," said Professor Crilly. "I was inspired to undertake this study because I see and hear how busy and stressful the ED can be to work in."

"It's imperative that we proactively work towards understanding the problem and using that evidence to develop solutions designed to help look after the workforce that provide outstanding care for our patients."

The international collaboration came about following a conversation between Professor Crilly and Swedish researcher Professor Eric Carlström where similar issues in emergency care were discussed.

**"Our research enables us to see if ED staff in Australia and Sweden have similar or different stressors and coping strategies. By working together, there may be opportunities to learn from each other."**

– Prof Julia Crilly



"Through our discussions, we saw there was a need to address a gap in the literature, to provide the evidence to inform strategies to address stress and coping concerns for ED staff," said Professor Crilly.

"Our research enables us to see if ED staff in Australia and Sweden have similar or different stressors and coping strategies. By working together, there may be opportunities to learn from each other."

The multi-disciplinary team includes clinicians and researchers from Gold Coast Health, Sunshine Coast Health, Griffith University, University of the Sunshine Coast, University of Queensland and the University of Gothenburg. Funding from the Emergency Medicine Foundation enabled the study to take place in one Swedish and two Queensland-based EDs.

Results from the first stage of the research have been published and presented at local, national and international conferences.

"Our next step is to develop, implement and evaluate interventions, involve interested parties from other countries and build further research understanding and capacity in this area," said Professor Crilly.

"We believe our research will support strategies to improve ED working environments to ensure professional longevity of staff."



# World-class service development goes hand-in-hand with research for children with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Care for children and their families dealing with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is to be expanded on the Gold Coast following a multimillion dollar funding injection from the Australian Government.

The funding, provided by the Australian Government Drug and Alcohol Program, will see Queensland's two FASD clinics, based at Southport and Maroochydore, expand to allow earlier diagnosis and better intervention and support for children who have had prenatal alcohol exposure. It will also fund the establishment of outreach services for three remote communities – Mt Isa, Doomadgee and Mornington Island, which will ensure that more Queensland children at risk for this developmental disorder receive appropriate care.

This service development is interwoven with a program of research, representative of a longstanding collaboration between a consortium of academics and clinicians. This collaboration is led by Griffith University and Gold Coast Health, and includes many public health services, universities and community organisations across Queensland.

Design of the new service has been informed by the long history of research between the partners, ensuring that children will receive world-class care. A new program of research will expand on this to investigate more efficient and accurate methods of diagnosing FASD, allowing more children to get the care they need earlier in life.

Dr Doug Shelton, the Clinical Director of Community Child Health at Gold Coast Health, said the service development funds would allow the Southport clinic to assess more children and provide better follow up.

“While we can’t put a precise figure on the prevalence of FASD in our community, overseas studies estimate that between 2 and 5 percent of the population are impacted – so on the Gold Coast alone, it could be as high as 25,000 people impacted by this invisible brain injury,” Dr Shelton said.

“This research has the potential to improve foundational skills in children and enable carers and parents to support their children’s development.”

**“This combination of innovative service delivery and cutting-edge research will advance Gold Coast Health’s vision of a world-class health service.”**

– Dr Doug Shelton

# Families at the centre of providing optimal care to critically ill patients

A world-first clinical trial to evaluate strategies that promote partnerships between families and health care providers is underway in our Intensive Care Unit. The Improving Partnership with Family Members of Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Patients (IMPACT) trial, is co-led by Professor Andrea Marshall, from Gold Coast Health and Griffith University, and Professor Daren Heyland, an intensive care physician from Canada. The study involves a tri-nation collaboration with participating hospitals located in Australia, Canada and the United States.

The research aims to find the best way to enhance families' participation in the care of their loved ones, focusing on nutrition care and end-of-life decision-making. Family-centred interventions have the potential to improve patients' nutritional intake and physical recovery, reduce family stress and improve satisfaction with care.

The interprofessional collaboration illustrates how critical care clinicians from nursing and medical backgrounds can work collectively to optimise care of critically ill patients and their families.

**“ By working with families we can empower them to advocate for and support their relatives in maximising nutrition intake, which is important during recovery from critical illness.”**

– Prof Andrea Marshall



Professor Marshall has led the program of research in developing the nutrition intervention.

“Critically ill patients are at high nutrition risk and this is especially so for older patients,” she said.

“Optimal nutrition is essential for maintaining muscle mass and function, both of which are necessary for promoting physical recovery after critical illness.”

Professor Daren Heyland is an advocate for end-of-life care planning, and his involvement in the research focuses on how to best educate and support families to make difficult end-of-life decisions in the ICU.

Engagement of consumers has been critical to the success of IMPACT. Patient and community representatives have been involved in all phases of the research, from designing the best intervention to test, through to implementation at the sites. Multidisciplinary collaboration was also a key driver in this research, as doctors, nurses and dieticians work collaboratively to form partnerships with families.

Funding from a 2016 Gold Coast Health Large Project Grant allowed Gold Coast University Hospital and Robina Hospital ICUs to participate in this international study. Canadian and American sites were supported through Canadian Institutes of Health Research funding.

# Gold Coast Health enables rural and remote patients to trial new treatments

Gold Coast University Hospital has been chosen as one of two primary sites in Queensland to test an innovative teletrial model for cancer treatments.

Clinical trials are vital for the discovery of new and improved cancer treatments, however they require expert staff and usually take place in metropolitan hubs. Traditionally, this has meant that people with cancer who live in rural and remote locations rarely get the opportunity to participate in trials.

Queensland Health, through the Health Innovation, Investment and Research Office (HIIRO), aims to change this through implementation of a new teletrial model. The model was developed based on existing telehealth systems by the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA) Teletrial Consortium Steering Committee, co-chaired by Professors Sabe Sabesan and John Zalcborg.

In a tele-trial, specialists and trial coordinators from primary sites help recruit, treat and manage patients up to hundreds of kilometres away. Staff in remote sites connect with the primary sites through videoconferencing and other technology, and are trained by the primary site to perform key tasks associated with the trial, such as administering the treatment.

Two hospitals in Queensland were selected as primary sites, Gold Coast University Hospital and Townsville Hospital. As a primary site, Gold Coast researchers will connect with remote sites in Toowoomba and Wide Bay so that patients can participate in trials while remaining close to home.

Gold Coast Health Director of Oncology Dr Jasotha Sanmugarajah believes the model is a vital step towards ensuring new treatments are offered to all patients.

**“Long distance travel is a struggle for many cancer patients, both physically and emotionally. The teletrial model ensures there is equity in our system for patients wishing to try new treatments, no matter where they live.”**

– Dr Jasotha Sanmugarajah

“It also improves our recruitment, meaning we reach more patients and become a more attractive site for future trials.”

Mr Jacob Darch, Cancer Clinical Trials Manager, said the selection of Gold Coast Health as a primary site was also a big step towards improving clinical trials skills.

“As we train and work with staff from remote sites, there is opportunity to build clinical trials skills across our health system and increase our research capability.”

The initiative has been jointly driven by the Medical Oncology Team, Cancer Clinical Trials Unit and research office at Gold Coast Health.

The monarchE trial, a Phase 3 trial of a breast cancer treatment by international company Eli Lilly, will be the first to test the new tele-trial model. Our oncology research team are currently preparing for the first tele-patient to receive the treatment remotely in 2018.







# Research group profiles

LAB-  
TATION

# Allied Health Research Capacity and Engagement Group



## Chair/research leader:

**Prof Sharon Mickan**

BOccThy, MA(Ed), PhD

*Professor of Allied Health, School of Allied Health, Griffith University and Gold Coast Health*

## Awards/achievements

Prof Sharon Mickan  
*Best Oral Presentation, National Allied Health Conference 2017*

Dr Rachel Wenke  
*Best Oral Presentation, Gold Coast Health Research Week Conference*

The Allied Health Research Capacity and Engagement Group was formed with a primary focus on supporting the Allied Health Research Strategy. At the core of our group are our Allied Health Research Fellows, who work to foster a dynamic and integrated research culture dedicated to optimising patient care.

This goal is addressed through three key strategies:

- Ensuring research evidence is accessible to all clinicians and support is available to facilitate its integration into practice;
- Enhancing engagement of the allied health workforce in using, participating and leading research, and;
- Developing resources to facilitate research engagement by allied health professionals.

During 2017, our group focused on enabling evidence-based practice through a series of research projects. These projects involved the development, implementation and evaluation of a range of individual and team-based initiatives. A key example of this was our evaluation of the effectiveness of an evidence-informed journal club format, which demonstrated that these journal clubs were more effective in enabling clinicians to translate research literature into patient care. We also investigated our organisation's readiness to implement evidence-based interventions in different contexts, a study which will guide our future initiatives.

Our group also conducted a systematic review to inform the development of a Research Capacity Building Framework. In parallel to this, we surveyed Gold Coast Health allied health professionals to identify individuals' research skill level and perceptions of research culture. Results were analysed by profession and current research activity was mapped as a baseline for future research engagement.

This work was supplemented by projects which explored workforce development, including a realist review of management approaches in Queensland Health, and a study on the transition, wellbeing and retention of new graduates.

Our group conducted a large range of research in 2017 which significantly enhanced the research capability of allied health professionals at Gold Coast Health. This ensures that our patients receive high quality, evidence-informed care.

## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Prof	Andrea Bialocerkowski	Director – School of Allied Health, Griffith University	BPhy, PhD
Ms	Jessica Dawber	Principal Project Officer	BOccThy
Mrs	Joanne Hilder	Research Project Officer	BSocWk
Mrs	Janine Matus	Research Project Officer	BOccThy(Hons)
Dr	Christy Noble	Principal Allied Health Research Fellow	BPharm, PhD
Ms	Katherine O'Shea	Advanced Clinical Educator	BOccThy
Dr	Rae Thomas	Senior Research Fellow, Bond University	BPsych, PhD
Dr	Kelly Weir	Principal Allied Health Research Fellow	BSpPath(Hons), PhD
Dr	Rachel Wenke	Principal Allied Health Research Fellow	BSpPath(Hons), PhD

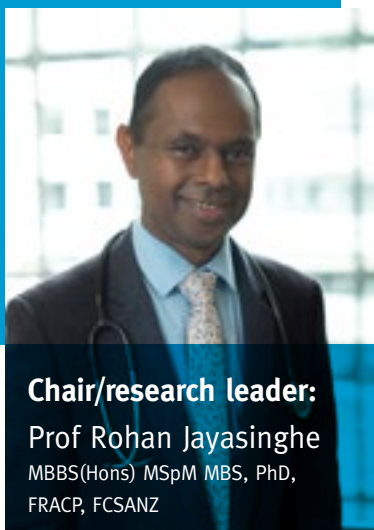
## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
P Brough, S Mickan, A O'Donovan, A Bialocerkowski, D Fowler, M Obucina, E Cardell	Evaluating the transition, wellbeing, and retention of allied health new graduates.	Menzies Health Institute of Queensland Seeding Grant	\$45,782
S Mickan, J Dawber, J Hulcombe	A realist review of allied health management in Queensland Health; what works, in which contexts, and why?	Allied Health Professions Office Queensland	\$50,000

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
J Matus, S Mickan, C Noble	Evaluation of an innovative support role for Occupational Therapists who contribute to decision-making capacity assessments: Exploring staff perceptions and the impact of the role on their capability to engage in capacity assessments.
S Mickan, A Bamford-Wade, J Moore, M Courvoisier, S Straus, S Islam	Practicing Knowledge Translation: Course Evaluation.
S Mickan, N Crowe	Comparing organisational readiness to implement an evidence-based intervention in different contexts: A qualitative exploratory study.
S Mickan, A O'Donovan, A Bialocerkowski, D Fowler, M Obucina, E Cardell	Evaluating the transition, wellbeing, and retention of allied health new graduates.
S Mickan, R Wenke, J Matus, A Walker, L Bissett	Research capacity, culture and reported activity among Gold Coast Health allied health professionals: A cross sectional study.

# Cardiovascular Research and Clinical Trials Collaborative

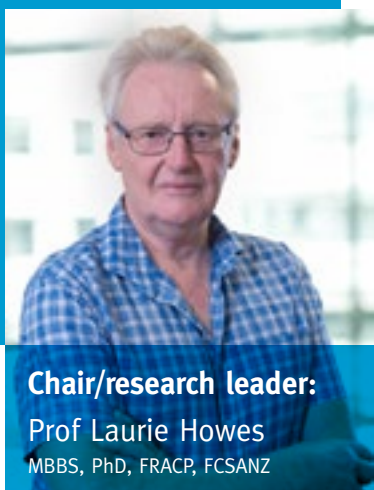


**Chair/research leader:**

**Prof Rohan Jayasinghe**

MBBS(Hons) MSpM MBS, PhD,  
FRACP, FCSANZ

*Medical Director, Cardiology*



**Chair/research leader:**

**Prof Laurie Howes**

MBBS, PhD, FRACP, FCSANZ

*Senior Staff Specialist*

The Gold Coast Cardiovascular Research and Clinical Trials Collaborative has emerged as a mature research hub over the previous decade, with a key strength in conducting clinical trials. Our key research foci are coronary artery disease, heart failure, Takotsubo cardiomyopathy, cardiac rehabilitation and cardiovascular pharmacology.

In 2017, our collaborative participated in several pivotal clinical trials, including the international CANTOS trial, which investigated the use of an anti-inflammatory biological therapy in people with a prior heart attack and inflammatory atherosclerosis. The therapy was provided in addition to standard medications, and findings showed a statistically significant 15% reduction of major adverse cardiovascular events. Investigator Professor Laurie Howes is a member of the Novartis advisory group, which aims to optimise the translation of these findings into clinical practice. This demonstrates our members' commitment to supporting the full spectrum of research and evidence based medicine, from inception to clinical translation.

Our approach to research reflects the interdisciplinary nature of the cardiac patient's journey through diagnosis, intervention and cardiac rehabilitation, through engagement of a range of healthcare professionals. These include cardiology specialists and medical staff, nurses, physiotherapists, exercise physiologists and clinical measurements staff.

We also maintain strong partnerships with health and medical schools at Bond University, Griffith University and Macquarie University to support our research capability. Together, we co-supervise numerous postgraduate students and drive a range of collaborative research projects. Research higher degree projects have included a project investigating the efficacy and safety of high intensity interval training in cardiac rehabilitation after a myocardial infarction, and research into the process of introducing same-day discharge after coronary stenting procedures within the service.

In the year ahead, our group will continue to pursue and strengthen research collaborations which enable the delivery of high-level care for our patient population.



## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Prof	Jonathan Chan	Imaging Expert Cardiologist, Griffith University	MBBS(Hons), PhD, FRACP, FRCP, FCSANZ, FSCCT, FACC
Ms	Yingyan Chen	Registered Nurse	BN, MAdvPracCritCareN, MMedRes
Prof	Wayne Hing	Head of Physiotherapy Program, Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine, Bond University	MSc, PhD, AdvDipPhty
Prof	Elizabeth Kendall	Research Lead, The Hopkins Centre, Griffith University	BA(Psych), PostGradDipPsych, PhD
Prof	Norman Morris	Principal Research Fellow, Griffith University	BSci(Math and Phys), DipEd, BAppSci(Phty)(Hons), PhD
Dr	Robert Park	Staff Specialist	MBBS, FRACP, FCSANZ
A/Prof	Kuljit Singh	Staff Specialist	MBBS, PhD, FRACP

## Student members

Name	Qualification name	Research project title
Bryce Balmain	PhD	Altered thermoregulatory response in heart failure patients exercising in the heat.
Yingyang Chen	PhD	Process evaluation of same-day discharge procedure after coronary intervention.
Amanda Hannan	PhD	High-intensity interval training versus moderate intensity continuous training within cardiac rehabilitation.
Sepideh Jahanideh	PhD	Prediction of patient engagement in outpatient cardiac rehabilitation programs through the Model of Therapeutic Engagement.

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
R Jayasinghe, L Howes	Multicenter, parallel-group, double-blind, randomized, active-controlled, dose-ranging study to assess the safety, efficacy, and tolerability of CKD-519, administered with HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors, in subjects with dyslipidemia.
R Park	Cardiac Resynchronisation Therapy (CRT) and AV nodal ablation trial in atrial fibrillation.
K Singh	Myocardial Infarction and Nonobstructive Coronary Arteries (MINOCA): Clinical characteristics and gender differences.



# Children's Research Collaborative



## Chair/research leader:

**Dr Shane George**

BSc MBBS, MPH, FACEM

*Staff Specialist, Department of  
Emergency Medicine*



## Chair/research leader:

**Dr Kelly Weir**

BSpThy, MSpPath, PhD

*Conjoint Principal Research Fellow,  
Allied Health, Griffith University and  
Gold Coast Health*

**The Gold Coast Health Children's Research Collaborative was formed in 2016 with the aim of improving the health of infants, children, adolescents and their families through targeted research activity.**

Our key aims for 2017 have been to build sustainable research partnerships, identify opportunities for interprofessional research, increase awareness of children's health service needs, and build paediatric research capability within Gold Coast Health.

Our collaborative is comprised of research active or research curious health professionals from medical, nursing and allied health professions. We conduct research across the continuum of care, encompassing emergency and critical care medicine, newborn care, paediatric inpatient treatment, paediatric outpatients and community-based services. Our members have a range of research experience and we offer opportunities for research mentorship to student and clinician researchers.

The Children's Research Collaborative is committed to conducting research which is responsive to the evolving service delivery demands and healthcare priorities for children in the Gold Coast region. A key achievement of our collaborative this year has been our involvement as a trial site for the international PARIS and PARIS II trials (Paediatric Acute Respiratory Intervention Studies). These trials are investigating the use of high flow oxygen for acute hypoxic respiratory intervention. Our involvement as a site provides access to advanced healthcare for children in the region, whilst contributing to the global evidence base. We are also conducting a collaborative project with Caboolture Hospital which aims to improve coordinated access to care for children who are newly diagnosed with chronic conditions.

A highlight of 2017 was our strong presence at the Gold Coast Health Research Week Conference, in which our inaugural Paediatric Prize was awarded. Dr Sue Moloney and Dr Kelly Weir also presented research papers at international conferences in India, Sri Lanka, Europe and the United Kingdom. Another key accomplishment was the funding success of Dr Doug Shelton and his team, which will lead to major service development in the area of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and provide significant research opportunities in the future.

## Awards/achievements

Ms Angie Canning

*Best Poster Presentation, Gold Coast Health Research Week Conference*

Ms Rachael Oorloff

*Best Paediatric Presentation, Gold Coast Health Research Week Conference*

## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	Rebecca Angus	Nutrition and Dietetics Research Fellow	BSc(Hons), MNutrDiet, PhD
Ms	Angie Canning	Senior Speech Pathologist	BSpPath
Ms	Karyn Dahms	Senior Paediatric Pharmacist	BBus, BPharmSci, MPharm
Ms	Megan Free	Assistant Director, Paediatric Speech Pathology	BSpPath, GradCert AcadHlthPrac
Ms	Andrea Fisher	Assistant Director of Nursing, Children's Services	BN, MHM, AFCHSM
Prof	Keith Grimwood	Professor of Infectious Diseases, Gold Coast Health and Griffith University	ONZM, MD, MBChB, FRACP
Mr	Kim LeGros	Assistant Director of Psychology	BAppScAppPsych, GDipAppScAppPsych, ClinMAppPsych
A/Prof	Susan Moloney	Director of Paediatrics	MBBS, FRACP
Ms	Rachael Oorloff	Senior Speech Pathologist	BChildServ, MSpPath
Dr	Philip Sargent	Director, Children's Critical Care Unit	MBBS, FRACP
Ms	Lucie Scott	Children's Emergency Department, Clinical Nurse Consultant	BAppSc
Dr	Doug Shelton	Medical Director of Women, Newborn and Children's Health	MBBS, DipPaed, FRACP, Churchill Fellow



## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
S Dawe, D Shelton, H Webster, Kummara Association, S Kruske, P Harnett, L Burns, M Katsikitis	Improving wellbeing outcomes for children diagnosed with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and their families: Expanding existing services through enhancement of referral pathways, diagnostic capacity and provision of evidence-based models of care.	Australian Government	\$1,556,466
T Frakking, K Weir, D Shelton, S Moloney, M David, S Mickan	A randomised controlled study to evaluate an integrated care pathway for vulnerable children with chronic disease – connecting the dots in healthcare provision.	Queensland Health, Health Practitioners Experienced Researcher Grant	\$152,704
S George, S Moloney, D Franklin, L Schalpbach, F Babl, S Dalziel, J Acworth, E Oakley, B Gannon, S Craig, A Schibler	Nasal high flow therapy for children with acute hypoxemic respiratory failure (AHRF), a randomised controlled trials – PARIS II Trial (Paediatric Acute Respiratory Intervention Studies).	National Health and Medical Research Council, Children's Hospital Foundation and Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$2,600,000
S George, S O'Brien, S Dalziel, E Oakley, M Borland, E Cotterell, L Haskill, F Babl	Knowledge Translation in Australasian Paediatric Acute Care Settings: A multi-centred, cluster, randomised controlled trial comparing a tailored, theory informed Knowledge Translation intervention versus passive dissemination of a bronchiolitis guideline.	The Murdoch Children's Research Institute	\$ 7,000
S George, L Schalpbach, L Coin, K Grimwood, A Schibler, A Blumenthal, S Bialasiewicz, P Snelling, P Sargent, S Moloney	Rapid diagnosis of sepsis in acutely ill children – the RAPIDS study (Rapid Acute Paediatric Infection Diagnosis – Sepsis Study).	Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation Research Grants	\$99,874
D Shanley, D Shelton, M Patrick, P Suramanian, G Healing, H Webster, K Moritz, J Ziviani, D Newcomb, M Katsikitis, E Hawkins	Expansion of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders services in Queensland: Establishing diagnostic services in remote communities.	Australian Government	\$ 1,505,597
D Shelton, S Moloney, J Wrede, F Beutel, A O'Donohue, K LeGros, K Dahms, C De Wet, D Shanley, K Coburn	Early and Quick: Improving access and quality of care for developmental and behavioural paediatrics.	Healthcare Improvement Unit, Queensland Health	\$320,000

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
T Frakking, K Weir, D Shelton, S Moloney, M David, S Mickan	A randomised controlled study to evaluate an integrated care pathway for vulnerable children with chronic disease – connecting the dots in healthcare provision [ICCC-RCT].
S George	A randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, 2-part study of orally administered AK0529 to evaluate the safety, tolerability, pharmacokinetics and antiviral effect of single and multiple dosing in hospitalised infants with respiratory syncytial Virus I.
S George, S O'Brien, S Dalziel, E Oakley, M Borland, E Cotterell, L Haskill, F Babl	Knowledge Translation in Australasian paediatric acute care settings: A multi-centred, cluster, randomised controlled trial comparing a tailored, theory informed Knowledge Translation intervention versus passive dissemination of a bronchiolitis guideline.





# Clinical Haematology



**Chair/research leader:**

**Dr Michelle Bryson**

MBBS, PhD, FRACP, FRCPA

*A/Director, Clinical Haematology*



**Chair/research leader:**

**Dr Tara Cochrane**

BMBS, FRACP, FRCPA

*Clinical Haematologist*

Research activity in the Clinical Haematology department is growing steadily, with a focus on clinical trials of novel drug therapies. We currently have 7 clinical trials open to recruitment for patients with myeloma, chronic lymphocytic leukaemia, acute myeloid leukaemia and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

These clinical trials enable our patients to access novel therapies prior to Therapeutic Goods Administration or Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme approval, which has been of great benefit to many of our patients.

As a highlight of 2017, we were the first site in Queensland on the VENICE II trial, which allowed us to offer the drug venetoclax to all consenting patients with relapsed chronic lymphocytic leukaemia. This has proven to be a very promising drug treatment for this group of patients, and we were at one point the highest recruiting site to this study in Australia.

In addition to clinical trials, staff in the Clinical Haematology department continue to actively participate in research projects which aim to improve patient outcomes and clinical processes. We continuously review our clinical data and develop our service based on the results of these audits. We routinely disseminate the results of our research in peer-reviewed publications and presentations at national and international meetings. In addition, our research often directly informs changes made to clinical practice in the department.

Moving into the future, we aim to continue actively seeking and participating in clinical trials for the benefit of our patients. Our ultimate aim is to be in the position to offer a clinical trial for the majority of the conditions experienced by our patients. Our growth to date indicates that we are well on the way to achieving this goal.



## Research active staff

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Ms	Fiona Clark	Transfusion Clinical Nurse Consultant	BN, PGCertTransfusionPracOncN
Mr	Jacob Darch	Research Manager Clinical Trials and Clinical Nurse Consultant	BN, PGCertCancerCare
Dr	Sunelle Engelbrecht	Haematologist	MBBS, FRACP, FRCPA
Mr	Ian Fraser	Clinical Trials Coordinator and Clinical Nurse	BN
Ms	Elise Sturgeon	Clinical Trials Coordinator and Clinical Nurse	BN
Dr	Jeremy Wellwood	Clinical Director, Cancer Access and Support Services and Haematologist	MBBS, FRACP, FRCPA
Dr	Rachel Wooldridge	Haematologist	BSc, MSc, MBBS, FRACP, FRCPA

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
M Bryson, T Cochrane	A Phase 3 randomized, controlled, open-label study of Selinexor, Bortezomib, and Dexamethasone (SVd) versus Bortezomib and Dexamethasone (Vd) in patients with Relapsed or Refractory Multiple Myeloma (RRMM).
F Clark, D Royal	Comparing the clinical, economic and quality of life (QoL) impact of intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg) versus subcutaneous immunoglobulin (SCIg) treatment for adult patients with primary and secondary immunodeficiency disease.
T Cochrane, J Wellwood, M Bryson	A Phase 3 multicenter, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of the FLT3 Inhibitor Gilteritinib (ASP2215) administered as maintenance therapy following induction/consolidation therapy for subjects with FLT3/ITD AML in first complete remission.
T Cochrane, J Wellwood, M Bryson	ACE-LY-308: A Phase 3, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicenter study of Bendamustine and Rituximab (BR) alone versus in combination with Acalabrutinib (ACP 196) in subjects with previously untreated Mantle Cell Lymphoma (WA).
S Wong, F Clark, R Wooldridge	Comparing intravenous immunoglobulin associated thromboembolic events between autoimmune and immune deficient conditions.



# Critical Care Research Group



## Chair/research leader:

A/Prof Brent Richards

MBChB, FRACP, FCICM

*Director Critical Care Research and Medical Innovation*



## Chair/research leader:

Dr James Winearls

BSc(Hons), MBBS, MRCP, FCICM

*Staff Specialist in Intensive Care, Cardiothoracic Lead*

The Intensive Care Units (ICUs) in Gold Coast Health have a 25 year history of research engagement and activity leading to the formation of the Critical Care Research Group in 2014. The aims of our group are to provide research support and promote ongoing development of research activities undertaken within Gold Coast Health ICUs. Patients who are treated in intensive care are among the most seriously ill in the hospital, and our research is potentially life-saving.

We are an interdisciplinary group which collaborates with clinical colleagues across a range of specialties including Trauma Services, Nutrition and Dietetics, and Neurosurgery. Our external research partners include the Australia and New Zealand Intensive Care Society's Clinical Trials Group, the Clinical Evaluation Research Unit at Kingston General Hospital in Ontario, Griffith University, Bond University, and a range of industry partners.

The positive impact of our research was exemplified by a number of key investigator-led studies in 2017. Our ongoing program of clinician-led research is investigating the management of critical bleeding using rotational thromboelastometry (ROTEM) technology. We are also leading a tri-nation research program to develop and evaluate novel interventions to promote family partnerships in the ICU.

Our novel research on heart rate variability has shown a promising trend in predicting outcome and recovery in patients with subarachnoid haemorrhage and traumatic brain injury. This work represents an interdisciplinary and inter-organisational collaboration including clinicians, biomedical science and information technology students, engineering PhD candidates, and medical trainees from Gold Coast Health and Griffith University.

Increasingly, we have focused on improving the delivery of evidence-based care to patients in the ICU. Using knowledge translation strategies, our research has led to direct improvements in the areas of clinical handover, nutrition, vascular access management, pressure injury prevention and clinical education.

In 2017, the first randomised controlled trial commenced at the Robina ICU, a major achievement in the development of research capability across Gold Coast Health sites and a promising indicator of our continued growth.

## Awards/achievements

Dr Gregory Comadira

*Certificate of Outstanding Service, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons*

Ms Sarah Czuchwicki

*Best Lightning Talk, Gold Coast Health Research Week Conference*

Prof Andrea Marshall

*Nursing Scientific Convenor, 42<sup>nd</sup> Australian and New Zealand Annual Scientific Meeting on Intensive Care Annual*



## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	Yi Chung Bong	Staff Specialist	MBBS, FCICM
Ms	Sarah Czuchwicki	Medical Research Assistant	BHSc(Hons)
Dr	Gregory Comadira	Staff Specialist	MBBS, PostGradDipPeriOpEcho, FACEM, FJFICM
Dr	Audra Gedmintas	Staff Specialist	Ba(Hons), MBBS, FCICM
Ms	Maimoonbe Gough	Clinical Nurse, Research Coordinator	RN, GCCritCare
Ms	Christine Lyall	Research Nurse	RN, MCritCare
Prof	Andrea Marshall	Professor of Acute and Complex Care	RN, PhD, FACN, FACCCN
Dr	Angelly Martinez	Staff Specialist	MBBS, FCICM, GDipUltrason
Ms	Nicola Murphy	Clinical Nurse Consultant	RN, MCritCare
Dr	David Pearson	Staff Specialist	MBBChir, GCICM, FCICM
Ms	Mandy Tallott	Clinical Research Coordinator and Clinical Nurse Consultant	RN, MCritCare
Ms	Kerin Walters	Research Clinical Nurse	RN, MCritCare
Ms	Rosemary Willis	Acting Research Nurse	RN, MHLthSc

## Student members

Name	Qualification name	Research project title
Mark Aberdour	MMedSci	ROTEM Delta® and ROTEM Platelet® guided anti-platelet and anticoagulation therapy in neurological patients undergoing interventional radiology for cerebral aneurysms: A three phase study.
Mathew Collocott	BHlthSci(Hons)	Sedation and heart rate variability.
Sean Kenworthy	BNutrDiet(Hons)	Feasibility of nutrition risk screening in the Intensive Care Unit.
Megan McConnell	PhD	Evaluation of popular R-peak detection algorithms and investigation of heart rate variability.
Tegan Roberts	PhD	Interpreting cardiovascular waveforms to predict and improve critically ill patient outcomes.
James Todd	BActSci(Hons)	Outcome prediction using multiple continuous psychological variables.
Matthew Wells	PhD	Heart rate variability associated with brain death and cardiac transplant in an animal model.

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
C Bell, S George, J Winearls, M Jansen, J Roy, A Blanch, C Stocker, E Cottle, E Wake, G Ryan, C Hurn, G Wiseman	Fibrinogen concentrate vs. cryoprecipitate in traumatic haemorrhage in children: A pilot randomised controlled trial.	Emergency Medicine Fund	\$100,000
A Marshall, D Heyland, W Chaboyer, D Pearson, S Roberts	Improving partnerships with family members of Intensive Care Unit patients: A Phase 2 randomised trial of two family capacitation strategies.	Gold Coast Health Research Grants Scheme	\$57,756
J Matulich, J Ogilvy, A Wilsher	Intensive care technology assisted communication system.	Gold Coast Hospital Foundation	\$5,000
M Simmonds, J Winearls, G Tansley, J Moore, S Provenzano, A McNamee	Combined mechanical and oxidative stresses during cardiopulmonary bypass: Defining the role of altered blood rheology on microcirculatory function.	Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation Grants Scheme	\$17,510

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
Y Bong, J Winearls, A Gedmintas	Plasma-Lyte 148® versUs Saline (PLUS) study.
M Collocott, B Richards	Analysis of the correlation between heart rate variability (HRV) and measured levels of sedation for brain injured and non-brain injured ICU patients.
A Marshall, A Martinez, M Stanley, C Lyall, D Heyland, W Chaboyer, D Pearson, S Roberts, G Tobiano	Improving partnerships with family members of Intensive Care Unit patients: A phase II randomised trial of two family capacitation strategies.
A Nesbitt, D Pearson, D Walker	Outcomes of patients with liver cirrhosis admitted to a tertiary Intensive Care Unit.
D Pearson, J Winearls	A prospective observational multicentre study of aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage in Australian Intensive Care Units (PROMOTE).
M Tallott, J Winearls	An Australia and New Zealand wide point prevalence study to determine extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO)-related infection rates and cannulae dressing and securement practices.
J Winearls	EPIC III: The extended study on prevalence of infection in Intensive Care.
J Winearls	Australia and New Zealand cardiac arrest outcome determinants, and ECMO suitability study.



# Emergency Department Collaborative Research Group

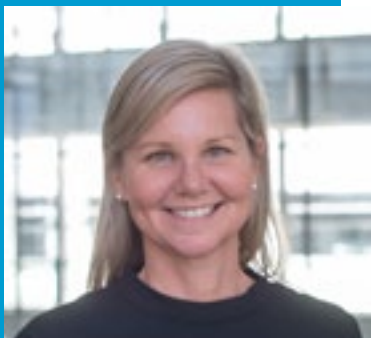


## Chair/research leader:

**Prof Gerben Keijzers**

MBiomedSc(HlthSci), MBBS, PhD,  
FACEM

*Staff Specialist, Emergency Medicine*



## Chair/research leader:

**Prof Julia Crilly**

BN, MEmergN(Hons), PhD

*Professor, Emergency Care*

The Emergency Department Collaborative Research Group is a leading centre of emergency care research, based within one of the busiest emergency departments in Australia. In 2017 we consolidated our research program infrastructure, and grew significantly in membership, outputs, and collaborations.

This success has been enabled by the enthusiastic commitment demonstrated by Emergency Department medical director, Dr David Green, who was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia this year for his service to the advancement of emergency medicine.

Our research activity is centred on seven pillars of research, each led by experts in the field. This structure enables the strategic growth of our Emergency Department's research capacity and enables student engagement in projects. In 2017, over 40 medical students from Bond University and Griffith University participated in our clinical audits and research projects.

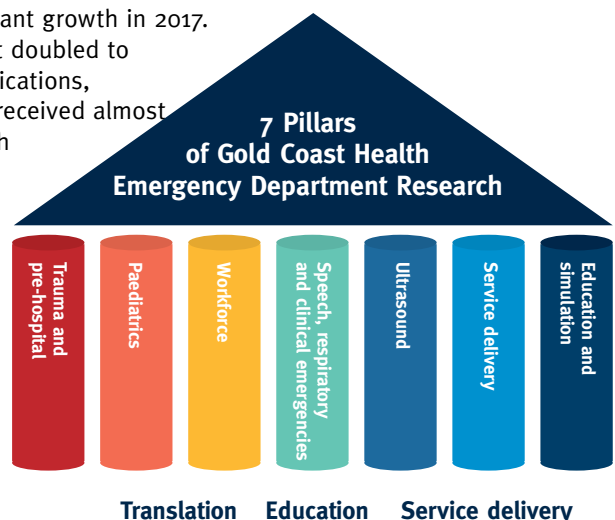
A vital aspect of our group's approach to research is our commitment to conducting meaningful clinical research leading to practice-level outcomes. An example of this has been our research on the introduction of a checklist for rapid sequence intubations, which showed a more consistent and safer approach with fewer cases of desaturation. This checklist is now used in our Emergency Departments to guide junior and senior staff and improve patient care.

The past year also saw the fruit of years of foundational work on the safety and efficacy of using high flow oxygen therapy in infants and children, which showed fewer Intensive Care Unit admissions and shorter length of hospital stay for children with bronchiolitis. This work has now developed into a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) funded Phase 3 trial, which will provide high level evidence into best practices and inform clinical change nationally. Likewise, years of work evaluating different models of care for vulnerable populations has culminated in a NHMRC grant to improve emergency service delivery for people with mental health problems.

Our group saw significant growth in 2017.

Our publication output doubled to 36 peer-reviewed publications, and our investigators received almost \$5.7 million in research grant funding.

The large-scale grants we received in the past year are expected to grow this capacity and output significantly, and facilitate our aim to improve emergency care for our communities locally and worldwide.





## Awards/achievements

Prof Victoria Brazil

*Certificate of appreciation: International conference invited conference session chair, Social Media and Critical Care, Berlin, Germany*

Prof Julia Crilly

*Certificate of appreciation: International conference invited speaker, 6th SEHA International Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Conference, Abu Dhabi, United Emirates*

Prof Julia Crilly and Ms Amanda Harley

*Karen Wallen Education and Research Award nomination, International Nurses and Midwives Day, Gold Coast Health*

Dr Amy Johnston

*Elaine Kileen Continuing Professional Development Scholarship, College of Emergency Nursing Australasia*

Prof Gerben Keijzers

*Outstanding Contribution to Emergency Medicine Research, Emergency Medicine Foundation Research Symposium and Bronze medal, enrolment in an international multi-centre randomised controlled trial, Centre for Clinical Research in Emergency Medicine*

## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	Amy Archer-Jones	Registrar	BSc, MBBS(Hons)
Dr	Christa Bell	Staff Specialist	BSc, MBBS, FACEM
Prof	Victoria Brazil	Senior Staff Specialist, Gold Coast Health and Director of Clinical Simulation, Bond University	MBBS, MBA, FACEM
Dr	Don Campbell	Staff Specialist	MBBS, FACEM
Dr	Kerina Denny	Research Registrar	BSc, MBBS, PhD
Ms	Katie East	Research Nurse	BN, GradCertAdvNursPract
Dr	Shane George	Staff Specialist	BSc, MBBS, MPH, FACEM
Dr	Steven Grant	Staff Specialist	BSc, MBBS, FACEM
Dr	David Green	Director of Emergency Medicine	OAM, BSc, MBBS, FACEM
Ms	Ashleigh Gunter	Research Assistant	AIN
Ms	Amanda Harley	Research Nurse	BN, MN, GradDipEdu
Mrs	Christine Heenan	Research Assistant and Enrolled Nurse	EEN
Dr	Amy Johnston	Research Fellow Emergency Medicine, Gold Coast Health and Griffith University	BSc(Hons), BN, MEd, PhD, GDipAdEd
Dr	Richard Pellatt	Registrar	BSc, MBBS
Dr	Siegfried Perez	Consultant	BSc, MBBS, FACEM
Mrs	Josea Arneli Polong Brown	Research Nurse	BN, BPsychSci
Dr	David Spain	A/Director, Emergency Medicine	BSc, MBBS, FACEM
Ms	Amy Sweeny	Research Development Manager and Nurse Researcher	BN, BSc, MPH
Dr	Thomas Torpie	Staff Specialist	BSc, MBBS, FACEM
Ms	Jasmine Wadham	Clinical Nurse - Research	BN, MN
Ms	Elizabeth Wake	Nurse Researcher Trauma Service	BSc, MN
Dr	Stuart Watkins	Staff Specialist	MBChB, FACEM, FCCEM, CCPU
Dr	Elissa Zoneff	Ultrasound Registrar	BSc, MBBS

## Student members

Name	Qualification name	Research project title
Nijole Bernatis	PhD	Warfarin verses newer oral anticoagulants.
Elizabeth Elder	PhD	Emergency Department staff: Stress and coping.

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
A Archer-Jones, A Sweeny, S Watkins	Will a replicable ultrasound training intervention improve intravenous cannulation processes?	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$22,541
C Bell, S George, J Winearls, M Jansen, J Roy, A Blanch, C Stocker, E Cottle, E Wake, G Ryan, C Hurn, G Wiseman	Fibrinogen early in severe trauma in children study (FEISTY Junior).	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$100,000
J Crilly, S Kinner, G Fitzgerald, E Heffernan, M Wallis, P Scuffham, P Zhang, G Keijzers, J Young, M Broadbent, E Bosley, K Becker, A Johnston, M Martin-Khan	Improving outcomes for people with acute mental illness in the emergency department: A data linkage study.	National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)	\$251,470
K Denny, G Keijzers, S Maloney, I Hughes, J Cross	Antibiotics in the Emergency Department.	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$24,131
S George, B Lawton, S Craig, E Oakley, F Babl, A Gaudins, S Dalziel, J Furyk, N Phillips	How are we managing acute asthma in children? A PREDICT study.	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$64,663
G Keijzers, M Sterling, J Nickels, J Leou, S Farrell	Preventing chronic pain after whiplash.	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$83,639
A King, C Moloney, G Beccaria, A Mullens, J Gow, G Keijzers	Reducing avoidable Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease emergency presentations: An integrated cross-health service initiative.	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$67,000
B Lawton, S Craig, E Oakley, F Babl, A Gaudins, S Dalziel, J Furyk, N Phillips, S George	How are we treating severe childhood asthma in Australia?	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$69,444
M Martin-Khan, L Gray, N Peel, J Hirdes, A Henderson, E Pascoe, N Gillespie, B Fries, V Boscart, J Crilly, E Beattie, E Burkett, F Graham, L Schnitker, R Hubbard, Y Hornby-Turner, T Comans	Improving quality of care for people with dementia in the acute care setting.	National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) - Boosting Dementia Research Grant	\$1,860,000
N Phillips, F Babl, S George, B Lawton, F Kinnear, A King, S Priestley, C Cassidy, A Michael	Assessing children's head injury: variation in CT scan use: APHIRST GAP (a PREDICT study).	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$62,749
D Rosengren, J Crilly, D Green, J Furyk, S Rothwell	Evaluating the impact of alcohol on emergency department presentations.	Healthcare Improvement Unit, Queensland Health	\$359,758
T Torpie, A Markwell, S Conroy, E Richman, K Baird, A Carrasco, S Sargeant, E McDonald	Domestic and family violence screening in the Emergency Department.	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$65,856

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
A Archer-Jones, A Sweeny, S Watkins	Peripheral intravenous cannulation: An observational study of the experience of patients at Gold Coast University Hospital, and the effect of an ultrasound-guided intervention program on intravenous cannulation practice in the emergency department.
J Crilly, S Kinner, G Fitzgerald, E Heffernan, M Wallis, P Scuffham, P Zhang, G Keijzers, J Young, M Broadbent, E Bosley, K Becker, A Johnston, M Martin-Khan	Improving outcomes for people with acute mental illness in the emergency department: A data linkage study.
J Crilly, D Rosengren, D Green, J Furyk, S Rothwell	Evaluating the impact of alcohol on emergency department presentations.
K Denny, G Keijzers, I Hughes, J Cross, K Alcorn, S Maloney	Antibiotic Prescribing in Emergency (APE) project.
S George	Intubation practices for children in emergency departments and intensive care units across Australia and New Zealand: A survey of medical staff.
S George, S Craig, S Dalziel, F Babl, E Oakley, T Keimann	How are we managing acute asthma in children? A PREDICT study.
S George, S Moloney, D Franklin, L Schalpbach, F Babl, S Dalziel, J Acworth, E Oakley, B Gannon, S Craig, A Schibler	Nasal High Flow therapy for children with acute hypoxemic respiratory failure – A randomised controlled trial – PARIS II trial. (PARIS: Paediatric Acute Respiratory Intervention Studies)
S George, P Sargent, A Schibler, K Rasmussen, L Burman, S Simpson, S Humphreys, K Foster	Trans-nasal Humidified Rapid- Insufflation Ventilatory Exchange in children requiring emergent intubation (KIDS THRIVE): A randomised controlled trial.
G Keijzers, J Leou, J Nikles, M Stirling, S Khan, S Farrell	Targeting pro-nociceptive mechanisms to prevent chronic pain after whiplash injury – A protocol for a randomised controlled trial.
G Keijzers, J Nikles, J Leou, M Stirling, S Khan	Emergency Department physicians' attitudes and opinions on the role of medication to prevent the development of chronic whiplash: A pilot emergency department survey.
G Keijzers, A Sweeny, C Del Mar, E Beller, E Duong, N Balasundaram	Acute otitis media in children presenting to the emergency department. Description of diagnostic and management practice.
T Torpie, A Carrasco, K Tighe, K Baird, S Conroy, E Richman, S Sargeant	Domestic and family violence screening in the emergency department: Who's doing it? How are they doing it? How often?
S Watkins, E Zoneff, G Keijzers, J Sanderson, K Baker, S Jarrold	The prevalence of lung surface abnormalities in the healthy aging population, compared with a healthy young population as detected by a screening lung ultrasound protocol.

# Gastro-Intestinal Collaborative Research Group



**Chair/research leader:**

**Dr Sneha John**  
MBBS, FRACP

*Director of Endoscopy*

The Gastro-Intestinal Collaborative Research Group was launched in late 2016 to foster collaborative research in gastro-intestinal pathology. Our group aims to improve knowledge and awareness of the latest research in digestive system and gastrointestinal tract disorders. We are focused on promoting high standards in research and enhancing the research capability of our staff, especially through the engagement of trainee members.

Our research strengths include advanced endoscopy, endoscopic imaging of polyps, and inflammatory and immune disorders of the gut. In 2017 we began a series of research projects seeking to improve diagnostic procedures for our patients, by investigating novel approaches to gastro-intestinal imaging.

Our key members are experienced and highly qualified clinicians, with expertise in treatments of inflammatory bowel disease, coeliac disease, autoimmune hepatitis and a variety of other gastro-intestinal pathology. Clinical members are supported in research innovation by academic members from Griffith University. We have fostered key partnerships with the university's Clinical Trials Unit, led by Associate Professor Evelin Tiralongo, and the mucosal immunology lab, led by Professor Allan Cripps. This collaboration has driven a range of trials in immune disorders of the gut. We also promote multidisciplinary collaborations between various internal departments, including gastro-intestinal surgery, pathology and endoscopy.

We are also growing our strategic partnerships with key research institutions internationally. We are currently establishing collaborative endoscopic work with the Asan Medical Centre in Seoul, the University of Tokyo and Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok as part of a new Asia Pacific Collaboration initiative named AsPiRE. This collaboration will further develop our group's research profile and continue to ensure our patients receive optimal care.

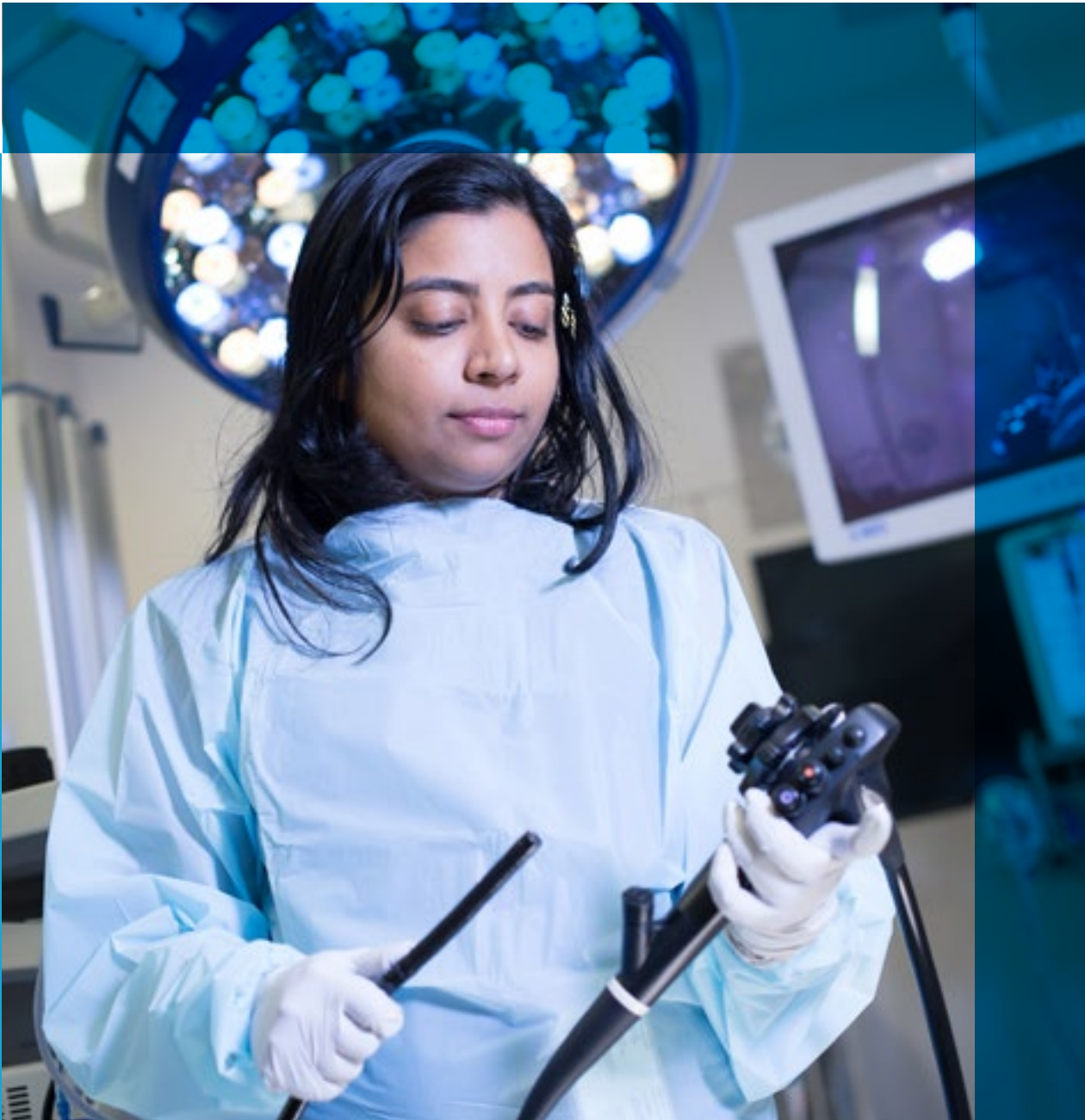
## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	John Edwards	Senior Staff Gastroenterologist	MBBS, FRACP
Dr	Emi Khoo	Advanced Trainee, Gastroenterology	MBBS, BMedSc
Dr	Szymon Ostrowski	Advanced Trainee, General Medicine	BSc(Hons), MBBS
Dr	Kashif Sheikh	Senior Staff Specialist in Gastroenterology and Hepatology	MBBS, MRCP(UK), FRACP
Dr	Michael Von Papen	Colorectal and General Surgeon	MBBS, FRACS



New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
A Dorrington, S John, J Edwards	Virtual chromoendoscopy using i-scan Optical Enhancement for detection and assessment of dysplasia in patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease - A prospective tandem colonoscopy study.
S John, J Edwards, S Ostrowski, T Stevenson	A prospective randomised controlled trial of early capsule endoscopy in patients with upper gastrointestinal bleeding.
S John, L Van Driel	Characterisation and Assessment of Serrated polyps at Endoscopy (CASE) study – A prospective real-time assessment of serrated polyps using image enhancement technology.



# General Surgery



**Chair/research leader:**

**Dr Michael Von Papen**

MBBS, FRACS

*Director, General Surgery  
Lecturer, Griffith and Bond University*

**The Department of General Surgery at Gold Coast Health has a strong history of engaging in clinical research with the aim of improving surgical outcomes for our patients. Our research active staff span surgical specialities, and maintain strong collaborative links with research institutions including Bond University, Griffith University and Monash University.**

Our department is rapidly developing a national reputation in breast surgery research. The national ROLLIS (Radio-guided Occult Lesion Localisation using Iodine-125 Seeds) randomised controlled trial continued at Gold Coast Health in 2017. We also initiated a study to enhance the understanding of patient trends and predictors relating to individual decisions to undergo Contralateral Prophylactic Mastectomy. This research is key to understanding locally relevant factors that may influence a woman's decision to undergo preventative surgery to remove both her breasts.

We also joined the international ADIPOSE trial for obese patients undergoing laparoscopic surgery for rectal cancer. The trial aims to determine whether prescription of a Very Low Energy Diet (VLED) produces better short term outcomes for patients. It is hoped that the findings of this study will advance the pre-operative care provided to these patients, providing evidence-based guidance to patients preparing for surgery.

We are a department which is steadily increasing in research capability, led by areas of research excellence and largely driven by the passion of the individual clinician-researchers listed over the page. Our department aims to use research to ensure the best surgical outcomes for our patients, through evidence-based surgical techniques and pre- and post-operative care, including the provision of anaesthesia.

## Research active staff

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	Thomas Arthur	General Surgery Trainee	BSc, MBBS
Dr	Sophie Boast	House Officer	MBBS
Dr	Andrew Campbell-Lloyd	Visiting Specialist, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery	MBBS
Dr	Shaun De Cruz	Registrar, ICU	MBBS
A/Prof	John Gault	Consultant Surgeon and A/Prof, Bond University	MB, Bch, BAO, FRACS
Dr	Lucy Guazzo	Principal House Officer	BSci MBBS MSurg
Dr	Elizabeth Harrison	Principal House Officer	MBBS
Dr	Paul Heyworth	Junior House Officer	MBBS
Dr	Jason Kim	Consultant	MBBS
Dr	John Li	Principal House Officer	MBBS
Dr	Rhea Liang	Consultant Surgeon	BAEd, MSurgEd, MBChB, FRACS
Dr	Dionee Liefmann	Principal House Officer	MBBS
Dr	Richard Maguire	Surgical Registrar, Surgery	MBBS
Dr	Reece Mearns	Intern	MBBS
Dr	Arun Naik	Consultant	MBBS
Dr	Scott Popham	Medical Officer, Anaesthetics	MBBS
A/Prof	Harald Puhalla	Hepatobiliary Surgeon and A/Prof Griffith University	MD, FRACS
Dr	Da Wei Thong	Intern, General Surgery and Trauma	MBBS
Dr	Carolyn Vasey	Colorectal Fellow	MBBS, FRACS

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
S Boast, D Liu	Regional versus local anaesthesia for primary arteriovenous (AV) fistula creation: Comparing medium-term fistula survival according to anaesthetic technique.
R Mearns, S De Cruz	Clinician competency and knowledge in calculation of safe local anaesthetic dosing: A cross-sectional knowledge survey of clinicians frequently administering local anaesthetic agents.
P Nakka, D Thong, J Gault, P Heyworth	Contralateral prophylactic mastectomy (CPM) – trends and predictors at Robina Hospital.
M Obucina, P Bartels	Creating a tool to identify the factors influencing cancellation on the day of surgery.
S Popham	EpiCCS-Australasia: Epidemiology of critical care provision after surgery.
D Thong, J Kim, M Von Pappen, A Naik	Delay to systemic chemotherapy; survival and recurrence in patients of rectal cancer treated with neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy and surgery.
M Von Pappen	ADIPOSE: Australasian Decrease in Intra-Pelvic Obesity for Surgery trial - Using VLED's to reduce weight and improve outcomes in obese patients undertaking laparoscopic rectal cancer surgery.

# Infectious Diseases Research Group



## Chair/research leader:

A/Prof John Gerrard

BScMed, MBBS, MSc DTMH, FRACP

*Director of Infectious Diseases and Immunology*



## Chair/research leader:

Dr Deborah Macbeth

RN, BN, MAppEthics, PhD, CACP-E

*Assistant Director of Nursing, Infection Control*

The Gold Coast Health Infectious Diseases Research Group has been conducting high quality research in the field for over twenty years. During that time, we have conducted research on a broad range of subjects important to public health, including emerging infectious diseases, infection control, paediatric infectious disease and vaccine development.

Our group is currently active in several globally important areas of clinical research, such as vaccinology. Our immunology department is conducting human trials of a groundbreaking malaria vaccine, in close collaboration with the Griffith University Institute for Glycomics. This research has the potential to reduce the impact of one of the world's most costly communicable diseases.

Paediatric infectious diseases are another area of focus for our research. We are currently working to understand the underlying microbiology of a number of these conditions, including cystic fibrosis lung disease, bronchiectasis (especially in Indigenous children), acute pneumonia in disadvantaged populations, vaccine-preventable diseases, and respiratory and gastrointestinal virus infections. We are also investigating how antimicrobial agents and vaccines can improve the treatment and prevention of acute and chronic respiratory infections in children and young people.

On a national level, our group supports research capability in the clinical area of infection control, with a strong focus on improving practice and professional development. Our work has enabled credentialing of infection control professionals in Australia, improved various elements of the infection control program and driven professional development and mentoring of novice infection control health professionals.

In order to grow our group's research portfolio, a number of key partnerships have been established with several health institutions and universities, including Griffith University, the University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, QIMR Berghofer, the University of Melbourne and the University of Western Australia. We also collaborate with a selection of international academic institutions who currently lead the way in disease outbreak combat and the development of new diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines.

Our active support of research development has enabled the improvement of infection control standards and driven evidence-based methods to address the complex infectious disease issues facing the Gold Coast community.



## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	Kylie Alcorn	Staff Specialist, Infectious Diseases	BBiotechP(Hons), MD
Prof	Keith Grimwood	Professor of Infectious Diseases, Griffith University and Paediatric Infectious Diseases Physician, Gold Coast Health	ONZM, MD, MBChB, FRACP

## Student members

Name	Qualification name	Research project title
Katherine Frayman	PhD	Long-term outcomes following early infection and inflammation in cystic fibrosis lung disease.
Vikas Goyal	PhD	Advancing the knowledge, understanding and management of respiratory exacerbations in children with bronchiectasis.
Aaron Heffernan	PhD	Dose optimisation of intravenous and nebulised amikacin and fosfomycin against gram-negative bacterial pneumonia.
Tristram Ingham	PhD	Whiti – Te Ra: Acute respiratory infection disparities amongst Maori and Pacific children.
Mohinder Sarna	PhD	The community-based epidemiology of respiratory infections in early childhood.
Sarah Sheridan	PhD	Assessing vaccine effectiveness of publicly funded vaccination programs in Queensland.
Suifang Ye	PhD	Rotavirus detection and typing in the rotavirus vaccine era.

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
C Byrnes, A Trenholme, R Mastas, A Chang, K Grimwood, A Nathan	HOPE: Hospitalised pneumonia with extended treatment in young children to prevent long-term complications.	Cure Kids Foundation	\$96,250
A Chang, M Binks, K O'Grady, H Marshall, M Toombs, H Smith-Vaughan, S Pizzutto, P Torzillo, K Grimwood, G Swamy	Preventing early-onset pneumonia in Indigenous infants through maternal immunisation: A multi-centre randomised controlled trial.	Australian National Health and Medical Research Council	\$3,210,618

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
S Boast, S Sharma	The self-reported uptake of influenza and pneumococcal vaccinations among patients admitted to a Medical Assessment Unit (MAU) with an acute exacerbation of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD): are our patients receiving vaccinations in accordance with national guidelines?
R Shaban, D Macbeth	Staff Protect Influenza 2017: A study of the structure, processes and outcomes of a new staff influenza program.

# Maternity, Newborn and Families Research Collaborative



**Chair/research leader:**

**Prof Jennifer Fenwick**

RM, BHLthSc, MNgst, PhD

*Professor of Midwifery, Griffith University and Clinical Chair, Gold Coast Health*

The Maternity, Newborn and Families Research Collaborative brings together a dynamic, passionate and committed team of health professionals and academics with a broad mix of clinical and research expertise. Our group has an outstanding track record of research which delivers key interventions that align with the national priority area 'A healthy start to life'. We work in close collaboration with the Centre for Maternity, Newborn and Families Research at Griffith University and partner with universities both locally and internationally.

Our research is focused primarily on prevention and aims to support women to have a healthy pregnancy, positive birthing experience, and a supported transition to parenthood. Our key research themes include perinatal mental health, perinatal trauma, preterm birth, implementing evidence based models of care, facilitating cultural change, and evaluating health service innovations. Our current research includes projects which investigate micro-nutrition and its role in pregnancy outcomes, how oxidative stress affects placental functioning and the antecedents of stillbirth, preterm birth and domestic violence in pregnancy.

Our group is highly multidisciplinary and includes medical scientists, midwives, obstetricians and psychologists, as well as a biostatistician and a dentist. We also collaborate with a broad range of related professions, including neonatal nurses, neonatologists, psychiatrists, sociologists, child and family health specialists, economists, public health workers, policy analysts and opinion leaders.

As a group, we are committed to growing researcher capability in the maternity space through training and mentorship. Together, our core research members support 30 higher degree research students and advance the development of research capability in clinical staff.

As the maternity space evolves within Gold Coast Health, exciting research opportunities are developing, particularly around health facility design with a specific focus on birth and nursery spaces. Our group is well placed to capitalise on these opportunities, and advance Gold Coast Health's capacity to become a national leader in this field of research.



**Chair/research leader:**

**Prof David Ellwood**

BChir, MA, MB, DPhil, FRANZCOG (CMFM), DipDU

*Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Griffith University and Director of Maternal Fetal Medicine, Gold Coast Health*

## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Ms	Cheryl Bailey	Research Associate	RM
A/Prof	Kathleen Baird	Director of Education, Women, Newborn and Children's Services, and Associate Professor, Griffith University	RM, PhD
Dr	Benjamin Bopp	Director of Obstetrics	MBBS, FRANZCOG
Adjunct Prof	Hazel Brittain	Service Director, Women, Newborn and Children's Services and Associate Adjunct Professor, Griffith University	RN, RM, BN, MNLeadership
Prof	Debra Creedy	Professor of Perinatal Mental Health	BA(Hons) MEd (Research), PhD
Dr	Roslyn Donnellan - Fernandez	Senior Midwifery Lecturer, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Griffith University	RM, PhD
Prof	Jenny Gamble	Professor of Midwifery and Head of Midwifery, Griffith University	BN, RM, MHRes, PhD, DipAppScNEd, CertMid, CertN
Dr	Olivia Holland	Medical Scientist, Genetics, Immunology and Molecular Biology, Griffith University	BSc(Bio) MSc, PhD
Dr	Timothy Hong	Neonatologist, Newborn Care Unit	MBBS, FRACP
A/Prof	Liz Jones	Director, Organisational Psychology, Griffith University	BAPsych(Hons), PhD
Dr	Vicki Kain	Senior Nurse Lecturer, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Griffith University	RN, PhD
Prof	Jeroen Kroon	Professor of Public Health, Community and Preventative Dentistry, Griffith University	BDSc, MDentSc, PhD
Prof	Anthony Perkins	Dean (Academic), Health, Griffith University	PhD
Ms	Susan Rath	Acting Nursing and Midwifery Director, Women, Newborn and Children's Services	RM, RN, MMid
Dr	Peter Schmidt	Director, Newborn Care Unit Consultant, Neonatologist	MBChB, FRACP
A/Prof	Mary Sidebotham	Director, Midwifery Postgraduate Programs, Griffith University	RM, MA, PhD, GCertHigherEd
Dr	Nicola Sheeran	Senior Lecturer, School of Applied Psychology, Griffith University	PhD
Dr	Anne Sneddon	Clinical Director, Obstetrics and Gynaecology	MBBS, FRANZCOG
A/Prof	Jing Sun	Biostatistician, School of Medicine, Griffith University	PhD
Ms	Catherine Van den Berg	Nurse Unit Manager, Newborn Intensive Care Unit	RN, RM, BHLthScN, IBCLC, MHServMgt
Dr	Jessica Vanderlelie	Medical Scientist, Nutritional Biochemistry, Griffith University	BSc(Bio) , MSc, PhD
Dr	Graeme Walker	Director, Gynaecology	BSc, MBChB, MRCOG, FRANZCOG
Prof	Roianne West	Director, First Peoples Health Unit, Griffith University	RN, BN MMHN, PhD

## Student members

Name	Qualification name	Research project title
Megan Barker	Graduate Diploma Health Research	Midwives' experiences of transitioning to private practice.
Janice Bass	PhD	Developing and testing a model of reflection: The Bass Model of Holistic Reflection.
Amanda Carter	PhD	The development of critical thinking in midwifery students.
Anne-Marie Feary	PhD	Exploring parent-premature infant closeness in newly designed nursery environments.
Tania Fleming	PhD	Cultural competency in midwifery academics.
Marnie Griffiths	Graduate Diploma Health Research	Exploring the expectations and experiences of RPMEP graduate midwives after their first year of practice.
Valerie Hamilton	Graduate Diploma Health Research	Students midwife's expectations and experiences of a student led antenatal clinic.
Sue Harvey	PhD	Exploring midwives' experiences of learning and facilitating a reflective model of clinical supervision within the context of midwifery practice.
Ros Lock	Graduate Diploma Health Research	Midwifery students clinical practice experiences in a caseload model.
Janelle McAlpine	PhD	Multivitamins for pregnancy – helpful or harmful?
Darren McLean	PhD	How institutional factors shape the implementation of a Relational Coordination Program in a large Australian public hospital.
Valarie Slavin	PhD	Effectiveness of caseload midwifery care in promoting maternal mental health and positive mother-infant relationships.
Kirsten Small	PhD	Critical analysis of the social effects of central fetal monitoring technology in maternity care.
Bethan Townsend	PhD	Women's experiences of negotiating and using water immersion for labour and birth in the context of having had a previous caesarean section.
Andrea Walker	Graduate Diploma Health Research	How does perinatal trauma impact on obstetricians? A feasibility mixed methods study of Australian obstetricians.



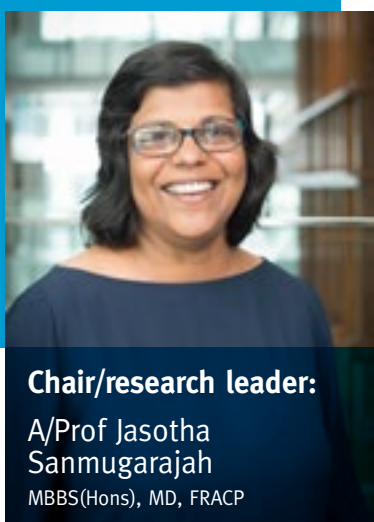
## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
K Baird, D Creedy, J Fenwick	Women's experiences and perceptions of routine enquiry for domestic and family violence during pregnancy at Gold Coast University Hospital.	Menzies Health Institute Queensland	\$5,000
K Baird, J Gamble, J Fenwick	Developing and testing a tool to measure the effect of the Bachelor of Midwifery program's innovative clinical practice model on student's development as a midwife.	School of Nursing and Midwifery SELT Grants	\$4,868
J Bass, M Sidebotham, J Fenwick	Exploring the needs of midwifery educators in facilitating the use of the Bass Model of Holistic Refection in their teaching practice.	School of Nursing and Midwifery SELT Grants	\$4,932
A Carrasco, J Fenwick, D Creedy, K Baird, J Boddy, Nelson, E Callendar, K Tighe, R O'Malley	Responding to domestic and family violence in the context of maternity care: Applying a trauma and violence informed care framework to better understand how to optimise an integrated response.	Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation Research Grants Scheme	\$100,000
J Fenwick, J Gamble, D Creedy, H Brittain, V Slavin.	Effectiveness of caseload midwifery care in promoting maternal mental health and positive mother – infant relationships.	Gold Coast Health Project Investment Grants	\$99,956
M Griffith, A Carter, J Fenwick	Expectations and experiences of Bachelor of Midwifery graduate midwives first year of practice following clinical placement in the Rural and Private Midwifery Education Program (RPMEP).	School of Nursing and Midwifery SELT Grants	\$4,960

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
R Boyd, P Schmidt	REACH: Randomised trial of rehabilitation very early in congenital hemiplegia.
R Boyd, P Schmidt, V Van Dijk	Harnessing neuroplasticity to improve motor performance in infants with cerebral palsy: A pragmatic randomised controlled trial.
K Dixon, P Schmidt	What are the outcomes of extremely premature infants retrieved by NeoRESQ and how do they compare with those born within a facility with neonatal intensive care.
D Ellwood, A Walker, J Gamble, D Creedy	How does perinatal trauma impact on obstetricians? A feasibility mixed methods study of Australian obstetricians.
D Ellwood, T Widmer	Prostaglandin inpatient induction of labour compared with balloon outpatient induction of labour: A randomised controlled trial.
J Fenwick, A Bamford-Wade, H Brittain, M Sidebotham	Evaluation of clinical supervision for role development within Women-Newborn-Children's Services, Gold Coast University Hospital.
J Fenwick, J Gamble, D Creedy, H Brittain, V Slavin	Effectiveness of caseload midwifery care in promoting maternal mental health and positive mother-infant relationships.
B Lowe	Does a simulation based educational package improve trainee knowledge and skills in delivery of the baby during caesarean section at full dilatation?

# Medical Oncology Department



## Chair/research leader:

A/Prof Jasotha Sanmugarajah

MBBS(Hons), MD, FRACP

*Director, Medical Oncology*

**The Department of Medical Oncology at Gold Coast University Hospital provides evidence-based multidisciplinary cancer care for over 1,000 new patients with cancer every year.**

We are a dynamic clinical department which actively engages in research as a means of ensuring our patients receive the best available care. We are currently participating in several Phase 2 and 3 trials examining immunotherapy, targeted therapy and chemotherapy in the treatment of solid tumours.

One of our highlights of 2017 was the implementation of a state-wide tele-trial model. We were selected as a primary site in southern Queensland. This pioneering model will improve access to clinical trials for patients living in non-metropolitan and remote areas, and allow them access to novel drug therapies closer to home. This model also aims to increase participant recruitment in alignment with the cancer care state-wide health service strategy, which recognised the positive value of clinical trials and research engagement in oncology.

In the coming year, the department will continue to expand its research capacity with the opening of our first Phase 1 clinical trial.

## Research active staff

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	Suzanne Allan	Staff Specialist, Medical Oncologist	MBBS, FRACP
Dr	Susan Caird	Staff Specialist, Medical Oncologist	MBBS, FRACP
Mr	Jacob Darch	Research Manager Clinical Trials and Clinical Nurse Consultant	BN, PGCertCancerCare
Dr	Marcin Dzienis	Staff Specialist, Medical Oncologist	MBBS, FRACP
Mr	Ian Fraser	Clinical Trials Coordinator and Clinical Nurse	BN
Dr	Andrew Hill	Staff Specialist, Medical Oncologist	MBBS, FRACP
Dr	Mohammed Islam	Staff Specialist, Medical Oncologist	MBBS, FRACP
Dr	Samuel Jones	Staff Specialist, Medical Oncologist	MBBS, FRACP
Ms	Donna Kreuter	Clinical Research Co-ordinator	BN
Dr	Marco Matos	Staff Specialist, Medical Oncologist	MBBS, FRACP
Dr	Wade Pullin	Staff Specialist, Medical Oncologist	MBBS, FRACP
Ms	Elise Sturgeon	Clinical Research Coordinator	BN

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
M Dzienis	International breast cancer biomarker, standard of care and real world outcomes study (BREAKOUT).
M Dzienis, M Islam	A Phase 3 randomized, open-label clinical study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of Pembrolizumab plus Epacadostat, Pembrolizumab Monotherapy, and the EXTREME Regimen as first line treatment for recurrent or metastatic head and neck squamous cell carcinoma.
M Dzienis, D Nikolarakos, A Lam, J Sanmugarajah, S Dowthwaite	Testing for drug susceptibility in head and neck cancer using mouse avatars.
P Gorayski, A Yates, R Finnigan	PEARL – A randomised Phase 3 trial of palliative care early in advanced lung cancers.
J Jackson	Decision regret in patients with gastrostomy tubes during radiation therapy for head and neck cancer.
J Jackson, A Yates, P Gorayski	A blind randomized multicenter study of accelerated fractionated chemo-radiotherapy with or without the hypoxic cell radiosensitizer nimorazole (Nimoral), using a 15 gene signature for hypoxia in the treatment of HPV/p16 negative squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck.
D Lunn, P Gorayski, D Pointing	Deep Inhalation Breath Hold for reduction of cardiac toxicity in patients with left sided breast cancer undergoing radiotherapy.
M Matos, M Dzienis, W Pullin	A Phase 3 study of BBI-608 in combination with 5-Fluorouracil, Leucovorin, Irinotecan (FOLFIRI) in adult patients with previously treated metastatic colorectal cancer.
J Sanmugarajah, M Dzienis, J Darch	MonarchE: A randomized, open-label, Phase 3 study of Abemaciclib combined with standard adjuvant endocrine therapy versus standard adjuvant endocrine therapy alone in patients with high risk, node positive, early stage, HR+, HER2- breast cancer.



# Mental Health and Specialist Services



**Chair/research leader:**

**Prof Chris Stapelberg**

BSc(Hons), MBBS, PhD, FRANZCP

*Professor of Mental Health and Senior Staff Specialist, Gold Coast Health and Bond University*

**Gold Coast Mental Health and Specialist Services (GCMHSS) have a stated mission to pursue clinical excellence through innovation, research and education. We aim to build capacity for, and pursue excellence in, research which is evidence-based, consumer-focused, improves the quality of clinical care, and makes a difference to the lives of people in our community.**

Our Research Strategic Plan focuses on building a framework for fostering research capacity and supporting new and emerging researchers, especially medical students, PhD students and psychiatry registrars. This has been accomplished through a number of initiatives, including the publication of our Guide to Research, research mentorship support, a regular Research Sandbox meeting for informal networking, and assistance through the GCMHSS Research Committee.

In 2017, we focused on progressing larger research projects and developing programs of research. We published the GCMHSS Suicide Prevention Strategy, which incorporates a framework for evaluation and research. This work won the prestigious Queensland Health Awards for Excellence: Highly Commended in the Category of Delivering Healthcare Award, and involves collaboration with Griffith University and Bond University. Our Biomarkers in Depression research program is collecting pilot data which will lead to a nationally significant study in this emerging field. This research represents a substantial ongoing collaboration with Bond University and the Heart, Mind and Body Emerging Research Centre at Griffith University.

This year we also successfully negotiated for Gold Coast Health to become the Queensland site for the Ketamine to Treat Depression Trial. This pioneering multicentre trial, in collaboration with the Black Dog Institute (NSW), has commenced recruitment under the leadership of Dr Shanthi Sarma, Dr Deepak Garg and Prof Chris Stapelberg. Another landmark development was the opening of the Lavender Mother-Baby Unit at Gold Coast University Hospital in March. This is a state-wide public service and the first of its kind in Queensland catering for women with severe mental illnesses and their infants requiring admission to an inpatient program. The unit has a research team, which has developed a mixed method research project to evaluate the effects of the service from a range of perspectives.



## Research active staff

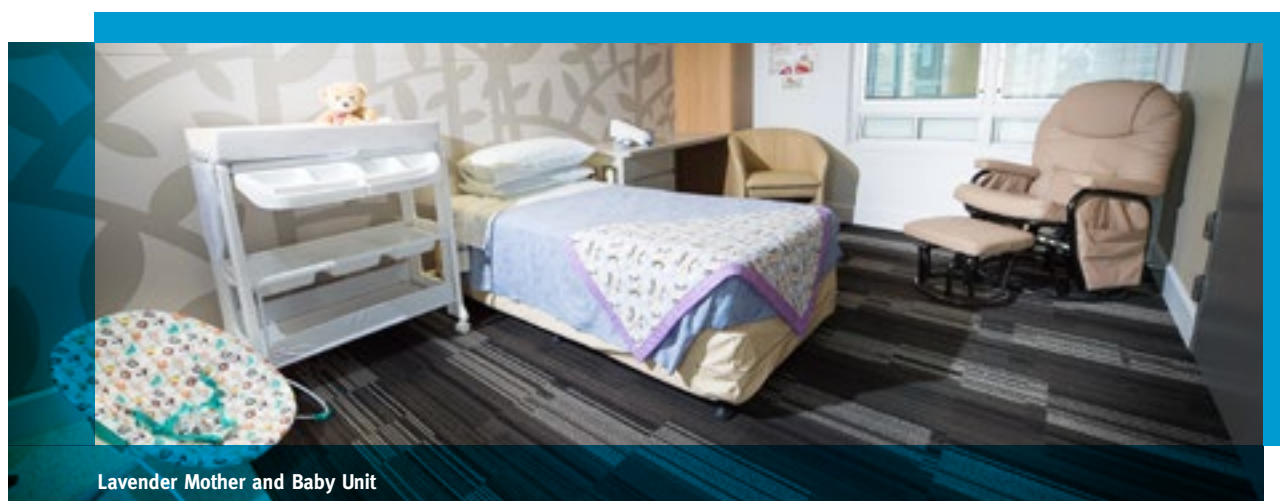
Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	Hesitha Abeysundera	Consultant Addiction Psychiatrist	MBBS, FRANZCP, CertAddictPsych
A/Prof	Alice Almeida-Crasto	A/Director Clinical Governance and Innovation, Mental Health and Specialist Services, and A/Professor, Bond University	MA(ClinPsych), MPsych(Clin), PostGradDipHSP
Dr	Karl Bagraith	Team Leader, Persistent Pain Service	BOccThy(Hons), PhD
Ms	Grace Branjerdporn	Service Development and Research Coordinator, Mother-Baby Service	BOccThy(Hons)
Prof	Debra Creedy	Professor of Perinatal and Infant Mental Health, Gold Coast Health and Griffith University	BA(Hons), MEd, PhD
Mr	Darren Doherty	Physiotherapist	BAppSchMS MMusculoskeletalSportPht, MPhtySt
Ms	Tamara Edwards	Research Officer	BPsychSc, GDipEpi
Prof	Jennifer Fenwick	Professor of Nursing and Midwifery, Gold Coast Health and Griffith University	RM, BHLthSc, MNgst, PhD
Dr	Deepak Garg	Consultant Psychiatrist	MBBS, MDPsych, MRCPsych, FRANZCP
A/Prof	Neeraj Gill	Clinical Lead, Mental Health, Gold Coast Health and Associate Professor, School of Medicine, Griffith University	MBBS, MD(Psych), FRANZCP
Mr	Anthony Hall	Pharmacist, Gold Coast Health and Senior Lecturer, Queensland University of Technology	BPharm(Hons), ADipCIPharm, GDipMedSc, FSHP
Mr	Damian Hughes	Team Leader, Mother-Baby Service	BSc(Hons), MSW, PQSW, CertAppSocSci
Dr	Simon Langston	Director, Psychology, Alcohol and Other Drugs Service	BBus, BAppSc, GDipAppSc, MPsych(Hlth), MPsychCl, PhD
Dr	Donna Marynowski-Traczyk	Registered Nurse	RN, BN(Hons), PhD
Prof	Kevin McNamara	Director, Alcohol and Other Drugs Service, and Professor, Bond University	MBBS, FRANZCP
Ms	Suzi Orschulok	A/Service Development and Research Coordinator	BPsych, MPsych PGDipPsych
Dr	Susan Roberts	Psychiatrist	MBBS, FRANZCP
Dr	Shanthi Sarma	Psychiatrist	BMBS, BSc (Psych), FRANZCP
Dr	Kathryn Turner	Clinical Director, Mental Health and Specialist Services	MBBS, FRANZCP
Ms	Margaret Vandermost	Senior Psychologist	BA(Bus), MClintPsych, GradDipAppPsych
Dr	Sarah Walker	Senior Psychologist	MPsych(Clin), DPsych(Clin)
Mr	Matthew Welch	Clinical Nurse Consultant	RNMH, PGCAMHN
Dr	Sabine Woerwag-Mehta	Consultant Psychiatrist	MBBS, FRANZCP

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
S Sarma, C Stapelberg	Ketamine therapy among patients with treatment-resistant depression: A randomised, double blind, placebo-controlled trial.	The University of New South Wales	\$99,825
M Toombs, S Kisely, L Hides, G Nicholson, N Gill, S Kondalsamy-Chennakesavan, S Brennan-Olsen, G Beccaria	Indigenous Mental Health Model of Care: Randomised controlled trial based on a trans-diagnostic Cognitive Behavioural Therapy program co-designed with community.	National Health and Medical Research Council - Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases Grant	\$996,217
M Vandermost	Can an allied health expanded scope treatment access pathway improve health outcomes for people with persistent pain? A pragmatic randomised controlled trial.	Health Practitioner Research Scheme	\$53,488

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
K Baird, A Carrasco, J Nelson, K Tighe	Breaking the Silence: Exploring responses to domestic and family violence in clinical practice.
L Bryne, H Roennfeldt, P O'Shea	Identifying barriers to change: The lived experience worker as a valued member of the mental health team.
L Ford, A Pidgeon, B Watt	Examining the feasibility of an innovative self-compassion and mindfulness based intervention for young adults in an acute mental health inpatient setting.
T Machingura, S Mickan, D Shum, C Lloyd, L Parlato, M Wood	Effectiveness of sensory modulation intervention in adults with schizophrenia.
S Sarma	Ketamine therapy among patients with treatment-resistant depression: A randomised, double blind, placebo-controlled trial.
M Vandermost	Can an allied health expanded scope Treatment Access Pathway improve health outcomes for people with persistent pain? A pragmatic randomised controlled trial.
M Vandermost, K Bagraith	Rasch analysis of the Chronic Pain Acceptance Questionnaire (CPAQ): Are scores on the full-length and short-form CPAQ interchangeable?



Lavender Mother and Baby Unit

# Neurosciences Research Collaborative Group



**Chair/research leader:**

**Dr Teresa Withers**

MBBS (Hon), MEd, FRACS

*Neurosurgeon and Director of Head,  
Neck and Spine Surgery*



**Chair/research leader:**

**Dr Meng Tan**

MBBS, BSc, MClinEd, FRACP

*Neurologist and Director of Neurology*

The Neurosciences Research Collaborative Group was formed in 2017 by Professor Marianne Vonau to promote research activity across neuroscience disciplines; to develop programs for research, education and training in clinical neurosciences; and create further opportunities to collaborate with research institutes, universities and industry partners. A research culture in neurosciences will continue to drive excellence in clinical care by embedding evidence-based practice.

Our group comprises the specialties of Neurosurgery, Neuroradiology, Interventional Neuroradiology, Neurology and Neurophysiology sciences. Our members reflect the range of health professionals providing team-based multidisciplinary care.

Our key research themes and strengths include innovations in neurosurgical techniques, stroke treatment, management of intracranial aneurysms, neurovascular devices, the treatment of multiple sclerosis and motor neurone disorders, epilepsy, neuro-imaging, neurotrauma and the health-related quality of life of our patients. We currently have over 20 research projects and clinical trials in progress.

Key achievements of our group to date include our participation in globally significant clinical trials that have expanded patient options for thrombolysis (clot-busting drugs) and thrombectomy (clot retrieval). Professor Broadley and the Multiple Sclerosis (MS) clinical fellows continue to advance discoveries and treatment options for MS patients, having received National Health and Medical Research Council grant funding with Griffith University and the University of Tasmania to research the progression of the disease.

Within neurosurgery, research which showed favourable patient outcomes following the floating anchored craniotomy technique led to its adoption into clinical practice. In the field of interventional neuroradiology, research on the wide-spread use of flow-diverting stents to treat intracranial aneurysms has placed Gold Coast University Hospital at the forefront of the adoption of these procedures globally.

Our newly formed collaborative has brought together research leaders across the disciplines of neurosciences, and is poised to drive collaborative, clinically relevant research to ultimately improve outcomes for our patients.

## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	Richard Adams	Staff Neurologist	MBBS, MD, FRACP
Dr	Peter Bailey	Staff Neurologist	BSc(Hons), MD, FRCP, DTMH, FRACP
A/Prof	Sandeep Bhuta	Staff Neuroradiologist	MBBS, FRANZCR, DNB, DMRD
Prof	Simon Broadley	Staff Neurologist	BSc(Hons), MBChB, MRCP(UK), PhD, FRACP
A/Prof	Laetitia de Villiers	Interventional Neuroradiologist	MBBS, FRANZCR
Dr	Koshy George	Staff Neurologist	MBBS, MD, FRACP
Ms	Vicky Grant	Clinical Neurophysiology Technologist	DipClinNeur, PGCertClinNeur
Prof	Theresa Green	Visiting Research Fellow in Neurosciences	RN, PhD, FAHA
Dr	Saman Heshmat	Staff Neurologist	MD, MPH, FRACP
Dr	Ashish Jonathan	Neurosurgeon	MBBS, FRACS
Dr	Olivia McDonnell	Staff Neuroradiologist	MBBCh, MRCP, FRCR (UK), FRANZCR
Dr	Sachin Mishra	Staff Neurologist	MBBS, MD, DNB
Ms	Maame Amma Owusu	Clinical Research Monitor and Research Development Officer	RN, BSc, MNurSt, NVRN-BC
Dr	Paul Poulgrain	Neurosurgeon	MBBS, FRACS
Dr	Meenakshi Raj	Staff Neurologist	MBBS, FRACP
A/Prof	Hal Rice	Interventional Neuroradiologist	MBBS, FRANZCR
A/Prof	Arman Sabet	Staff Neurologist	BSc, MD, FRACP
Dr	Christian Schwindack	Neurosurgeon	MBChB, FRCS, FRACS
Dr	Ellison Stephenson	Neurosurgeon	MBBS, FRACS
Mr	Berzenn Urbi	Clinical Research Coordinator	BSN, RN, MAdvPrac, MPhil
Prof	Marianne Vonau	Neurosurgeon and Executive Director of Clinical Governance, Education and Research	OAM, MBBS, MBA, MPH, FRACS
A/Prof	Liqun Yang	Neurosurgeon	MD, PhD, MSurg, MBBS, FRACS
Ms	Haylee Berrill*	Stroke Clinical Nurse Consultant	RN, BSc, GCertCriticalCare (Neur), GCertHlthSci(Stroke), NVRN-BC
Dr	Benjamin Chen*	Medical Director, Rehabilitation Services	MBBS(Hons), FRACP
Dr	Matthew Gutman*	Neurosurgery Principal House Officer	MBBS
Dr	Elena How*	Neurosurgery Principal House Officer	BMedSc(Hons), MBBS
Dr	Thienan (John) Phamnguyen*	Neurology Senior House Officer	MBBS

\*Affiliate member



## Student members

Name	Qualification name	Research project title
Laura Clarke	MPhil	Multiple Sclerosis Clinical Fellowship: The immunopathogenesis of multiple sclerosis.
Elham Khalilidehkordi	MPhil	Multiple Sclerosis Clinical Fellowship: A cohort study of the natural history of multiple sclerosis.

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
A Sabet, B Urbi, S Broadley, R Bedlack, E Russo	A randomised, double-blind, single-centre study on the safety, tolerability and efficacy of cannabis based medicine extract in slowing the disease progression in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or motor neurone disease patients (EMERALD).	Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation Research Grants Scheme	\$99,860
B Taylor, R Scott, I van der Mei, R Lucas, A Ponsonby, J Lechner-Scott, R Lea, A Fox, S Broadley, C Shaw	What predicts the progressive phase of multiple sclerosis?	National Health and Medical Research Council	\$1,800,000

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
S Broadley, E Khalilidehkordi	A randomized, cross-over study design to evaluate the efficacy and tolerability of FLX-787 in subjects with multiple sclerosis spasticity and spasms/cramps.
M Owusu, B Urbi, H McEvoy, H Rice, L De Villiers, T Green	An evaluation of health-related quality of life pre and post endovascular flow diversion therapy in patients with unruptured intracranial aneurysms (ELEVATE).
H Rice, L de Villiers	Neurovascular Product Surveillance Registry (INSPIRE).
A Sabet, P Bailey, S Mishra	A post-marketing safety study to evaluate the occurrence of Aseptic Meningitis Syndrome (AMS) in an adult population ( $\geq 18$ Years) treated with doses of $\geq 1\text{g/kg}$ Intragam® 10 NF.
A Sabet, B Chen, S Mishra	Randomized efficacy and safety trial with oral S 44819 after recent ischemic cerebral event. An International, multi-centre, randomized, double-blind placebo-controlled Phase II study (RESTORE).
T Withers, A Jonathon	The Australasian Shunt Registry.

# Nutrition Research Collaborative



**Chair/research leader:**

Prof Andrea Marshall  
RN, PhD

*Professor of Acute and Complex  
Care Nursing*



**Chair/research leader:**

Mr Alan Spencer  
BSc(Hons), GDipDiet, MPH

*Director, Nutrition and Food Services*

The Gold Coast Nutrition Research Collaborative was formed in 2016 with the aim of improving the health and nutrition of the community through generation of new knowledge and implementation of high quality research into clinical practice. We are an interdisciplinary collaborative which fosters strong research partnerships with both Griffith University and Bond University. These partnerships enable research which improves nutrition practice and outcomes in identified areas of need within our health service, while also growing the research capacity of novice and early career clinical researchers.

In 2017, our collaborative identified several conceptual areas of research strengths, which were: patient and family partnerships to improve nutrition care; nutrition to improve clinical and functional outcomes; technological innovations in nutrition care; providing best nutrition delivery and care; and healthy eating across the lifespan. In the past year we have contributed to over 50 publications linked to these research strengths. Currently, we have more than 15 research projects in progress, which extend across disciplines, specialities and organisations, including several national and international research collaborations.

We have led important research leading to practice change and improved outcomes for patients and staff in Gold Coast Health. A key example is a change to current evidence-based guidelines for nutrition support of critically ill patients. Our research informed the addition of a new approach to determining nutrition prescription and the increased use of metabolic monitoring to assess energy expenditure during critical illness. We are also currently identifying strategies to improve delivery of texture-modified and thickened fluids to patients who have difficulty swallowing and to increase screening rates for malnutrition.

A key area of ongoing research is our evaluation of a dietitian-led gastroenterology clinic as a new model of care to provide evidence-based care, enhance timely access to services and reduce the gastroenterology waitlist. This research has already had a positive impact on timeliness of care for our patients, and we are planning to conduct more detailed research, including cost-effectiveness analysis, to build an evidence-base to enable its uptake in other health services.

## Awards/achievements

Ms Rumbidzai Mutsekwa

*2017 Overall winner of the inaugural Quality and Safety Improvement Award, Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service*

Dr Shelley Roberts

*Griffith University Outstanding Health Alumnus of the Year 2017, Griffith University*

*Griffith University Outstanding Health School of Allied Health Sciences Alumnus of the Year 2017, Griffith University*

*Fresh Science Finalist, 2017 Fresh Science event*

## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	Rebecca Angus	Research Officer and Dietitian	BSc(Hons), MNutrDiet, PhD
Ms	Tracey Black	Clinical Nurse Consultant, Nutrition, Gold Coast Health	BSN, CPerNur, GradCertNur
Dr	Katrina Campbell	Associate Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine, Bond University	PhD, AdvAPD
Dr	Russell Canavan	Director, Gastroenterology	BSc(Hons), MBBS, FRCP, CHIA
Ms	Helen Clifford	Senior Health Promotion Officer	BHlthSc
Ms	Lisa Farlow	Clinical Dietitian	BNutrDiet
Ms	Marie Hopper	Assistant Director, Speech Pathology	BSpPath
Mr	Zane Hopper	Assistant Director, Nutrition and Food Services	BHumanMovSt, MNutrDiet
Prof	Liz Isenring	Professor of Nutrition and Dietetics and Associate Dean Research, Bond University	BHSc, GCHed, PhD
Mr	Todd Leeder	Director of Nutrition, Robina Hospital	BNutrDiet
Ms	Meri Manafi	Senior Renal Dietitian	BNutr
Ms	Rumbidzai Mutsekwa	Senior Dietitian, Gastroenterology	BBioMed, MNutrDiet
Ms	Lyza Norton	Senior Paediatric Dietitian and Team Leader Nutrition	BSc, MNutrDiet
Dr	Dianne Reidlinger	Assistant Professor, Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine, Bond University	BBus MNutrDiet, PhD, PostGradCertAPract
Dr	Shelley Roberts	Dietitian and Research Fellow, Griffith University	BHSc(Nutr), MNutrDiet(Hons), PhD
Dr	Kelly Weir	Principal Research Fellow, School of Allied Health Sciences, Griffith University and Gold Coast Health	BSpThy, MSpPath, PhD
Ms	Katie Williams	Clinical Dietitian	BHlthSc(Nutr), MNutrDiet

## Student members

Name	Qualification name	Research project title
Nathan Cook	BNutrDiet(Hons)	Nutrition guideline adherence in the Intensive Care Unit.
Megan Crichton	MNutrDiet(Hons)	Conservative management of uncomplicated diverticulitis: What is the effect on inpatient dietary restriction and discharge diet prescription on length of stay, recurrence, and patient outcomes?
Camilla Dahl	MNutrDiet(Hons)	Conservative management of uncomplicated diverticulitis: What is the effect on inpatient dietary restriction and discharge diet prescription on length of stay, recurrence, and patient outcomes?
Alexandra Davidson	MNutrDiet (Hons)	Physicians' perspectives on the treatment of patient with eating disorders in the acute setting.
Sharnie Fyffe	BNutrDiet(Hons)	Nutrition in trauma.
Jaimon Kelly	PhD	The evaluation of individualized Telehealth Intensive Coaching to promote healthy Eating and lifestyle in Chronic Kidney Disease (ENTICE-CKD): A qualitative study.
Sean Kenworthy	MNutrDiet (Hons)	Nutrition risk screening in critical illness.
Jacqueline Kidd	BNutrDiet(Hons)	Nutrition in trauma.
Susie Lauer	MD	Nutrition in trauma.
Sophie Mahoney	MNutrDiet (Hons)	Conservative management of uncomplicated diverticulitis: What is the effect on inpatient dietary restriction and discharge diet prescription on length of stay, recurrence, and patient outcomes?
Hannah O'Malley	BNutrDiet(Hons)	Investigating barriers and enablers to Malnutrition Screening Tool completion at GCHHS.
Megan Rattray	PhD	Improving feeding practices in postoperative patients: A knowledge translation approach.
Julie Wong	MD	Nutrition in trauma.

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
M Hopper, S Roberts, R Wenke, L Bromiley, Z Hopper, A Marshall	Improving nutrition practice for hospitalized patients: Evidence in action.	Gold Coast Health Private Practice Trust Fund	\$19,756
R Mutsekwa, R Angus, L Ball, P Scuffham, R Canavan	Is the dietitian-led gastroenterology clinic at Gold Coast University Hospital cost-effective and does it provide positive patient health outcomes?	Allied Health Research Scheme	\$27,835
S Roberts, W Chaboyer, R Gonzalez, A Marshall	Feasibility of a bedside technology to engage patients in their nutrition care: A pilot randomised controlled study.	Griffith University New Researcher Grant	\$12,471



## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
N Lankester	Lifestyle Intervention Program evaluation and follow up.
R Nucera, J Jenkins-Chapman, K Campbell, C Dahl, S Marshall	Conservative management of uncomplicated diverticulitis: What is the effect of inpatient dietary restriction and discharge diet prescription on length of stay, recurrence and patient outcomes?
M Rattray, A Marshall, B Desbrow, S Roberts	Improving feeding practices in postoperative patients: A Knowledge Translation approach.



# Orthopaedic Research Group



**Chair/research leader:**

**Prof Randy Bindra**

MBBS, MSOrth, MchOrth, FRACS,  
FRCS

*Research Director, Orthopaedics  
Department*

The Orthopaedic Research Group was formed in 2014 under the leadership of Professor Randy Bindra, in order to promote a culture of research and quality improvement as an essential part of clinical practice in the specialty. Our group's aim is to support ongoing research activity, develop and progress new ideas, and provide guidance on ethics and governance matters relating to ongoing projects.

We are one of the largest research groups in Gold Coast Health, and our monthly meetings are well attended by junior and senior medical staff, as well as interested medical students. We have a strong focus on supporting junior staff to develop and succeed in research by pairing them with experienced consultant mentors.

We have developed a variety of projects aimed at improving clinical care, assessing and implementing new technologies for enhanced patient care, and supporting the education and training of junior doctors. We conduct a broad range of clinical research in the specialty of orthopaedics, but have a particular interest in technology innovation.

Our members collaborate closely with Griffith University through the Gold Coast Orthopaedic Research and Education (gCORE) alliance. The alliance brings together clinical and academic researchers to address clinical issues with technology innovation. A particular focus is in computational biomechanics, which allows clinicians to model the mechanics of human movement and mechanisms of injury. Our group also has a significant history of collaboration with industry partners, as well as multidisciplinary work with occupational therapists, physiotherapists, health economists, radiologists and nurses.

A key ongoing project is our large-scale prospective observational study on distal radius fractures, which are the most common bone fracture seen by clinicians. The study involves multidisciplinary input from the Bond University Occupational Therapy School and Griffith University Health Economics, and will produce high quality data about the nature of these injuries and factors in recovery, with the ultimate aim of improving care of these patients.

## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	Melissa Bairstow	Principal House Officer	MBBS
Dr	Rahul Bamal	Hand Fellow, Orthopaedics	MBBS, MS, MRCSd, MCh
Dr	Robert Barbin	Principal House Officer	MBBS
Dr	Thomas Clarke	Junior House Officer	MBBS
Dr	Price Gallie	Visiting Medical Officer (Orthopaedic Consultant)	MBBS, FRACS(Orth)
Dr	Conor Gouk	Principal House Officer	MBChB, MSc
Dr	David Graham	Visiting Medical Officer	BPhy(Hons), MBBS, FRACS
Dr	Daniel Heitman	Principal House Officer	BBioMedSci, MBBS
Dr	Fionnuala Kelly	Principal House Officer	MBBS
Dr	Amin Masoumiganjgah	Registrar	DM, MSpMed
Dr	Justin Matthews	Junior House Officer	MB ChB, FRCS (Tr & Orth), PGCert
Dr	Nathan Price	Principal House Officer	MBBS, BMedSc
Dr	Michael Rayner	Principal House Officer	MBBS
Dr	James Reidy	Staff Specialist	BASc, MBBS, FRCSEd (Tr & Orth), FRACS
Dr	Anthony Silva	Principal House Officer	MBBS, BSc(Hons), MSc
Dr	Luke Salmon	Principal House Officer	BBS, MD
Dr	Richard Steer	Registrar	MBBS
Dr	Fraser Taylor	Staff Specialist	MBBS, FRACS(Orth), BScChem
Dr	Michael Thomas	Deputy Medical Director	MBBCh, MRCS, FRCS (Tr & Orth), AMCCert, FRACS(Orth)
Dr	Francois Tudor	Staff Specialist	MSc, BSc(Hons), MBBS, FRCS (Tr & Orth)

## Student members

Name	Qualification name	Research project title
Hayman Lui	PhD	Scapholunate ligament reconstruction.

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
R Bindra, T Mettyas	Negative Pressure Neurogenesis	Australian Orthopaedics Association and Queensland Hand Surgery Society	\$17,000

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
G Balendra, J Quinn, S Ly, R Bindra	1 year clinical and radiological outcome of forearm peripheral nerve repair (with and without conduit).
R Bindra, D Ngo, N Jeffery	Causation and outcome of Isolated Radial Shaft Fractures with view to prevention.
C Gouk, J Reidy, R Bindra	Does 3D printing aid pre-operative planning in acetabular fracture management: An international assessment?
A Masoumiganjah, E Tan, L Salmon	Electromyographic analysis of the biceps brachia during the golf swing.
W O'Callaghan	Ankle fracture management using smartphone MMS imaging - How reliable and to what point?
A Silva, R Bindra	Penetrating injuries from fallen palm fronds: A retrospective case series.
A Silva, S Platt	Factors affecting surgical career choice in junior doctors: A multi-centre survey.
R Steer, G Balendra, J Reidy, J Matthews, M Wullschleger	The use of an infix in the treatment of pelvic ring injuries.
E Tan, D Heitman	Spring eye vs standard eye needles – Which is faster?
F Tudor, M Brunt-Mackenzie, R Bindra	Bite size teaching: Improving medical students' examination skills.





# Pharmacy Research Collaborative



## Chair/research leader:

Mrs Trudy Teasdale

BPharm, MSc(ClinPharm), GCBA,  
GAICD

*Assistant Director, Pharmacy*

The Pharmacy Research Collaborative was formally established in 2017, to support development of a research culture within the Pharmacy Department and facilitate research which aligns with departmental priorities. To meet this aim, we have initially focused on strengthening research links, providing mentorship, promoting opportunities to conduct research, and supporting the publication and presentation of high quality research activities. This approach was designed to align our collaborative with the Gold Coast Health Research Strategy.

We maintain close partnerships with the Griffith University Quality Use of Medicines Network, the Bond University Evidence Based Practice Professional Unit, and the University of Queensland, as well as strong links with internal research committees and the Office for Research Governance and Development.

In 2017 our activity centred on Quality Use of Medicines student projects, with 12 projects involving pharmacy students from Griffith University and University of Queensland. These projects addressed themes as varied as adverse drug reaction reporting, prescription of anti-coagulants upon discharge, appropriateness of antipsychotic use in patients with behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia, and prescribing errors in paediatric outpatient clinics. These projects addressed locally important clinical questions, helping to inform our practice, as well as contributing to the wider evidence base.

Our collaborative has also focused upon building research knowledge within the Pharmacy Department by actively seeking opportunities for development. Our staff have attended evidence-based practice, protocol writing and knowledge translation workshops, which have helped develop a number of research projects. We have a focus on knowledge dissemination and peer support to drive clinician research capability in the department. A key activity under this aim is reviewing and providing feedback on conference abstracts written by pharmacy staff.

In the future, our collaborative intends to further strengthen links between members by conducting high quality research, with a focus on developing multi-disciplinary projects.

## Awards/achievements

Ms Karly Forster

*Best emerging clinician researcher presentation, Gold Coast Health Research Week Conference*

## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
A/ Prof	Shailendra Anoopkumar-Dukie	Deputy Head (Research), School of Pharmacy and Pharmacology, Griffith University	BPharm, PhD
Ms	Lisa Bradford	Pharmacist	BPharmSci, MPharm
Dr	Caitlin Brandenburg	Advanced Research Development Officer	BSpPath(Hons), PhD
Mrs	Brooke Bullock	Medical Education Officer, Medical Education Unit	BPharm, GDipClinPharm
Mrs	Karly Forster	Senior Oncology Pharmacist and Senior Clinical Facilitator	BPharm(Hons)
Mrs	Nallini McCleery	Senior Pharmacist and Senior Clinical Educator	BSc(Hons), BPharm, GDipClinPharm
Dr	Christy Noble	Principal Medical Education Officer and Principal Research Fellow	BPharm, Med, PhD, PGCertClinPharm
Ms	Rachael Raleigh	Advanced Clinical Pharmacist	BPharm, MClinPharm, GCPharmPrac
Dr	Paulina Stehlik	Senior Research Fellow, Bond University	BPharm(Hons), PhD, GCertPharPrac

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
R Raleigh	Pharmacy Assistant role redesign.	Allied Health Backfill Grant	\$9,000

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
S Anoopkumar-Dukie, E Simpson, K Forster, S McMillan	The impact of an evidence based education on complementary and alternative medicine usage in cancer patients: A pilot study.
K Forster, S Hall	A study of the extended stability and microbiological sterility of citric acid 0.6M solution used for cough reflex testing in the assessment of silent aspiration risk.

# Physiotherapy Department



**Chair/research leader:**

**Mr Dean Blond**

BPhty, MPhty

*Director of Physiotherapy*

The Physiotherapy Department is a strongly clinically based area in which we aim to provide opportunities for clinical staff to undertake research activities, support collaboration with academic institutions, and lead research informed healthcare delivery.

Physiotherapists work in a range of settings in the health service, and provide care in a variety of fields, including injury prevention, acute care, rehabilitation, chronic disease management, and maintenance of functional ability. As such, our department's research activity is wide-ranging, but always maintains a focus on providing exemplary, evidence-based clinical care.

A key focus of a number of our projects this year has been on the expanding role of physiotherapists in the health service, and evaluation of physiotherapist-led models of care. This research has provided evidence to promote new models of care that have the potential to reduce expenditure, shorten wait times and deliver equal or improved outcomes for our patients.

## Research active staff

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Ms	Jennifer Carr	Physiotherapist	BPhty
Mr	Daniel DeBruyn	Senior Physiotherapist, Transition Care Program	BPhty(Hons)
Ms	Corinne French	Physiotherapist, Community Health	BPhty
Ms	Lisa Hanshaw	Physiotherapist, Chronic Disease	BPhty, MPhty
Ms	Zara Howard	Physiotherapist	BPhty
Mr	John Kelley	Physiotherapist	BPhty(Hons), PGCPprofDev
Ms	Deborah Lenaghan	Physiotherapist	BPhty
Mr	Samuel Leveridge	Physiotherapist, Adult Community Health	BExSc, BPhty
Mr	Darryn Marks	Team Leader, Neurosurgery and Orthopaedic Screening Service	BPhty(Hons), MMuscPhty, MBA
Mr	Stuart McBride	Senior Physiotherapist	BPhty
Ms	Jennifer Nucifora	Physiotherapist	BAppSci(Phty), MPhty
Ms	Lauren O'Connor	Senior Physiotherapist, Intensive Care Unit	BPhty, BExSc, MHLthSc, GCRespSc, GradDip HlthSc
Ms	Jennifer Quail	Assistant Director of Physiotherapy, Rehabilitation	BPhty, GCCommRehab GCResMeth



Ms	Menaka Sabaratnam	Physiotherapist, Adult Community Health	BAppSc(Phty), MPH
Mr	Andrew Shaw	Senior Physiotherapist, Cardiorespiratory and Cystic Fibrosis	BPhty
Ms	Tamsin Smith	A/Advanced Physiotherapist, ENT Allied Health Primary Contact Service	BBSsc(Hons), MPhty, PhD
Ms	Vicky Stewart	Physiotherapist	BPhty
Ms	Hayley Thomson	Senior Physiotherapist, Neurology Screening Clinic	BExSc, MPhty
Ms	Emma Walker	Physiotherapist, Adult Community Health	BPhty
Mr	Timothy Walker	Physiotherapist	BPhty
Ms	Bridget Weeks	Physiotherapist	BPhty

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
L Bisset, D Marks, M Thomas	Does somatosensory profile predict clinical outcomes in patients with upper limb musculoskeletal injury?	Physiotherapy Research Fellowship (Innovative Project category)	\$50,000
M Coppieters, H Thomson, K Evans, L Bisset, J Kelley, J Dearness, K Conway, C Morris	Identifying responders and non-responders to the UPLIFT program for people with persistent low back pain: A prospective cohort study.	Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation Research Grants Scheme	\$19,974
M Sabaratnam, N Morris, S Sabapathy, R Jayasinghe	Does the addition of high intensity single muscle group training improve exercise training efficiency in heart failure?	Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation Research Grants Scheme	\$19,977

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
Z Howard, J Nucifora, K Weir	Outcomes of a physiotherapy led Pelvic Health Clinic.
S Leveridge, B Dundon, K McLennan, L Handshaw, M Sabaratnam, R Costa	Impact of heart failure exercise program attendance and adherence on health outcomes.
N Morris, M Sabaratnam	Impact of seasonal temperature variations on symptoms and exercise performance in chronic heart failure patients.
A Shaw	Exercise and airway clearance practices of adults with cystic fibrosis: Current Australian practice.
B Weeks, C Baker, J Bruce, S McMahon	Enhancement of the monitoring and management of bladder and bowel function in postnatal women: The 'Elimination' project.

# Public Health Unit



**Chair/research leader:**

**Paul Van Buynder**

MBBS, MPH, FAFPHM

*Staff Specialist, Public Health and  
Professor, School of Medicine, Griffith  
University*



**Chair/research leader:**

**Dr Satyamurthy  
Anuradha**

MBBS, MPH, PhD, FRCS, GCHSt,  
FAFPHM

*Staff Specialist, Public Health*

**Gold Coast Health's Public Health Unit delivers communicable disease control, environmental health, preventive health, epidemiology, and immunisation services to the Gold Coast community. A key aim of our unit is to conduct research alongside service delivery by using research methodology to plan, carry out and evaluate our broad portfolio of programs.**

As a Public Health Unit, our scope and role is distinctively different from the rest of the health service, which is primarily focused on providing health care services to patients. We work collaboratively with partners in health and non-health agencies to prevent disease, illness and injury, and promote health and wellbeing at a whole-of-community level, affecting every Gold Coast resident. Our key partners for both research and service delivery include the City of Gold Coast, Gold Coast Primary Health Network, and three local universities; Bond University, Griffith University and Southern Cross University.

Our research highlights in 2017 included the initiation of Prevention Tracker Gold Coast in collaboration with the Australian Prevention Partnership Centre. Gold Coast Health was the first metropolitan site on this national project aimed at describing and monitoring systems change to improve health and wellbeing efforts in local communities. In addition, our unit's research was well represented at several national and international conferences, including the 15<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Public Health.

Looking forward, we are anticipating the launch of the Gold Coast Active and Healthy City Strategy, which will provide a framework for collective action and translational research in addressing important community issues such as obesity. We also look forward to the evaluation of our syndromic surveillance system and its role as a mechanism for the early detection and control of outbreaks during the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

## Research active staff

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Ms	Helen Clifford	Senior Health Promotion Officer	GDipHlthProm, MPH
Mr	Ian Hunter	Advanced Epidemiologist	DipAppSc, MPH
Ms	Sharon Jurd	Service Director, Public Health Manager, Environmental Health	AssocDip(HS), GDip Health Promotion, MHS
Mr	Dieter Jurgeneit	Team Leader, Environmental Health Compliance	BAppSci (EnvHlth), BAppSci, DipMgt
Mr	Terry Moore	Team Leader, Environmental Health Investigations	GDipMgt, AssocDip(HS),
Ms	Deena Seesaengnom	Senior Epidemiologist, Research and Evaluation	BHSc(Hons), MPH(Hons)
Ms	Jan Van Buydner	Clinical Nurse Immuniser	BN, RM, IPN
Ms	Fiona Vosti	Public Health Nurse, Communicable Disease Control	RN, BN, PGCertCritCareN, MPH

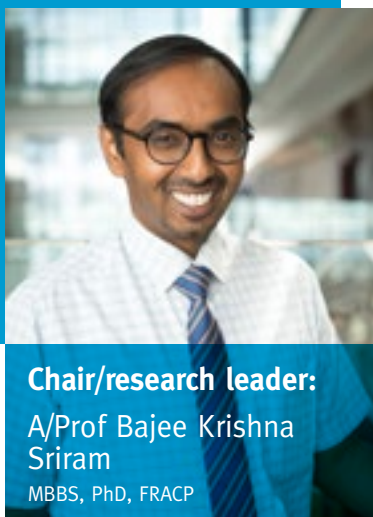
## Student members

Name	Qualification name	Research project title
Elijah Bankole	MPhil	Assessing the validity, reliability and acceptability of a health and wellbeing checklist in general practice and hospital settings.
Janni Stavrinou	MPhil	Measuring the determinants of maternal body mass index (BMI): A review of key indicators and data collection systems.
Ricardo Thomas	MD	Epidemiological investigation of Salmonella Waycross notifications on the Gold Coast.

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
C Chun, M Thng, I Hunter, M O'Sullivan, S Anuradha, S White	Enhanced surveillance of Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea infections diagnosed in the Gold Coast during the period of the Commonwealth Games 2018 compared to a similar period in 2017.
D Currie, C Smith, L Knibbs, S Reid	A system dynamics approach to informing environmental health decision-making: The case of cryptosporidiosis in South East Queensland, Australia.
P Van Buynder, S Moloney, K Grimwood, G Harte, S Drew-Bain	Exploring the attitudes of parents towards influenza vaccination in frequently hospitalised children.

# Respiratory and Sleep Disorders Research Group



**Chair/research leader:**

**A/Prof Bajee Krishna  
Sriram**

MBBS, PhD, FRACP

*Staff Specialist and Clinical Director,  
Sleep Services*

The Respiratory and Sleep Disorders Research Group consists of clinicians who are passionate about improving the care of patients with acute and chronic respiratory disorders. Since our group's formation a decade ago, we have steadily developed our research capability, output and collaborations. Our members have research interests in a range of respiratory disorders, particularly Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), Asthma, Cystic Fibrosis, Interstitial Lung Disease, Lung Cancer and Sleep Disorders.

As a group, our strength is in our strong patient-centred focus and culture of innovation. Research questions are often generated from clinicians and nurses on the ward, who seek to understand and improve their patients' healthcare experience. Our senior members actively encourage participation from junior doctors and nurses, with the goal of developing the clinician scientists of the future. We also support numerous registrar research projects and regularly include medical students in our research.

Since transitioning to the new hospital campus, co-located with Griffith University, we have established strong links with the mucosal immunology and blood rheology labs in the School of Medical Science and Menzies Health Institute Queensland. These collaborations have increased our capacity to design and conduct quality research, and have led to the co-supervision of a number of medical student and postgraduate research projects.

In 2017 our group's consistent research efforts were reflected in publications in peer-reviewed medical and respiratory journals, and presentations at local, national and international conferences. Our research activity also has a history of influencing clinical practice, reflected this year in the introduction of music therapy for patients undergoing pleural procedures.

Ultimately, these efforts enable us to improve the lives of our patients, and we are continuing to drive research activity which advances this goal. We recently received a Gold Coast Health and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation research grant for a project which will involve a new collaboration with the nutrition service, and we have several other projects in development for 2018 and beyond.



## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Dr	Jane Basham	Staff Specialist, Respiratory Lead, Integrated Care	MBBS, FRACP
A/Prof	Iain Feather	Visiting Medical Officer, and Clinical Director, Adult Cystic Fibrosis Services	MBBS, FRACP, FCCP
Dr	Carl Pahoff	Staff Specialist, Medical Director, Pulmonary Function Laboratory	MBBS, FRACP
A/Prof	Maninder Singh	Deputy Medical Director, Department of Respiratory Medicine	MBBS, FRACP
A/Prof	Pathmanathan Sivakumaran	Medical Director, Department of Respiratory Medicine	MBBS, MRCP, FRACP
Dr	Adrian Barnett*	Registrar, Department of Respiratory Medicine	MBBS
Dr	Alistair Cook*	Registrar, Department of Respiratory Medicine	MBBS
Dr	Puneet Prasad*	Registrar, Department of Respiratory Medicine	MBBS
Dr	Cheng Siew*	Registrar, Department of Respiratory Medicine	MBBS

\*Affiliate member

## Student members

Name	Qualification name	Research project title
Zavier Bent	MMedRes	Blood Rheology and Obstructive Sleep Apnea.

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
P Sivakumaran, S Nolan-Neylan	Australian Mepolizumab Registry.	Hunter New England Health District Grant	\$16,800
B Sriram, A Cox, A Cripps, D Zagami, Z Fountain	Why do patients with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and under nutrition state have poor clinical outcomes? A project exploring inflammatory pathways to discover novel treatment paradigms.	Gold Coast Hospital and Gold Coast Hospital Foundation Research Grants Scheme	\$19,802

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
A Barnett, B Sriram	CPAP treatment for obstructive sleep apnoea and dysfunctional breathing.
P Sivakumaran, S Nolan-Neylan	Australian Mepolizumab Registry.
S Sivakumaran, C Siew, A Betta, A Sinclair, C French, N Morris	A retrospective study of clinical presentation, outcome and prognosis in Pneumococcal Pneumonia: Experience from the Gold Coast Health District.
M Zimmerman, V Moore	Australian Cystic Fibrosis Data Registry.

# Speech Pathology Service



**Chair/research leader:**

**Mrs Melissa Lawrie**

BSpPath

*Director of Speech Pathology, Gold Coast Health and Adjunct Associate Professor, Griffith University*

The Speech Pathology Service continued to shine this year as a research active department which greatly values the use and generation of research evidence to optimise patient care. Speech pathology staff were involved in 20 new and ongoing research projects which aimed to improve service delivery, test innovative treatments, and optimise patient access and assessment. Our service also fostered strong collaborations with Griffith University and the University of Queensland, as well as driving internal collaborations with medical, nutrition, and nursing staff.

Research conducted by our service led to locally important clinical and service changes in 2017, such as the introduction of cough reflex testing to acute stroke patients. We also began the Successful Oral Feeding Teat Trial (SOFTT) in collaboration with neonatology and nursing colleagues in the Newborn Care Unit. Implementation of this study led to immediate practice changes in the evaluation and reporting of feeding in preterm infants, and results will ultimately inform the type of teat used to feed infants born in Gold Coast Health.

We also regularly participate in studies which contribute to the global evidence base. Results of our international survey of practice on oral feeding in infants receiving non-invasive ventilation highlighted clinical concerns and variation in practice, which will guide our future research in the field. Gold Coast Health was also a key recruiting site for three externally-led National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) funded trials on the treatment of aphasia in 2017.

A highlight of the past year was our strong presence at the Speech Pathology Australia National Conference in Sydney. Our clinicians gave seven presentations which showcased projects conducted within the service. Marie Hopper won best poster for her pioneering research on the role of the Speech Pathologist in food services. Speech Pathology clinicians also won two of the five awards on offer at the Gold Coast Health Research Week Conference.

Based on 2017's efforts, our service's stated research vision "to be an inclusive and inspiring team of clinician-researchers who are passionate leaders in improving patient and service outcomes through national and internationally recognised innovative research" is fast becoming a reality.

## Awards/achievements

Ms Angie Canning

*Best Poster Award, Gold Coast Health Research Week Conference*

Ms Marie Hopper, Ms Melissa Lawrie, Ms Katina Swan, Dr Rachel Wenke

*Best Poster Award, National Speech Pathology Conference*

Ms Rachael Oorloff

*Best Paediatric Presentation/ Lightning Talk, Gold Coast Health Research Week Conference*

## Research active staff

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Ms	Angie Canning	Senior Paediatric Speech Pathologist	BSpPath
Ms	Leah Coman	Assistant Director of Speech Pathology, Gold Coast Health and Conjoint Lecturer, Griffith University	BSpPath
Ms	Makaela Field	Senior Speech Pathologist	BSpPath
Ms	Katherine Francis	Senior Speech Pathologist	BSpPath
Ms	Megan Free	Assistant Director of Speech Pathology, Paediatrics	BSpPath
Ms	Shelley Gapper	Senior Speech Pathologist	BSpPath
Ms	Heidi Gray	Speech Pathology Clinical Education Support Officer	BSpPath
Ms	Marie Hopper	Assistant Director of Speech Pathology, Robina Hospital	BSpPath
Ms	Claire Jackson	Speech Pathologist	MSpPath
Ms	Rachael Oorloff	Senior Speech Pathologist, Allied Health Research Project Officer	BSpPath
Mr	Christopher Payten	Advanced Speech Pathologist	BSc(SpSc)(Hons), SCPS
Ms	Penelope Stabler	Senior Speech Pathologist	BSpPath
Ms	Katina Swan	Speech Pathologist	BSpPath(Hons)
Ms	Tracy Till	Senior Speech Pathologist	BSpPath
Ms	Megan Trebilcock	Senior Speech Pathologist	BSpPath
Ms	Louise VanDijk	Senior Speech Pathologist	BSpPath
Ms	Annabelle Vaughan	Senior Speech Pathologist	BSpPath
Ms	Chloe Walton	Speech Pathologist	BSpPath
Dr	Rachel Wenke	Senior Speech Pathologist and Principal Research Fellow, Allied Health	BSpPath (Hons), PhD
Ms	Chelsea Whillans	Speech Pathologist	MSpPath

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
L Coman, K Weir, E Cardell, J Richards, A Mahon, M Lawrie, R Ware	Improving videofluoroscopic swallow study interpretation in radiology registrars through a targeted training package: A prospective cohort study.	Gold Coast Health, Allied Health Research Clinical Backfill Grant	\$11,356
K Francis, R Wenke, T Rose, M Hopper, M Lawrie, Z Hopper, I Hughes	The use and impact of a supported aphasia-friendly menu tool in the inpatient hospital setting.	Gold Coast Health Allied Health Research Clinical Backfill Grant	\$9,228
C Payten, J Eakin, V Stewart, T Smith, K Weir, I Hughes	Impact of the new Allied Health Specialist clinics with Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) at Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service: Evaluation of service delivery and clinic outcomes.	Gold Coast Health Allied Health Research Clinical Backfill Grant	\$11,356
S Siyambalapitiya, T Rose, R Wenke, A Vaughan	Management of bi/multilingual aphasia in a hospital and health care setting: What happens in real-world clinical practice?	Speech Pathology Registration Legacy Grant	\$10,000

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
A Canning, M Chauhan, R Oorloff, K Weir	Survey of feeding practices for infants and children receiving nasal Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (nCPAP) or High Flow Nasal Cannula (HFNC) respiratory supports.
A Canning, R Oorloff, T Hong, L Chappell, M Van Drimmelen, R Ware, K Weir	Successful Oral Feeding Teat Trial (SOFTT): A randomised cross-over trial.
L Coman, A Mahon, E Cardell, J Richards, R Ware, K Weir	Improving videofluoroscopic swallow study interpretation in radiology registrars through a targeted training package: A prospective cohort study.
P Stabler, D Nikolarakos, E Ward, J O'Neil, N Clayton, S Dowthwaithe	Impact of active scar contracture management on oromotor, speech and swallowing outcomes for patients following oral resection for head and neck cancer: A pilot trial.
V Stewart, C Payten, F Noonan, J Eakin, K Weir, T Smith	Diagnostic and recommendations concordance evaluation between Advanced Allied Health clinicians and an Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) specialist.
D Theodoros, E Cardell, E Finch, A Vogel, S Park, B Whelan, M Lawrie	Be Clear Online: An intensive speech treatment for adults with non-progressive dysarthria.







# Supportive and Specialist Palliative Care



**Chair/research leader:**

A/Prof Andrew Broadbent  
BMedSc, MBChB, MHM, FRACP,  
FACHPM

*Medical Director of Supportive and  
Specialist Palliative Care and Associate  
Professor, Bond University*

In 2017, the Supportive and Specialist Palliative Care Service renewed our focus on developing our department's ability to deliver high quality research. In order to fast track our group's skills in targeted palliative care research, we initially focused on joining state or national research programs such as the Palliative Care Clinical Studies Collaboration (PaCCSC). Our research interests centre on innovative models of care in palliation, raising the quality of patient-centred care, and investigating pioneering treatments which assist with the management of complex symptoms in patients with life-limiting illness.

We commenced several studies in 2017 to meet these aims, including a Phase 4 study on the use of the antidepressant amitriptyline in palliative patients. A highlight for our group was our representation at the 6th Palliative Care Australia Conference. Our members presented on the Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration board, development of outpatient clinics and implementation of a hotline to improve links to primary care. We also gave a poster presentation on our beach wheelchairs project, which enabled terminally ill patients to experience joy of once again visiting our Gold Coast beaches. This project was realised through special Ministerial Award funding through Gold Coast Health's Improvers staff innovation competition.

Our group is focused on creating the critical mass needed to initiate locally based quality research and is rapidly developing research capability. Associate Professor Andrew Broadbent is an investigator on a state-based medical marijuana trial which recently received funding from the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) and will soon commence recruiting participants. We are also preparing to commence the early referral to palliative care for lung cancer patients (PEARL) trial in conjunction with Radiation Oncology, as well as Phase 4 studies on cyclizine and methadone in 2018.

We look forward to seeing the benefits of our work as our research grows and flows on to improving healthcare for our patients.

## Research active staff

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Ms	Lorna Chess-Williams	Senior Clinical Pharmacist	BPharm(Hons), MSHP GradDipClinPharm
A/Prof	Joanne Doran	Senior Staff Specialist, Palliative Medicine, and A/Adjunct Assistant Professor, Bond University	MBBS, FACHPM, DRCOG
A/Prof	Graham Grove	Staff Specialist, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Bond University and Senior Lecturer, Griffith University	MBBS(Hons), BTh, FRACP, FACHPM
A/Prof	Nicola Morgan	Consultant Physician, and A/Adjunct Assistant Professor, Bond University	BMBCh, MA, DCH DRCOG, MRCP, FRACGP, FACHPM
Ms	Emily Plunkett	Social Worker	BSocWrk

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
E Plunkett	Exploration of clinicians' perspectives of bereavement risk assessment practices in a palliative care setting – a qualitative study.	Allied Health Backfill Grant	\$7,752

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
N Morgan, A Broadbent, G Grove, J Doran, L Chess-Williams	Rapid pharmacovigilance in palliative care: A prospective observational study – understanding the burden of adverse drug reactions and their impact of symptoms at the end of life.
E Plunkett, C Noble, L Lawler, R Wenke, L Johns	Exploration of clinicians' perspectives of bereavement risk assessment practices in a palliative care setting – a qualitative study.

# Trauma Service Registry and Research Group



**Chair/research leader:**  
**Prof Martin Wullschleger**  
 MBBS, MD, PhD, FRACS, FMH,  
 EBSQ Trauma

*Trauma Service Director*

## Awards/achievements

A/Prof Jo Bishop, Dr Emma Cooper,  
 Dr Melad Syed, Dr Kaushik  
 Thungathurthi, Prof Martin  
 Wullschleger  
*Winner of Poster presentation  
 competition, Bond University  
 Research Day, Gold Coast*

Mr Ben Gardiner  
*Finalist in New Frontier Category,  
 2017 Hooley Awards – Image Trend,  
 USA*

Trauma Service (Dr Benjamin Chen,  
 Ms Kate Dale, Ms Jessica Dawber,  
 Prof Martin Wullschleger)  
*Winner of Free Paper Session SWAN  
 2017 – Trauma, Critical Care and  
 Emergency Surgery Conference,  
 Sydney*

The Trauma Service established the Research and Registry Group in 2017 to advance research as an essential and valuable component of improving patient outcomes. Our group takes a strategy-driven approach to local, national and international research projects in the area of trauma patient care, and aims to foster a learning and research culture within our service. Our strategy is centred around six pillars of research, covering care of trauma patients from roadside to recovery.

A key initiative of our group is the Trauma Registry, which captures real time information on trauma patients from pre-hospital care to discharge for researchers both internal and external to Gold Coast Health. This registry is integral to our role in enabling and supporting the conduct of collaborative trauma research Australia-wide. In 2017, we initiated a project to evaluate this registry and determine its capacity to interface with other trauma registries in Australia and the United States.

We take a highly collaborative approach to research and work closely with the Critical Care and Emergency research groups within Gold Coast Health. We are also working in close partnership with the Queensland Ambulance Service on a collaborative program of research which aims to improve the care of trauma patients on their journey to hospital. In 2017, our group also continued its history of participation in key multi-site international studies (e.g. the PATCH and POLAR studies) and collaborative research with other trauma centres in Queensland (e.g. FEISTY).

Our group supported research dissemination this year by ensuring that the Gold Coast Health Trauma Service had a strong presence at academic conferences locally, nationally and internationally. Group members were invited speakers at several national and international conferences, and our efforts were recognised through the receipt of several excellence awards. We also supported growth in research capability, through support of studies involving higher degree students.

The increasing research focus of the Trauma Service led to the appointment of a full-time Trauma Research Coordinator this year to assist development and coordination of trauma research and ensure the group continues to grow into the future.

## Members

Title	Name	Job title/s	Qualifications
Ms	Tania Battistella	Trauma Service Case Manager	BN
Ms	Emma Baxendale	Trauma Service Case Manager	BSc
Ms	Kim Bottrell	Trauma Service Case Manager	BN
Dr	Donald Campbell	Deputy Director Trauma and Staff Specialist, Emergency Department	MBBS, FACEM
Ms	Sarah Czuchwicki	Research Assistant	BHSc
Ms	Kate Dale	Nurse Practitioner, Trauma Service	BN, MNP, MEmergN
Mr	Ben Gardiner	Clinical Nurse Consultant and Systems Administrator, Trauma Service	BN
Mr	Matthew Scott	Trauma Service Case Manager	BN, MN
Mrs	Elizabeth Wake	Clinical Nurse Consultant and Trauma Research Coordinator	BSc, MN
A/Prof	Joanna Bishop*	Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Service Quality, Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine, Bond University	MBBS, PhD
Prof	Andrea Marshall*	Professor of Acute and Complex Care Nursing	RN, PhD, FACN, FACCCN
Dr	James Winearls*	Staff Specialist in Intensive Care, Cardiothoracic Lead	BSc(Hons), MBBS, MRCP, FCICM

\*Affiliate member

## Student members

Name	Qualification name	Research project title
Emma Cooper	MD	Mapping of beach injury: Retrospective analysis of presentations to hospitals within the Gold Coast Health District from 2010 to 2016.
Kathy Heathcote	PhD	Surviving trauma: Quantifying the socio-ecological factors related to health, well-being and recovery of patients and their primary caregivers.
Kristen Jones	PhD	Post-traumatic stress disorders and major depression following physical trauma.
Kaushik Thungathurthi	MD	Mapping of beach injury: Retrospective analysis of presentations to hospitals within the Gold Coast Health District from 2010 to 2016.
Melad Syed	MD	Mapping of beach injury: Retrospective analysis of presentations to hospitals within the Gold Coast Health District from 2010 to 2016.

## Research Grants

Investigators	Project Title	Grant body/scheme	Amount
A Pettit, D Hume, M Wulschleger, L Raggatt, J Prins	Osteal macrophages as therapeutic targets for fracture repair.	National Health and Medical Research Council	\$618,014

## New research projects

Investigators	Project Title
B Gardiner, D Campbell, M Wulschleger	A comparative analysis of Trauma Registries – a baseline study to identify the areas of congruence between two Australian and two American Trauma Registries, to develop a platform for future collaborative research.
J Winearls, M Wulschleger	A pilot cohort study of endothelial Glycocalyx shedding in Severe Trauma patients – mediator of poor outcomes or marker of resuscitation efficacy?
M Wulschleger	A review of the coagulation, full blood count and blood gas profiles for trauma patients receiving pre-hospital packed red blood cell transfusions.
M Wulschleger, J Sun, K Heathcote	Surviving traumatic physical injuries: Quantifying the socio-ecological factors related to health, and well-being and recovery.
M Wulschleger, E Wake, E Cooper, J Bishop, K Thungathurthi, M Syed	Mapping of beach injuries: A retrospective analysis of presentations to hospitals within the Gold Coast Health District from 2010 to 2016.





# Other staff projects

Investigators	Project Title
A Baker	An exploration of the use of patient centred principals in goal setting practices in rehabilitation services across Queensland.
A Cripps	Moderating the effect of sleep disruption/deprivation on gut health and the immune system with probiotics.
M Cronin	Use of Surgicel in parotid surgery.
J Cross, A Heffernan, K O'Callaghan, B Richards	Gentamicin use in the Intensive Care - Current utilisation patterns and implications for clinical practice.
P Davoren, C Wijesinghe Gunawardena	Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study to investigate GNBAC1 in patients with onset of Type 1 Diabetes within 4 years.
C Ehrlich, E Kendall, M Slattery	Evaluation of Health Consumers Queensland impact on consumer engagement.
D Ferndale	Auslan/English interpreting in Queensland Health.
T Flenady, T Dwyer	Determining the effectiveness of the Queensland Adult Deterioration Detection System (Q-ADDS) to detect adult clinical deterioration and the socio-cultural factors influencing health professionals' compliance with the use of Q-ADDS: A mixed method study.
B Gillespie, P Nieuwenhoven, J Perry	Identifying wound care priorities to inform the research and implementation agenda across two health service districts.
A Herbert	Evaluating the impact of paediatric palliative care education modules delivered to health professionals.
B Hiremagalur, A Bonner, K Gillespie, L Bubnitz, L Purtell, M Sowa	Longitudinal Evaluation Of Patient-reported Assessments in those Receiving Dialysis (LEOPARD study).
J Hogan, F Kelly, G Grant, J O'Hare	Evaluation of the impact of a Pharmacy Robotic Dispensing System on the GCHHS Pharmacy Department.
L Howard-Jones	Prevalence of advance care planning documentation in Australian health and residential services.
S Howells, P Cornwell, P Kuiper	Exploring the experiences of people with dysphagia caused by stroke or Parkinson's Disease living at home and their caregivers.
J Hulcombe	The management of maternity leave and return to work policies for Allied Health Professionals in Queensland Health Hospitals.
F Lin, S Pearce, C Brown, J Shaw, L Del Fabbro, C Michell, D Sidwell, J Needham, C Bull	An evaluation of a clinical placement resource - Making Connections – for enhancing learning outcomes for culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) undergraduate nursing students.
D Martin	Establishing diagnostic reference levels for cardiac computed tomography angiography in Australia.
D McLean, J Fenwick, L Jones, M Connor	How large healthcare organisations implement the Relational Model of Organisational Change to improve multidisciplinary team relationships and outcomes: A qualitative case study.
N Meloncellii	Examining the management of gestational diabetes mellitus.
S Morris, Y Hsing	Retrospective study of histological margins in periocular skin malignancies removed by Ophthalmology department at Gold Coast University Hospital: Comparison with current gold standards.

S Newbury	Evaluating the impact of video counselling on mode of birth decision making for women who have had a previous caesarean section.
S Owen, B Foley, J Shaw	An exploration of the role of the clinical facilitator in the provision of clinical education and training to registered nurses within health service units: The facilitator's perspective.
M Percival, N Cottrell, C Freeman, M Connor	Medication optimisation using a pharmacist/general practitioner (GP) collaborative care model in a general practice setting: A feasibility study.
T Pilotto, B Shanahan, V Brazil	What do clinicians perceive as the key barriers, challenges or other factors, contributing to their inability to complete BLS assessment using a self-directed, manikin-based feedback system?
N Roetger, G Wright	Retrospective audit of the role of Temporal Artery Biopsy in the management of Giant Cell Arteritis.
H Stewart, S Clayton, J Carlino	Exploring sustainable management practices through continual and collaborative learning experiences: A case study in health services.
T Titus, Amy Swinbank	REDUcing the burden of dialysis Catheter ComplicaTIOns: A national approach.
G Tobiano, A Marshall, C Ryan, K Jenkinson	Handover from the emergency department to inpatient units (handed IN Study).
D Tout	Diagnostic reference level of PET/CT studies in Australia.
Y Wang, G Keogh	Understanding the influences of front-line managers' supportive behaviours on employees' emotional responses and work performance.

## External projects

Investigators	Project Title
S Bathersby	An investigation into the contribution of pre-registration physiotherapy students on five-week clinical placements to the delivery of physiotherapy services within Queensland Health.
C Cheek, J Smith, P Allen, R Hays	A Medical Doctorate for primary medical training.
S Hamilton, A O'Donovan, L Briggs, M Slattery	A psychometric validation of the Generic Supervision Assessment Tool (GSAT) for assessing competency among clinical supervisors in the public mental health sector.
S Jahandideh, K Donald, E Kendall, S Low-Choy	Understanding patient engagement in outpatient cardiac rehabilitation programs based on the Model of Therapeutic Engagement.
T McCurdie	Evaluation of an aid to improve the management of workplace interruptions – A semi-structured interview study.
N Sheeran, B Sauders, L Jones, B Watson, R Pines	Lost in translation: What gets communicated, by whom, and who decides?
S Wutzke, T Riley, L Hopkins, M Gomez, S Davidson, D Chamberlain, K Conte, P Barnett Walker	Prevention Tracker: Describing, guiding and monitoring system change efforts in local communities.

# Research Publications

## Journal Articles

1. Adams, A., Sharpe, K. K., Peters, P., & Freeman, M. (2017). Hereditary leiomyomatosis and renal cell cancer (HLRCC): Cutaneous and renal manifestations requiring a multidisciplinary team approach. *BMJ Case Reports*, 2017.
2. Adjemian, R., Moradi Zirkohi, A., Coombs, R., Mickan, S., & Vaillancourt, C. (2017). Are emergency department clinical pathway interventions adequately described, and are they delivered as intended? A systematic review. *International Journal of Care Coordination*, 20(4), 148-161.
3. Alberto, L., Marshall, A. P., Walker, R., & Aitken, L. M. (2017). Screening for sepsis in general hospitalised patients: A systematic review. *Journal of Hospital Infection*, 96(4), 305-315.
4. Aldridge, M., Huynh, T., Prado, J., & McTaggart, S. J. (2018). Diabetes in a child on growth hormone therapy: Answers. *Pediatric Nephrology*, 33(1), 79-80.
5. Aldridge, M., Huynh, T., Prado, J., & McTaggart, S. J. (2018). Diabetes in a child on growth hormone therapy: Questions. *Pediatric Nephrology*, 33(1), 77-78.
6. Alif, S. M., Dharmage, S. C., Benke, G., Dennekamp, M., Burgess, J. A., Perret, J. L., Lodge, C. J., Morrison, S., Johns, D. P., Giles, G. G., Gurrin, L. C., Thomas, P. S., Hopper, J. L., Wood-Baker, R., Thompson, B. R., Feather, I. H., Vermeulen, R., Kromhout, H., Walters, E. H., Abramson, M. J., & Matheson, M. C. (2017). Occupational exposure to pesticides are associated with fixed airflow obstruction in middle-age. *Thorax*, 72(11), 990-997.
7. Alloo, J., Vallath, S., Del Mar, C., Carter, M., Thorning, S., & Clark, J. (2017). Determining the gaps between Cochrane reviews and trials of effectiveness of interventions for acute respiratory infections: An audit. *Systematic Reviews*, 6(1), 82.
8. Ameratunga, D., Flemming, T., Angstetra, D., Ng, S. K., & Sneddon, A. (2017). Exploring the impact of endometriosis on partners. *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research*, 43(6), 1048-1053.
9. Aranha, A., Macdonald, A., Davoren, P., Page, M., Waynforth, D., Small, S., & Beggs, J. (2017). Patient-centred outcomes of tele-diabetes. *Journal of Diabetes and Treatment*, 2017(3), JDBT-126.
10. Arthur, T., Gartrell, R., Manoharan, B., & Parker, D. (2017). Emergency appendicectomy in Australia: Findings from a multicentre, prospective study. *ANZ Journal of Surgery*, 87(9), 656-660.
11. Auld, B., Noyes, M., & Moloney, S. (2017). Home high-flow therapy: How technology is contributing to palliation in paediatric cardiorespiratory disease. *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health*, 53(2), 202.
12. Babl, F. E., Gardiner, K. K., Kochar, A., Wilson, C. L., George, S. A., Zhang, M., Furry, J., Thosar, D., Cheek, J. A., Krieser, D., Rao, A. S., Borland, M. L., Cheng, N., Phillips, N. T., Sinn, K. K., Neutze, J. M., & Dalziel, S. R. (2017). Bell's palsy in children: Current treatment patterns in Australia and New Zealand. A PREDICT study. *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health*, 53(4), 339-342.
13. Babl, F. E., Mackay, M. T., Borland, M. L., Herd, D. W., Kochar, A., Hort, J., Rao, A., Cheek, J. A., Furry, J., Barrow, L., George, S., Zhang, M., Gardiner, K., Lee, K. J., Davidson, A., Berkowitz, R., Sullivan, F., Porrello, E., Dalziel, K. M., Anderson, V., Oakley, E., Hopper, S., Williams, F., Wilson, C., Williams, A., & Dalziel, S. R. (2017). Bell's palsy in children (BellPIC): Protocol for a multicentre, placebo-controlled randomized trial. *BMC Pediatrics*, 17(1), 53.
14. Badlani, J., Gupta, R., Balasubramanian, D., Smith, J., Luk, P., & Clark, J. (2018). Primary salivary gland malignancies: a review of clinicopathological evolution, molecular mechanisms and management. *ANZ Journal of Surgery*, 88(3), 152-157.
15. Bagraith, K. S., Strong, J., Meredith, P. J., & McPhail, S. M. (2017). Rasch analysis supported the construct validity of self-report measures of activity and participation derived from patient ratings of the ICF low back pain core set. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, 84, 161-172.
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## Book Chapters

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# Public Health Act Reporting

In certain circumstances it is justifiable to grant a waiver of consent, as opposed to obtaining informed consent from research participants. Conditions are outlined in Section 2.3.10 of the National Statement on Ethical Conducting Human Research 2007 (updated May, 2015). Under section 2.3.12 “it is the responsibility of each institution to make publically accessible summary descriptions of all research projects for which consent has been waived”.

## Projects with waived consent:

- An audit of whiplash injuries in the Emergency Department.
- Retrospective audit of the role of temporal artery biopsy in the management of Giant Cell Arteritis.
- Does 3D printing aid pre-operative planning in acetabular fracture management: An international assessment?
- Pharmacological prescription pattern for agitated adult patients in the Gold Coast University Hospital.
- A clinical audit on the incidence of urinary tract infection in patients using catheters for medium term voiding dysfunction after urogynaecological surgery.
- A comparative analysis of Trauma Registries – a baseline study to identify the areas of congruence between two Australian and two American Trauma Registries, to develop a platform for future collaborative research.
- Rasch analysis of the chronic pain acceptance questionnaire (CPAQ): Are scores on the full-length and short-form CPAQ interchangeable?
- Antibiotic Prescribing in Emergency (APE) Project.
- Mapping of beach Injuries: A retrospective analysis of presentations to hospitals within the Gold Coast Health District from 2010 to 2016.
- Acute otitis media in children presenting to the emergency department. Description of diagnostic and management practice.
- Surgical experience in the repair of fourth degree perineal tears: A five year experience at a Tertiary Queensland Hospital.
- Analysis of the correlation between heart rate variability (HRV) and measured levels of sedation for brain injured and non-brain injured ICU patients.
- Longitudinal Evaluation Of Patient-reported Assessments in those Receiving Dialysis (LEOPARD study).
- Penetrating injuries from fallen palm fronds: A retrospective case series.
- Regional versus local anaesthesia for primary arteriovenous (AV) fistula creation: Comparing medium-term fistula survival according to anaesthetic technique.
- A prospective, on-going audit of pregnancy outcomes in women with gestational diabetes mellitus.
- Prevalence and risk factors for VTE in a local orthopaedic population.
- Outcomes of patients with liver cirrhosis admitted to a tertiary Intensive Care Unit.
- Comparing the risk of intravenous immunoglobulin associated arterial and venous thrombosis between haematological and non-haematological conditions.
- Myocardial Infarction and Nonobstructive Coronary Arteries (MINOCA): Clinical characteristics and gender differences.
- Data extraction from electronic health records for a chest pain clinical data registry: The Chest Pain DECoDeR Study (Phase 1).
- A prospective multicentre international 24-hour prevalence study.
- Improving outcomes for people with acute mental illness in the emergency department: A data linkage study.
- Facility reference levels for Mobile Fluoroscopic Examinations at Gold Coast HHS.
- A retrospective audit and risk stratification of patients with acute pulmonary embolism.
- Surviving traumatic physical injuries: Quantifying the socio-ecological factors related to health, and well-being and recovery.
- Study into the prevalence and pregnancy outcomes of obstetric cholestasis.
- Disease free survival in patients of rectal cancer treated in Gold Coast Health Service with neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy and surgery.
- Determining the effectiveness of the Queensland Adult Deterioration Detection System (Q-ADDS) to detect adult clinical deterioration and the socio-cultural factors influencing health professionals' compliance with the use of Q-ADDS: A mixed method study.
- Contralateral prophylactic mastectomy (CPM) – trends and predictors at Robina Hospital.
- Enhanced surveillance of Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea infections diagnosed in the Gold Coast during the period of the Commonwealth Games 2018 compared to a similar period in 2017.
- The use of an infix in the treatment of pelvic ring injuries.
- Protein energy intake in trauma.

# Glossary of terms

<b>ALS</b>	Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
<b>COPD</b>	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
<b>EBP</b>	Evidence Based Practice
<b>ED</b>	Emergency Department
<b>FASD</b>	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
<b>FEISTY</b>	Fibrinogen Early In Severe Trauma studY
<b>GCH</b>	Gold Coast Health
<b>GCHF</b>	Gold Coast Health Foundation
<b>GCHHS</b>	Gold Coast Health and Hospital Service
<b>GCMHSS</b>	Gold Coast Mental Health and Specialist Services
<b>GCORE</b>	Gold Coast Orthopaedic Research and Education
<b>GCUH</b>	Gold Coast University Hospital
<b>GIFTR</b>	Giving InFormation To Research
<b>GP</b>	General Practitioner
<b>HIIRO</b>	Health Innovation, Investment and Research Office
<b>HREC</b>	Human Research Ethics Committee
<b>ICU</b>	Intensive Care Unit
<b>MenziesHIQ</b>	Menzies Health Institute Queensland
<b>MND</b>	Motor Neurone Disease
<b>MRFF</b>	Medical Research Future Fund
<b>MS</b>	Multiple Sclerosis
<b>NHMRC</b>	National Health and Medical Research Council
<b>QIMR Berghofer</b>	Queensland Institute for Medical Research Berghofer
<b>QUEST</b>	Queensland Surgical Trainee
<b>ROLLIS</b>	Radio-guided Occult Lesion Localisation using Iodine-125 Seeds
<b>ROTEM</b>	Rotational Thromboelastometry
<b>VLED</b>	Very Low Energy Diet

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- Office for Research Governance and Development
- Communication and Engagement Unit
- Research Committee and the Board Secretariat
- Research Council
- Strategic Research Advisory Committee
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- Clinical and research staff



**Back Row:** Mrs Marion Marson, Mrs Mila Obucina, Ms Michelle Plant, Mr Troy Krstevski, Ms Marie Taylor, Mr Steve Morris  
**Front Row:** Mr Joshua Dimauro, Ms Luma Michael, Dr Caitlin Brandenburg, Dr Greta Ridley, Ms Vanessa Druett, Ms Carine Hoyer, Ms Maame Owusu    **Absent:** Dr Ian Hughes





