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OUR VISION

A health faculty that has transformed the health care landscape through its innovative and inspiring approach to teaching and learning and the production of world leading research.

OUR MISSION

To continue to improve local and global health and well being the Faculty of Health is committed to:

- Undertaking world leading research
- Producing exemplary health care practitioners through excellence and innovations in teaching and learning
- Providing a supportive work environment for our staff
- Engaging meaningfully with our communities of interest to facilitate mutually beneficial outcomes
- Strengthening the sustainability of our financial resources and facility infrastructure.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

The Faculty has 190 academic staff members (full-time equivalent) and approximately 900 conjoint staff who work in hospitals, community health centres or private professional practice. These conjoint academics work with the University staff and in 2011 supported the teaching and learning of 6,670 students enrolled in the Faculty’s undergraduate and postgraduate programs. Our academic staff are supported by 220 professional staff working in administration and technical fields. In addition the Faculty has more than 150 research only staff supported by external research funding.
MESSAGE
FROM THE
PRO VICE-
CHANCELLOR

The Faculty of Health is proud to play an active role in the on-going growth and development of the University of Newcastle.

Since its establishment in 1965, the University of Newcastle has dared to be different. Newcastle is a confident, competitive university. It is progressive, comprehensive, international and research-intensive.

Our community has played a vital role in the development of the Faculty of Health from its inception in 1975 with Professor David Maddison as the Foundation Dean of the then Faculty of Medicine. Professor Maddison led a revolution in medical education in Australia that started in 1978 when the University admitted its first cohort of medical students and continues today with the Faculty graduating a diverse range of health professionals.

The Faculty comprises four schools (Biomedical Sciences and Pharmacy, Health Sciences, Medicine and Public Health, and Nursing and Midwifery) and each contains national and international leaders in their fields. The Faculty enjoys an outstanding research profile and reputation for leadership as a centre of excellence in medical and health science education.

As a multi-professional Faculty, we deliver a comprehensive range of undergraduate, postgraduate and professional training programs which are integrated into hospital and community health services in urban, rural and remote communities.

The Faculty has medical and laboratory facilities of the highest standard to support the training of our health care professionals, our researchers and their research projects.

I look forward to you joining us in shaping the future of health.

Professor Nicholas Talley
Pro Vice-Chancellor
Dean of Health
GEOGRAPHICAL FOOTPRINT

The Faculty of Health is geographically dispersed over multiple sites. They include Newcastle (Callaghan, David Maddison Building, Hunter Medical Research Institute Building, John Hunter Hospital, Maitland Hospital, Calvary Mater Hospital, Newbold House and Waratah campus), Armidale, Central Coast (Gosford, Ourimbah and Wyong), Moree, Orange, Port Macquarie, Singapore, Tamworth and Taree.
EXECUTIVE PROFILE

NICHOLAS TALLEY PhD
Professor
Pro Vice Chancellor
Dean of Health

QUALIFICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree/award</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Medicine</td>
<td>University of New South Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>University of Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Medical Science (Clinical Epidemiology)</td>
<td>University of Newcastle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery</td>
<td>University of New South Wales</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Neurogastroenteology
Gastroparesis
Dyspepsia

Research expertise
Neurogastroenteology - particularly functional gastrointestinal disorders, irritable bowel syndrome, dyspepsia, eosinophilic gastrointestinal disorders, eosinophilic oesophagitis, gastroparesis

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS
Phone: + 61 2 4921 6378 Fax: + 61 2 4921 5669 Email: Nicholas.Talley@newcastle.edu.au
EXECUTIVE PROFILE

JUDITH SCOTT PhD
Professor
Deputy Head of Faculty (Teaching and Learning)
Assistant Dean International

QUALIFICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree/award</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>University of Adelaide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science (Honours)</td>
<td>Flinders University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Diploma in Medical Laboratory Science</td>
<td>University of South Australia</td>
</tr>
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</table>

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Cell and molecular biology
Curriculum design

Research expertise
Molecular analysis of structure and function of proteins, primarily in relation to proteins linked to the development of cancer.
Curriculum design, particularly in relation to problem-based learning and medical education.

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine Centre for Health Profession Education

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Scott J L, Gresham R L, Dennis J K. (2010) 'An orientation program for first year international students in the Faculty of Health at the University of Newcastle', 13th Pacific Rim First Year in Higher Education Conference 2010, Adelaide, SA

CONTACT DETAILS
Phone: + 61 2 4921 5617 Fax: + 61 2 4921 5669 Email: Judith.Scott@newcastle.edu.au
EXECUTIVE PROFILE

JOHN ROSTAS PhD
Professor
Deputy Head of Faculty (Research)

QUALIFICATIONS

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>Monash University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science (Honours)</td>
<td>Monash University</td>
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</table>

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
- Neuroscience
- Ischaemic brain injury
- Synaptic plasticity

Research expertise
Molecular mechanisms of synaptic plasticity and ischaemia-induced neuronal cell death, especially related to the regulatory enzyme CaMKII. Regulation of the cell cycle by CaMKII. Use of the maturing chicken forebrain as an animal model for human brain maturation.

Association with Research Centres:
- Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
- Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


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ELAINE TERRY  
Associate Director, Faculty Services

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School of Health Sciences

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MS PENNY MAHONEY  
Executive Officer  
School of Nursing and Midwifery

Contact details  
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Email: Penny.Mahoney@newcastle.edu.au
The Faculty of Health at the University of Newcastle is one of the most comprehensive health faculties in Australia. The Faculty offers a large number of health professional degrees at both the undergraduate and postgraduate level including degrees in medicine, nursing, allied health and biomedical science.

The majority of entry level health professional degrees in the Faculty are offered at an undergraduate level. They range from three to five years in length and are distinguished by a student centred approach to learning and their emphasis on the acquisition of skills and knowledge necessary to work as health professionals in a rapidly changing global environment. In addition to a high level academic introduction to their field, students participate in a wide range of clinical simulation activities and undertake hospital and community-based training with health care providers located throughout New South Wales. For a number of the degrees, there is also an opportunity to undertake clinical training overseas. All undergraduate degrees in the Faculty have a research (Honours) option, thereby providing students with the opportunity to gain research training and to prepare for undertaking a research higher degree (Master, PhD).

Health professional degrees offered by the Faculty of Health are externally accredited and all graduates gain eligibility to register as a health practitioner in Australia. For a number of degrees, graduates are also eligible to practice in selected countries overseas.

The Faculty consistently demonstrates a high level of commitment to student satisfaction and learning. Faculty of Health academic staff have received a number of accolades for their teaching including Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) and NSW Teaching Awards. The Faculty has also been successful in obtaining national funding for teaching and learning projects. Faculty staff have excelled in the development of strategies for welcoming both domestic and overseas students to the University, assisting students with their plans for when they leave the University, obtaining high quality teaching standards through peer review of teaching, the development of new ways to interact with students in large classes, the use of new technologies to assist students with their learning, and as effective tools for assessing practical skills, and the use of clinical simulation to train students to be safe and effective health care professionals.

In addition to entry level health professional degrees, the Faculty distinguishes itself in offering continuing postgraduate education for health professionals working in their field. There are a number of degrees such as the Master of Nursing (Advanced Practice), Master of Mental Health Nursing and Master of Nursing (Nurse Practitioner) that offer high level postgraduate training and qualifications for graduate nurses. Other degrees such as the Master of Public Health or Master of Clinical Epidemiology offer practising clinicians and others an opportunity to train as epidemiologists and public health practitioners. Additionally, they offer research training for practitioners who wish to undertake research in their health profession or as preparation for undertaking a Research Higher Degree. A number of the postgraduate degrees are offered in a “nested” format that allows candidates to undertake a Graduate Certificate in the first instance that can then be used as credit towards a related Master degree.

### Undergraduate degrees in the Faculty of Health
- Bachelor of Biomedical Science
- Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Honours)
- Bachelor of Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (Singapore campus)
- Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science
  - Diagnostic radiography
  - Nuclear medicine
  - Radiation therapy
- Bachelor of Medicine
- Bachelor of Medical Science
- Bachelor of Midwifery
- Bachelor of Nursing
- Bachelor of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Bachelor of Occupational Therapy
- Bachelor of Oral Health
- Bachelor of Physiotherapy
- Bachelor of Podiatry

All Bachelor degrees in the Faculty of Health are available to international students. Quotas and other restrictions apply. Further information about admission criteria and the application process can be found at www.newcastle.edu.au/students/international/our-programs/how-to-apply/.

### Postgraduate coursework in the Faculty of Health
The following areas of study are available at Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma or Master level of study. Many programs are available at more than one level of study and credit may be obtained for previous attainment in the program.

All programs are available by distance learning (on-line or paper-based) unless stated otherwise.

- Applied management (nursing)
- Clinical epidemiology
- Dental therapy (on campus only)
- Health science
  - Drug and alcohol
  - Stroke management
- Mental health nursing
- Mental health nursing (nurse practitioner)
- Medical statistics
- Midwifery studies
- Nursing (advanced practice)
- Nursing (nurse practitioner)
- Occupational health and safety
- Pharmacy (on campus only)
- Public health
- Workplace injury management and occupational rehabilitation

The majority of degrees are available to International students who are strongly encouraged to apply. Admission criteria and application forms can be found at www.newcastle.edu.au/students/international/our-programs/how-to-apply/.
RESEARCH OVERVIEW

RESEARCH AND RESEARCH TRAINING

The Faculty of Health is the University’s leading research Faculty in terms of total research funding. Its research is characterised by multidisciplinary and collaborative approaches that complement the Faculty’s integrated undergraduate and postgraduate programs in medicine, health sciences, biomedical science and nursing, and its commitment to excellence in professional education. This allows a comprehensive approach to solving research problems and enables efficient analysis of multi-faceted issues.

Research at the Faculty is conducted by staff and conjoint staff distributed within our four schools. The Faculty also has over 300 Research Higher Degree students.

We have three organisational structures to which researchers can belong:

1. University of Newcastle Priority Research Centres

In 2006, the University of Newcastle established a system of Priority Research Centres to promote cross disciplinary research and focus resources in key areas where the University has major priority Research Centres to promote cross disciplinary research and focus resources in key areas where the University has major research groupings with an international reputation for their Research at the Faculty is conducted by staff and conjoint staff distributed within our four schools. The Faculty also has over 300 Research Higher Degree students.

We have three organisational structures to which researchers can belong:

1. University of Newcastle Priority Research Centres

In 2006, the University of Newcastle established a system of Priority Research Centres to promote cross disciplinary research and focus resources in key areas where the University has major research groupings with an international reputation for their research activities. The Faculty of Health is the major contributor to the following eight of the 15 University Priority Research Centres:

- Centre for Asthma and Respiratory Diseases
- Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine
- Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
- Centre for Cancer
- Centre for Gender Health and Ageing
- Centre for Health Behaviour
- Centre in Physical Activity and Nutrition
- Centre for Reproductive Science

2. Hunter Medical Research Institute

The Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI) is a joint venture between Hunter New England Local Health District and the University of Newcastle in partnership with the community. HMRI was established in 1998 to take advantage of the region’s strategic advances in health and medical research and biotechnology including the strengths of its founding institutions. It has grown to become one of the state’s leading health and medical research institutes, and the third largest medical research institute in NSW measured by peer reviewed grant income.

HMRI has more than 600 researchers employed by the University and Hunter New England Local Health District working in seven research programs: Brain and Mental Health, Cancer, Cardiovascular Health, Information Based Medicine, Pregnancy and Reproduction, Public Health and Viruses, Infection/Immunity, Vaccines and Asthma (VIVA).

The Hunter region has had a strong export tradition in industrial products and agriculture. However it is increasingly recognised internationally for its strength in health and medical research, education and training. HMRI has several strategic advantages for health and medical research. The population of our region is stable and well characterised, with a mixture of ages, socio-economic status and urban/rural location that makes it a microcosm of Australia and ideal for population based studies. In addition, there is a strong technical, research and education base combined with a tradition of multidisciplinary research.

3. Other Research Centres

**Newcastle**

- Central Coast Teaching and Research Unit
- Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CCEB)
- Family Action Centre
- Hunter Prostate Cancer Alliance (HPCA)
- Mothers and Babies Research Centre

**Orange**

- Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health (CRRMH)
- University Department of Rural Health (UVRH).

**In partnership with the Calvary Mater Hospital we host**

- two large clinical trials Centres
- Australian and New Zealand Breast Cancer Trials Group (ANZBCTG)
- Trans-Tasman Radiation Oncology Group (TROG).

**Research funding profile**

- The University of Newcastle ranks eighth among Australian Universities for NHMRC Project Grant funding and researchers from the Faculty of Health earn approximately 90% of the University’s NHMRC Project grants.
- The University of Newcastle consistently ranks in the top 10 Australian Universities based on total research funding and the Faculty of Health attracts the majority of these research funds.
- HMRI is the third largest medical research institute in NSW measured by peer-reviewed research funding.

**Independent external recognition of excellence**

In the 2010 Australian Government independent assessment of research outputs (Excellence In Research For Australia, ERA) the University of Newcastle achieved the highest rating of 5 (well above world standard) in the fields of oncology and carcinogenesis, cardiovascular medicine and haematology, and immunology and a rating of 4 (above world average) in the fields of biochemistry and cell biology, pharmacology and pharmaceutical sciences, and cognitive sciences.

In the 2011 QS Rating of international universities performed by an independent body in the United Kingdom, the University of Newcastle was rated among the top 150 universities world-wide in the fields of life sciences and medicine and ninth among Australian Universities.
The School of Biomedical Sciences and Pharmacy prides itself on being one of the most research-intensive Schools in the University and currently attracts around $12 million per year in research funding. Its researchers work on a diverse and exciting range of topics: cancer cell biology; the genetic basis of human diseases; the cell biology of meiosis; the immunological basis of asthma; the neurobiological basis of affective, addictive, sensory and neurodegenerative disorders; improved treatments for stroke and cardiovascular disease; pharmacoeconomics; pharmacy practice; drug development; the development of anti-inflammatory nutraceuticals; and exercise physiology. The School currently hosts almost 100 Research Higher degree students. The quality of these research students is well documented with many winning prestigious scholarships, research prizes and awards. This success can be linked to the calibre of our high performing researchers who supervise the students.

All research-active School members are also part of the Hunter Medical Research Institute and many play active roles in six of the University’s Priority Research Centres:

- Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
- Centre for Asthma and Respiratory Disease
- Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine
- Centre for Reproductive Science
- Centre for Cancer
- Centre for Chemical Biology

Although very focused on maintaining its research-intensive profile, the School also prides itself on the delivery of high quality undergraduate degrees and postgraduate coursework to ensure a sound platform for further study. The School formally combines the disciplines of medical biochemistry and genetics, human physiology, immunology and microbiology, anatomy, and pharmacy and experimental pharmacology. It has primary responsibility for the Bachelor of Biomedical Science and Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Honours), and the Master of Pharmacy. Entry into the Bachelor of Biomedical Science is highly competitive, with at least one of our Honours graduates winning a University Medal for each of the past eight years. Entry into the Master of Pharmacy is also highly sought after. Introduced in 2004, this was the first graduate-entry training program for pharmacists to be offered in Australia.

In addition to the biomedical science and pharmacy programs, the School has a major role in the delivery of medical science into health-related programs across the University, ranging from medicine to exercise science. In total, the School teaches into 15 different programs offered at three different campuses.

To successfully accomplish the above activities, the School of Biomedical Sciences and Pharmacy depends on the energy and dedication of a large group of staff. Currently we have around 45 full-time equivalent academic staff, 16 full-time equivalent general staff, 30 conjoint staff, and 100 research-focused staff. The majority of our staff and research students are based in the Medical Sciences and the Life Sciences Buildings on the University’s Newcastle (Callaghan) campus. However, we also have staff based in the David Maddison Building in the centre of Newcastle, at the University’s primary teaching hospital (the John Hunter Hospital), at the Central Coast campus (Ourimbah), and at our Port Macquarie campus.

**Undergraduate degrees**
- Bachelor of Biomedical Science
- Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Honours)

**Postgraduate coursework and Research Higher Degree**
- Pharmacy
- Immunology and microbiology
- Medical genetics
- Anatomy
- Medical biochemistry
- Human physiology
- Experimental pharmacology
EXECUTIVE PROFILE
SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES AND PHARMACY

TREVOR DAY PhD
Professor
Head of School,
Biomedical Sciences and Pharmacy

QUALIFICATIONS

Degree/award | Organisation
---|---
PhD (Medicine) | Flinders University
Bachelor of Science (Honours) | Flinders University
Diploma in Education | Flinders University
Bachelor of Science | Flinders University

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Clinical sciences
Neurosciences
Anxiety and depression
Neurobiology of stress

Research expertise
Neurobiology of stress
Anxiety and depression

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS
Phone: +61 2 4921 5629 Fax: +61 2 4921 7403 Email: Trevor.Day@newcastle.edu.au
**LEONIE ASHMAN** PhD
Professor

**Research expertise keywords:**
Cell and molecular biology of cancer

**Association with Research Centres:**
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

**Email:** Leonie.Ashman@newcastle.edu.au

---

**CECILIA (CAROLINE) BLACKWELL** PhD
Conjoint Professor

**Research expertise keywords:**
Immunology, medical microbiology, infectious diseases

**Association with Research Centres:**
N/A

**Email:** Caroline.Blackwell@newcastle.edu.au

---

**NIKOLAI BOGDUK** PhD
Conjoint Professor

**Research expertise keywords:**
Anatomy, clinical biomechanics, musculoskeletal medicine, pain medicine, clinical trials

**Association with Research Centres:**
N/A

**Email:** Nik.Bogduk@newcastle.edu.au

---

**PHILIP BOLTON** PhD
Associate Professor

**Research expertise keywords:**
Neuroscience, pain, somatosensory, somatoautonomic

**Association with Research Centres:**
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

**Email:** Philip.Bolton@newcastle.edu.au

---

**ALAN BRICHTA** PhD
Associate Professor

**Research expertise keywords:**
Vestibular system, spinal cord, electrophysiology

**Association with Research Centres:**
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

**Email:** Alan.Brichta@newcastle.edu.au

---

**GORDON BURNS** PhD
Professor

**Research expertise keywords:**
Molecular cell biology

**Association with Research Centres:**
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

**Email:** Gordon.Burns@newcastle.edu.au

---

**MURRAY CAIRNS** PhD

**Research expertise keywords:**
Biochemistry and cell biology, genetics

**Association with Research Centres:**
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

**Email:** Murray.Cairns@newcastle.edu.au

---

**ROBERT CALLISTER** PhD
Professor

**Research expertise keywords:**
Spinal cord, pain, glycine receptors, neurophysiology, motoneuron, synaptic transmission, nerve cell excitability

**Association with Research Centres:**
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

**Email:** Robert.Callister@newcastle.edu.au
ROBIN CALLISTER PhD
Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Cardiovascular physiology, exercise and immunology, exercise and nutrition, sports physiology, sports injuries, pain
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
Priority Research Centre in Physical Activity and Nutrition
Email: Robin.Callister@newcastle.edu.au

PHILLIP DICKSON PhD
Associate Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Tyrosine hydroxylase, signal transduction, hierarchical phosphorylation, catecholamines, dopamine, Parkinson's disease
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine
Email: Phil.Dickson@newcastle.edu.au

LORIS CHAHL PhD
Conjoint Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Neurosciences, pharmaceutical sciences, pharmacology
Association with Research Centres:
Centre for Mental Health Studies
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
Email: Loris.Cahl@newcastle.edu.au

MARGARET DUNKLEY PhD
Conjoint Associate Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Vaccine, immunology, infectious diseases, clinical trials
Association with Research Centres:
N/A
Email: Margaret.Dunkley@newcastle.edu.au

TREVOR DAY PhD
Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Clinical sciences, neurosciences, anxiety and depression, neurobiology of stress
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
Email: Trevor.Day@newcastle.edu.au

PETER DUNKLEY PhD
Emeritus Conjoint Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Signal transduction, protein phosphorylation, tyrosine hydroxylase, protein chemistry, catecholamines, depression, Parkinson's disease
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine
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CHRISTOPHER DAYAS PhD
Research expertise keywords:
Biochemistry, cell biology, neurosciences
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
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PAUL FOSTER PhD
Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Immunology, asthma, allergy
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Asthma and Respiratory Diseases
CRC for Asthma and Airways
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MANOHAR GARG PhD
Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Nutraceuticals, functional foods, dietary fats and oils, lipids
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing
Priority Research Centre in Physical Activity and Nutrition
Email: Manohar.Garg@newcastle.edu.au

JONATHAN HIRST PhD
Associate Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Pregnancy, fetal physiology, preterm labour, neuroendocrinology
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science
Mothers and Babies Research Centre
Email: Jon.Hirst@newcastle.edu.au

MAREE GLEESON PhD
Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Autonomic nervous system, electrophysiology, neuroanatomy, pain and sensory dysfunction
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
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KEITH JONES PhD
Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Reproductive biology, cell division, mitosis, meiosis, oocytes, cell cycle, ovarian biology, female fertility, chromosomes
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science
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ANNA HACKETT PhD
Research expertise keywords:
X Linked intellectual disability, intellectual disability, clinical sciences and genetics, X chromosome, paediatrics and reproduction
Association with Research Centres:
N/A
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PHILIP HANSBRO PhD
Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Microbiology, bacteriology, virology, immunology, infectious diseases, asthma, allergy, COPD, avian influenza, inflammation, respiratory diseases
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Asthma and Respiratory Diseases
Email: Philip.Hansbro@newcastle.edu.au

KAREN KERR PhD
Research expertise keywords:
Pharmacology, pharmaceutical sciences
Association with Research Centres:
N/A
Email: Karen.Kerr@newcastle.edu.au
DEREK LAVER PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Membrane transport, ion channels, cardiac muscle, skeletal muscle

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
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EUGENE NALIVAICO PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Neurosciences, medical physiology

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
Email: Eugene.Nalivaikoa@newcastle.edu.au

---

SHU CHUEN LI PhD
Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Pharmacoeconomics, outcomes research, drug policy, clinical pharmacy, cost-effectiveness studies, patient reported outcome studies, pharmacoepidemiology, health economics, health services research

Association with Research Centres:
N/A
Email: Shuchuen.Li@newcastle.edu.au

---

EUGENIE LUMBERS PhD
Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Medical Biochemistry and metabolomics, paediatrics and reproductive medicine

Association with Research Centres:
PRC - Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science Mothers and Babies Research Centre
Email: Eugenie.Lumbers@newcastle.edu.au

---

ADRIENNE (LIZ) MILWARD PhD

Research expertise keywords:
Neurodegenerative disorders, ageing-related disorders, iron-related disorders, anaemias, medical genetics

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine
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---

ROHAN RASIAH PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Rural and remote health, clinical pharmacokinetics

Association with Research Centres:
N/A
Email: Rohan.Rasiah@newcastle.edu.au

---

GLENN REEVES PhD
Conjoint Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Clinical sciences, pharmacology and pharmaceutical sciences

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science
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JENNIFER SCHNEIDER PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Palliative care, pharmacokinetics, HPLC assay development

Association with Research Centres:
N/A
Email: Jennifer.Schneider@newcastle.edu.au
RODNEY SCOTT PhD
Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Cancer genetics, molecular, human, DNA repair, breast cancer, colorectal cancer, modifier genes, gene environment interaction

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

Email: Rodney.Scott@newcastle.edu.au

ESTELLE SONTAG PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
PP2A, Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, folate, signal transduction, cytoskeleton, cell adhesion, cell transformation, viral antigens

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

Email: Estelle.Sontag@newcastle.edu.au

JEAN-MARIE SONTAG PhD

Research expertise keywords:
Protein phosphatase 2A, cell signalling

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

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NEIL SPRATT PhD

Research expertise keywords:
Stroke, clinical science, neurosciences, hypothermia

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

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PAUL TOONEY PhD

Research expertise keywords:
Schizophrenia, neuroscience, genetics

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

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RODNEY SCOTT PhD
Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Cancer genetics, molecular, human, DNA repair, breast cancer, colorectal cancer, modifier genes, gene environment interaction

Association with Research Centres:
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DEAN SHAFREN PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Microbiology, oncology, carcinogenesis, virology, oncolytic virotherapy

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

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ALISTAIR SIM PhD
Conjoint Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Cell signalling, protein phosphorylation, protein phosphatase, proteomics, exocytosis, protein targeting, asthma, cancer, cell biology, protein kinase

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

Email: Alistair.Sim@newcastle.edu.au

DOUGLAS SMITH PhD

Research expertise keywords:
Neuroanatomy, gene expression, animal models, immunocytochemistry, single cell genomics, ageing and brain function, mitochondrial genomics, cell culture models, viral vectors

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

Email: Douglas.Smith@newcastle.edu.au
GILLIAN TURNER PhD
Conjoint Professor

Research expertise keywords:
X chromosome, fragile X syndrome

Association with Research Centres:
N/A

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DIRK VAN HELDEN PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Cellular physiologist, smooth muscle, heart pacemaking, gastrointestinal physiology, neuroscience

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing

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LISA WOOD PhD

Research expertise keywords:
Nutrition, asthma, inflammation, oxidative stress, antioxidants, fatty acids, obesity, respiratory disease

Association with Research Centres:
FRC Priority Research Centre for Asthma and Respiratory Diseases

Email: Lisa.Wood@newcastle.edu.au
The School of Health Sciences delivers a comprehensive range of health professional education programs primarily in the broad field of allied health and has a developing research profile. The School has, as a key focus, a strong clinical/workplace element within its 10 professional entry-level programs. The School of Health Sciences is one of the most diverse schools in the University, and is spread across two local campuses, Newcastle (Callaghan) and Central Coast (Ourimbah); and the University’s campus in Singapore.

We pride ourselves on producing health professionals ready to immediately enter the workforce on graduation, and who are capable of lifelong learning and committed to multi-professional healthcare. Our graduates are highly sought after in the health sector and our programs are well respected within their professions. We deliver accredited allied health professional entry-level programs, as well as selected postgraduate and Research Higher Degree programs, across seven disciplines.

Our academic and research staff are nationally and internationally recognised teachers, practitioners and researchers in their own health professions. Some have received awards for their innovative and engaging teaching. For example, Yolanda Surjan who lectures in radiation therapy received an Australian Learning and Teaching Council Citation for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning for 2010. We employ cutting-edge teaching tools and technology, using blended and flexible learning methods. The School particularly emphasises ‘hands-on’ practical skills development through the utilisation of well-equipped teaching and simulated learning laboratories, such as the Immersive Virtual Environment for Radiotherapy Training system. The University has recently invested in the teaching facilities for our programs, including the showcase Nuclear Medicine Radiopharmacy Laboratory complete with PET scanner. Moreover, students receive substantial exposure to clinical and other work environments during their study, through both external placements and (in some disciplines) internal University clinics. Most notably, the University Podiatry Clinic at Wyong Hospital and the University Oral Health Clinic at Ourimbah are large, modern facilities.

We also aim to grow the evidence base of allied health clinical and teaching practice. We excel in conducting and disseminating clinical research and health education scholarship in our disciplines. There is a real and dynamic nexus between our teaching and our research and scholarship in allied health. Many of our staff have received national and international research awards from their professional peers. There are particular and growing research strengths in the School, including in obesity (led by Professor Clare Collins), occupational health (led by Professor Derek Smith), stroke rehabilitation (led by ARC Future Fellow Professor Paulette van Vliet) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) (led by Associate Professor Peter Stanwell).

The School has grown substantially in recent years in terms of both the range and size of its programs. It now has the largest student body in the Faculty of Health. In the next phase, the School intends to grow its research productivity while maintaining its focus on quality health professional education. Potential collaborative researchers and graduates interested in undertaking Research Higher Degree study are particularly invited to contact staff in the School.

Undergraduate degrees
- Bachelor of Environmental and Occupational Health and Safety (Singapore only)
- Bachelor of Health Science (Honours)
- Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science (Diagnostic Radiography)
- Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science (Nuclear Medicine)
- Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science (Radiation Therapy)
- Bachelor of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Bachelor of Occupational Therapy
- Bachelor of Oral Health
- Bachelor of Physiotherapy
- Bachelor of Podiatry

Postgraduate coursework and Research Higher Degree
- Graduate Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety
- Graduate Diploma in Dental Therapy
- Master of Occupational Health and Safety
- Master of Workplace Injury Management and Occupational Rehabilitation
- Master of Philosophy (Medical Radiation Science/Nutrition and Dietetics/Occupational Health and Safety/Occupational Therapy/Oral Health/Physiotherapy/Podiatry)
- Doctor of Philosophy (Medical Radiation Science/Nutrition and Dietetics/Occupational Health and Safety/Occupational Therapy/Oral Health/Physiotherapy/Podiatry)
QUALIFICATIONS

Degree/award
PhD
Graduate Diploma in Manipulative Therapy
Master of Applied Science (Manipulative Physiotherapy)
Bachelor of Applied Science (Physiotherapy)

Organisation
University of Otago - New Zealand
Cumberland College of Health Sciences
University of Sydney
Cumberland College of Health Sciences

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Medicine and health science
Pain management and chronic pain
Physiotherapy

Research expertise
Spinal manipulation, vertebral artery, clinical reasoning, manipulative and musculoskeletal physiotherapy

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: +61 2 4921 7220 Fax: +61 2 4921 7053 Email: Darren.Rivett@newcastle.edu.au
SURINDER BAINES PhD
Research expertise keywords:
Clinical nutrition – obesity, clinical nutrition – cancer, clinical nutrition – diabetes, advanced food science - food safety
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing
Email: Surinder.Baines@newcastle.edu.au

FIONA BLINKHORN PhD
Associate Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Dental education, health services research, Aboriginal oral health, early childhood oral health
Association with Research Centres:
N/A
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MICHAEL (MIKE) CAPRA PhD
Conjoint Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Occupational health and safety
Association with Research Centres:
N/A
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SANDRA CAPRA PhD
Conjoint Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Nutrition, dietetics
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing
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PAULINE CHIARELLI PhD
Associate Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Continence promotion, epidemiology and prevention of female urinary incontinence in clinical groups, faecal incontinence
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing
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VIVIENNE CHUTER PhD
Research expertise keywords:
Biomechanics
Association with Research Centres:
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CLARE COLLINS PhD
Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Nutrition, diet, obesity, paediatrics, dietary methodology, systematic review, diet quality
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre in Physical Activity and Nutrition
Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing
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SHANE DEMPSEY PhD
Research expertise keywords:
Radiation oncology, radiation therapy, medical radiation science, oncology related clinical history, nutrition and cancer, qualitative methods, phenomenography, content analysis
Association with Research Centres:
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CAROLE JAMES PhD

Research expertise keywords:
Functional capacity evaluations, occupational rehabilitation, clinical practice, workplace injury management, occupational health

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DEREK SMITH PhD

Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Nursing, public health, health services, occupational health

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PETER LEGGAT
Conjoint Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Occupational health and safety

Association with Research Centres:
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SUZANNE SNODGRASS PhD

Research expertise keywords:
Musculoskeletal manipulations, physical therapy/physiotherapy, spine, cervical spine, neck pain, physical activity, healthy lifestyle

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing

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DARREN RIVETT PhD
Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Medicine and health science, pain management and chronic pain, physiotherapy

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing

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PETER STANWELL PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Diagnostic radiography

Association with Research Centres:
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Email: Peter.Stanwell@newcastle.edu.au

SUSAN RYAN PhD
Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Occupational therapy

Association with Research Centres:
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Email: Susan.Ryan@newcastle.edu.au

JANE TAYLOR PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords
Forensic odontology

Association with Research Centres:
N/A

Email: Jane.Taylor@newcastle.edu.au
PAULETTE VAN VLIET PhD
Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Motor control, motor learning, physiotherapy, rehabilitation, stroke, upper limb, feedback

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health

Email: Paulette.Vanvliet@newcastle.edu.au

HELEN WARREN-FORWARD PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Mammography, dosimetry, radiation protection, diagnostic radiography, nuclear medicine

Association with Research Centres:
N/A

Email: Helen.Warren-Forward@newcastle.edu.au
The School of Medicine and Public Health is the highest earner of research income in the University attracting more than $20 million in external research funding. The School contains all the clinical disciplines involved in medicine as well as public health, epidemiology and behavioural sciences relating to health.

The School of Medicine and Public Health also comprises a multi-disciplinary team of researchers, many of whom are recognised as world-leaders in their field. The School’s research efforts focus on national health priorities including: asthma, cancer, cardiovascular disease and mental health as well as indigenous health, primary health care, prevention and community health.

Its research strengths also lie across many of the University’s internationally renowned Priority Research Centres (PRCs). The School is strongly affiliated with one of Australia’s most innovative health and medical research institutes, the Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI). HMRI has pioneered the integration of a multi-campus university and hospital-based research and provides an umbrella organisation for medical research in the Hunter.

Our postgraduate programs are provided by the Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CCEB) who innovated the delivery of postgraduate programs in public health through distance education. Current postgraduate coursework programs in public health are delivered on-line and on-campus. They are highly regarded internationally and promote trans-disciplinary research into health and health care.

The School endeavours to ensure that the research undertaken will be of relevance and make a lasting and positive contribution to the people of our communities, and be in keeping with our overall mission to be at the forefront of Australian medical and population health education and research for the 21st century.

In 2008 it expanded to become the Joint Medical Program (JMP), a unique partnership between the University of Newcastle, the University of New England and the Hunter New England and Central Coast Local Health Districts. The JMP was created with the specific aim of addressing the chronic health workforce shortage that exists in remote, rural and regional communities.

The JMP delivers a medical program of international standing with early and broad clinical experience and a problem-based learning curriculum. The JMP partners share a common belief in the fact that medical students who undertake some of their training in rural communities are more likely to practice in those areas on completion of their degree. Offering the highly successful University of Newcastle curriculum through the University of New England as a joint program allows greater opportunity for this to happen. This innovative program is the first of its kind in Australia and the School is pleased to increase its commitment to rural health through its involvement in establishing the JMP partnership.

The Bachelor of Medicine was Australia’s first Problem-Based Learning (PBL) medical degree and adheres to both the philosophy and practice of PBL in small tutorial groups. The program recognises that the best type of learning is practical. Clinical and communication skills are acquired throughout the five years of the curriculum; patient contact begins in first semester of first year. Our clinical school network provides students with a range of experience. Placements are available in large metropolitan hospitals in Newcastle and the Central Coast as well as rural and regional centres in the lower Hunter, Tamworth, Armidale, Taree and primary care settings across the Upper Hunter, New England and Central Coast regions.

The School of Medicine and Public Health has trained almost half of the Indigenous doctors in Australia with enrolments from Indigenous students continuing to increase.

Undergraduate degrees
- Bachelor of Medicine
- Bachelor of Medical Science

Postgraduate coursework
- Clinical epidemiology
- Clinical medicine
- Medical statistics
- Public health
- Health science
  - Drug and alcohol
  - Stroke management

Research Higher Degree programs
- Behavioural science
- Clinical pharmacology
- Community medicine and clinical epidemiology
- Gender and health
- General practice
- Medicine
- Paediatrics
- Psychiatry
- Reproductive medicine
- Surgical science
IAN SYMONDS
Conjoint Professor
Head of School, Medicine and Public Health
Dean of Medicine

QUALIFICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree/award</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Medicine</td>
<td>University of Nottingham - UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Medical Sciences (Honours)</td>
<td>University of Nottingham - UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Medical Sciences in Clinical Education</td>
<td>University of Nottingham - UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery</td>
<td>University of Nottingham - UK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Ovarian cancer
Cervical screening
Near Infrared spectroscopy
Fetal ECG
Medical education

Research expertise
Obstetrics, gynaecology, medical education.

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science
Mothers and Babies Research Centre

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS
Phone: +61 2 4921 4381   Fax: +61 2 4921 4394   Email: Ian.Symonds@newcastle.edu.au
**STEPHEN ACKLAND**  
Conjoint Professor  
**Research expertise keywords:** Clinical trials, pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, pharmacogenomics  
**Association with Research Centres:** Priority Research for Cancer  
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine  
**Email:** Stephen.Ackland@newcastle.edu.au

**AMANDA BAKER** PhD  
Professor  
**Research expertise keywords:** Substance use, psychosis, CBT, comorbidity, psychological treatment, depression, clinical trials, mental health  
**Association with Research Centres:** Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research  
Centre for Mental Health Studies  
**Email:** Amanda.Baker@newcastle.edu.au

**CATHERINE ADAMS**  
**Research expertise keywords:** Oncology and carcinogenesis  
**Association with Research Centres:** Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research  
**Email:** Catherine.Adams@newcastle.edu.au

**FRANK ALVARO**  
**Research expertise keywords:** Neurosciences, nutrition, dietetics  
**Association with Research Centres:** N/A  
**Email:** Frank.Alvaro@newcastle.edu.au

**ZSOLT BALOGH** PhD  
Professor  
**Research expertise keywords:** Trauma and emergency medicine, clinical sciences, medical biochemistry, metabolomics  
**Association with Research Centres:** N/A  
**Email:** Zsolt.Balogh@newcastle.edu.au

**GRANT BATEMAN**  
**Research expertise keywords:** Neurosciences, optometry, ophthalmology  
**Association with Research Centres:** Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research  
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**JOHN ATTIA** PhD  
Professor  
**Research expertise keywords:** Clinical epidemiology, genetic epidemiology, public health  
**Association with Research Centres:** Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine  
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research  
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**ROBERT BATEY**  
Conjoint Professor  
**Research expertise keywords:** Clinical sciences, public health  
**Association with Research Centres:** N/A  
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ACADEMIC RESEARCH PROFILE
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

COLIN BELL
Conjoint Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Public health, health services

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Health Behaviour

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BILJANA (BILLIE) BONEVSKI PhD

Research expertise keywords:
Public health, cancer control

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Health Behaviour

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HELEN BERRY
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Mental health

Association with Research Centres:
Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health

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SHANE CARNEY PhD

Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Clinical sciences

Association with Research Centres:
N/A

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STEPHEN BRAYE

Research expertise keywords:
Oncology, carcinogenesis, public health

Association with Research Centres:
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VAUGHAN CARR
Conjoint Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Schizophrenia, psychotherapy, substance abuse and dependence, health economics, service evaluation, epidemiology, posttraumatic stress, psychiatry in general practice

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research Centre for Mental Health Studies

Email: Vaughan.Carr@newcastle.edu.au

ANDREW BISITS
Conjoint Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Paediatrics and reproductive medicine

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science Mothers and Babies Research Centre

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VICKI CLIFTON PhD

Conjoint Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Placental physiology, fetal physiology, neonatal cardiovascular adaptation, asthma, pregnancy

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science Mothers and Babies Research Centre

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MARTIN COHEN
Research expertise keywords:
Clinical sciences
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
Email: Health-Enquiries@newcastle.edu.au

GREGORY CARTER PhD
Conjoint Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Delirium, deliberate self poisoning, suicide, psycho-oncology, post stroke depression, driving safety after sedation, borderline personality disorder, clinical toxicology
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
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IAN COOK PhD
Conjoint Associate Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Immunology, medical physiology
Association with Research Centres:
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RODNEY COOPER PhD
Research expertise keywords:
Public health, health services
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DAVID COTTEE PhD
Conjoint Associate Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Clinical sciences, medical physiology, cardiac surgery
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PATRICIA CROCK
Conjoint Associate Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Clinical sciences, public health, health services
Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science
Mothers and Babies Research Centre
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine
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CRAIG DALTON
Research expertise keywords:
Public health, health services, clinical sciences
Association with Research Centres:
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PATRICIA DAVIDSON
Conjoint Professor
Research expertise keywords:
Nursing, public health, health services
Association with Research Centres:
N/A
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Research expertise keywords</th>
<th>Association with Research Centres</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANDREW DAWSON</td>
<td>Conjoint Professor</td>
<td>Pharmacology and pharmaceutical sciences, public health and health services</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>STEPHEN DEANE</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Clinical sciences</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>CATHERINE D’ESTE PhD</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Epidemiology, public health, clinical trials, Indigenous health</td>
<td>Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAMES (JIM) DENHAM</td>
<td>Conjoint Professor</td>
<td>Oncology, radiotherapy and nuclear medicine, nuclear and radiotherapy medicine, cancer control and prevention</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>MICHAEL DIBLEY</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<td>CHARLES DOUGLAS</td>
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<td>TRACY DUDDING</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<td>JOHN DUGGAN</td>
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<td>Clinical sciences, public health, health services</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td><a href="mailto:John.Duggan@newcastle.edu.au">John.Duggan@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Conjoint Associate Professor  
Research expertise keywords:  
Medical and health sciences  
Association with Research Centres:  
N/A  
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JOHN FORBES  
Professor  
Research expertise keywords:  
Breast cancer prevention and treatment, breast cancer clinical trials  
Association with Research Centres:  
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Conjoint Professor  
Research expertise keywords:  
Public health, health services, clinical sciences  
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JOHN FRASER  
Conjoint Professor  
Research expertise keywords:  
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Association with Research Centres:  
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BENJAMIN EWALD PhD  
Research expertise keywords:  
Physical activity, meta analysis, diagnostic test research  
Association with Research Centres:  
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ROBERT GIBBERD PhD  
Conjoint Professor  
Research expertise keywords:  
Medical research and statistics, public and community health  
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SYLVESTER FERNANDES  
Research expertise keywords:  
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Association with Research Centres:  
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PETER GIBSON  
Conjoint Professor  
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Asthma, COPD, cough  
Association with Research Centres:  
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WARWICK GILES
Conjoint Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Perinatal medicine, maternal fetal medicine

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science
Mothers and Babies Research Centre

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PHILIP HAZELL
Conjoint Professor

Research expertise keywords:
ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder), mental health, suicide, paediatrics and child health, youth and child issues, depression

Association with Research Centres:
Centre for Mental Health Studies

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ALASTAIR GILLIES PhD
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Research expertise keywords:
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Association with Research Centres:
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TREVOR HAZELL

Research expertise keywords:
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Association with Research Centres:
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Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

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MICHELLE GUPPY

Research expertise keywords:
Public health, health services

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The School of Nursing and Midwifery has an innovative approach to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and we are in partnership with local area health services to provide clinical learning opportunities for students, in the provision of postgraduate nursing and midwifery studies and in the conduct of clinical research.

The School staff comprises about 40 academic staff including five professors, well over 100 conjoint academic staff, many of whom are senior clinicians working in local health services; and about 25 general staff. The School operates from three main campus locations: Newcastle (Callaghan), Central Coast (Ourimbah) and Port Macquarie. The number of students currently enrolled in nursing or midwifery programs at undergraduate and postgraduate level in the School currently exceeds 2200.

We are committed to teaching and learning strategies that develop and enhance nursing and midwifery knowledge and the full range of clinical and interpersonal skills needed by nurses and midwives to function as effective practitioners. We encourage and enhance the capacity for: independent and critical thought; reflective practice; commitment to lifelong learning; and the ability to effect and manage change.

Health services, both in Australia and internationally, are currently undergoing great change; the work of nurses, midwives and other health professionals is rapidly developing and there are simply not enough of us to go around. With the ongoing impact of technology in health care it is essential that we continue to stress the human side of what nurses and midwives do – the helping and caring skills that have always been at the heart of our work.

All the academic staff in the School of Nursing and Midwifery are either nurses or midwives; a number are both. In addition, staff teaching into the nursing and midwifery programs from other Schools are all experts in their fields – human bioscience, pharmacy and pharmacology, sociology, law, to mention but a few. The School is also very well served by a dedicated team of hard working general staff. A very important aspect of studying nursing or midwifery is the time spent undertaking clinical placements in various hospitals and other health services within and beyond our immediate region. The staff and patients within the health care system are very important to nursing and midwifery education – we greatly respect and appreciate their contributions.
EXECUTIVE PROFILE
SCHOOL OF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

MICHAEL HAZELTON PhD
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Dean of Nursing

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree/award</th>
<th>Organisation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Philosophy</td>
<td>Macquarie University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts</td>
<td>Macquarie University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts</td>
<td>Macquarie University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Mental health nursing
Mental health in primary care
Violence in the health workplace
Older person health in primary care
Crime and health

Research expertise
Mental health nursing/mental health, the sociology of mental health, violence in the health workplace, crime and health.

Association with Research Centres:
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This Priority Research Centre (PRC) focuses on understanding the cellular and molecular processes that are associated with the development and progression of respiratory diseases, such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). These are the two major chronic respiratory diseases in Australia, with the incidence of asthma among the highest in the world, and COPD a major cause of death. These disorders are a significant health and economic burden to the community. They are designated National Research Priority Areas by the Australian Government and are diseases of global significance. The Centre aims to develop new ways to diagnose and implement treatment of such disorders.

The major aim of the PRC is to advance the national research effort on the understanding and treatment of respiratory disease. The PRC also acts as a national centre for the training of Research Higher Degree (RHD) students, postdoctoral fellows and clinician scientists and for basic and clinical research. The success of the PRC is also reflected in the solicitation of leading members of the centre to contribute to the national and international peer view process (e.g. national scientific review committees; NHMRC GRP panels and leading international journals as reviewers or as editorial board members) and through grant success, publication output and invitations to international forums to chair or speak on key aspects of respiratory disease. The PRC has formally brought together the leading asthma and respiratory disease researchers in Newcastle to develop an internationally recognised program focusing on respiratory disease. The PRC has a much more focused research strategy that has resulted in linking both the clinical and basic arms of our research programs. This collaborative effort continues to grow and places our PRC at the leading edge of translational respiratory research nationally and international, and provides an outstanding training environment. We have established a successful grant program in translational research.

The PRC has added value by providing a focus on translational respiratory research, direct support for emerging researchers and international links through the UK, USA and Asia. The strength of these interactions is evidenced in key research outcomes (papers/grants) and publications of centre based collaborations in papers in the highest impact journals.

**Research areas**

Clinical and basic research programs focusing on understanding the molecular basis of asthma, COPD and chronic respiratory diseases with a translational focus:

- How do these diseases develop and progress? Role of the diet, environment and infection (bacterial and viral).
- How can we better treat these disorders? Development of new diagnostics and anti-inflammatory agents, and targeted individual therapeutic intervention.
- How do we discriminate between sub-populations of disease? New advanced markers for disease phenotypes.
- How do these disorders progress? Infant to adult and within the aging lung.
EXECUTIVE PROFILE
PRIORITY RESEARCH CENTRE FOR ASTHMA AND RESPIRATORY DISEASE

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AREAS OF RESEARCH
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Asthma
Allergy

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COPD
Cough

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Association with Research Centres:
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PRIORITY RESEARCH CENTRE FOR BIOINFORMATICS, BIOMARKER DISCOVERY AND INFORMATION BASED MEDICINE

The Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine (CIBM) brings together academics from the Faculty of Health and the Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment and works in collaboration with the Hunter Medical Research Institute’s Information-Based Medicine Program. The Centre draws together the disciplines of bioinformatics, and molecular and genetic analysis with clinical information and population data analysis.

Researchers in the Centre capture information from patient populations using a variety of high-throughput devices so that each and every individual has a unique signature of their genome. Diseases that have been studied to date include multiple sclerosis, schizophrenia, age related macular degeneration, stroke and endometrial cancer to name but a few. Once the data has been collected, usually on over 1000 individuals and 1000 control subjects it then requires analysis to identify salient associations. This requires the utilisation of computer technology and mathematical methods to extract meaningful information from vast amounts of data to identify disease-related genetic associations. The ultimate aim is to inform the development of patient-tailored treatment to a host of diseases thereby bringing about better outcomes for patients and their families.

The first phase in identifying biological factors associated with disease is the acquisition of data. This is achieved either by laboratory based data accumulation such as genome wide screens for potential disease associated markers (known as genome wide association studies or GWAS), obtaining data sets from available online resources, or both. The original data set is then analysed using a series of algorithms that answer particular questions concerning the disease in question and allows for different levels of complexity. Once one data set has been analysed and a series of markers identified that are unequivocally associated with the disease in question, a second data set is re-interrogated for confirmation of the original data.

Currently, the Holy Grail in genetics research is to identify the genetic basis of common disease. The ultimate aim of which is to identify persons at risk of a disease and intervene to reduce the burden of disease on the individual and society. This notion has been given significant impetus as a result of the completion of the human genome project over 10 years ago. In the intervening 10 years since the human genome was mapped considerable advances have been made in the technology used to capture this information such that now what previously took several years is now possible to obtain in a few days. The acquisition of massive amounts of personal data now poses the biggest bottleneck in the discovery of biomarkers.

Using the latest molecular interrogation methods, powered by advances in mathematics and computer science, a patient’s particular disease subtype could be identified and the best available treatment selected. Outcomes of patient tailored treatments will be valuable for the development of new diagnostic approaches and drug designs that specifically target aberrant molecular pathways present in diseased cells with minimal interference on healthy ones. This is the promise of personalised information-based medicine.

The core aim of the research conducted by this Centre is the delivery of “bench-to-bedside” research by combining the often disparate disciplines of bioinformatics, molecular and genetic analysis, clinical information and population data. The CIBM aims to find methodologies that will shorten the process of obtaining novel discoveries and to use them to obtain distinctively better outcomes in clinical practice and translational individualised medicine.

CIBM research is well linked with the activities of many other priority research centres and is involved in a series of studies aimed at better understanding not only a person’s risk of disease but also what events underpin disease progression.

Some of the achievements of the CIBM include contributions to the establishment of the ARC Centre of Excellence in Bioinformatics (University of Queensland). The CIBM’s Darwin cluster computer, arguably the largest computer entirely dedicated to translational research in Australia. The new addition of the Fisher cluster, which has a total of twelve Fermi-based cards, combined with the software being developed, will provide another unique platform in Australia (and arguably in the world) for the study of gene-gene and gene-environment interactions and the increased risk of disease. Fisher will support the Medical Physics group, as the GPU systems based on the Fermi architecture seem very suitable for the complex calculations they require.

Significant outcomes from the CIBM include the discoveries of new genes associated with multiple sclerosis, endometrial cancer and schizophrenia all of which have added to our knowledge about these diseases. With increasing numbers of diseases becoming amenable to this technological revolution more people will benefit from this revolution in medicine.

List of research areas/projects
1. Complex genetics of common diseases
2. Molecular mechanisms of disease
3. Artificial intelligence and signal and image processing
4. Biochemistry and cell biology
5. Information-based medicine
QUALIFICATIONS

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AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
- Breast cancer
- Colorectal cancer
- Modifier genes
- Gene environment interaction

Research expertise
Expertise in the genetic basis of disease especially in relation to the development of malignancy.

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Each column represents gene expression patterns in cells from patients with the rare skin cancer disorder xeroderma pigmentosum (XP) before or after UV-light exposure. Decreased gene expression is represented as green, increased as red and normal expression as yellow.

Image by Nicola Bowden.
The Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research (CBMHR) focuses on the leading cause of disease burden globally – the common disorders of the brain. Recent advances in neuroscience have put discovery of the causes, means for prevention and better treatments of these conditions within reach. The Centre focuses on understanding the basis of individual differences in vulnerability and resilience to brain disorders and on applying these understandings to the development and implementation of new treatment strategies. CBMHR is comprised of six disease-specific research programs. These are: schizophrenia, stroke, affective and addictive disorders, chronic pain and sensory syndromes, brain development, ageing and cognition and innovative models of care for implementation of new discoveries.

The broad aim of each program is to achieve better early detection, prevention and treatment of these common diseases with both the Centre and the individual Program leadership focusing on developing and promoting research ideas that have clear and direct relevance to improve health care outcomes. To achieve this outcome, the Programs promote multi-disciplinary collaboration, support and reward communication and linkage across the basic neuroscience, the clinical neurosciences and population research domains, capitalising on expertise across our regional University and Hospital sectors. This strong integration of high-quality neuroscience across University and Hospital sectors at multiple levels of enquiry, makes CBMHR a unique research entity in the Australian neuroscience landscape.

The Centre is a virtual organisation with the Centre’s 160 researchers occupying five physical sites: the Callaghan campus (including researchers from both Faculties of Health and Science and Information Technology), the John Hunter Hospital and Hunter Medical Research Institute building, the Mater Hospital Campus, the Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health based at Bloomfield Hospital in Orange and the Central Coast (Ourimbah) campus of the University of Newcastle.

Research priority areas
The current Centre structure now encompasses six key program areas namely:

- **Schizophrenia**
  Basic and clinical neuroscience of all aspects of schizophrenia.

- **Stroke**
  Basic and clinical neuroscience of all aspects of stroke.

- **Affective and addictive disorders**
  Basic and clinical neuroscience of affective and addictive disorders.

- **Pain and sensory dysfunction**
  Basic mechanisms and clinical issues relating to pain and other sensory dysfunctions including balance and vision.

- **Translation/implementation and models of care research**
  The two-way interaction between research groups and clinical practitioners across the domains of mental health and neurological care.

- **Development, ageing and cognition**
  Basic and clinical studies in cognitive science focussing on brain development, memory and executive brain functioning, neurodegenerative disorders and health psychology.

Research support platforms
The Centre comprises a number of infrastructure platforms supporting the above programs:

- **Advanced brain imaging platform**
  The Centre has developed co-operative research partnerships with Siemens (Master Research Agreement) for brain magnetic resonance imaging research and Toshiba (Luminary Research Centre) for advanced perfusion computed tomographic brain imaging.

- **Long-term animal modelling**
  The Centre has developed enhanced infrastructure support for long-term animal modelling supporting the basic neuroscience aspects of the above program areas.

- **Primary care research support**
  The Centre has developed strong shared research support and linkages with the Discipline of General Practice, University of Newcastle.

- **Links of other Priority Research Centres**
  The Centre has strong links and on-going collaborative projects with the Centre for Information Based Medicine, Centre for Health Behaviour and the Centre for Gender Health and Ageing.
EXECUTIVE PROFILE
PRIORITY RESEARCH CENTRE FOR BRAIN AND MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH

CHRISTOPHER LEVI
Conjoint Professor
Director, Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

QUALIFICATIONS

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<td>University of New South Wales</td>
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AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
- Transcranial doppler
- Stroke genetics
- Acute stroke therapies
- Hypothermia
- Brain imaging

Research expertise
Clinical research across the domains of observational epidemiology (case control studies, cohort studies, prevalence and incident studies), interventional clinical trials (trials in antithrombotic therapy in stroke prevention, acute stroke therapy trials), health services work (cluster randomised trials of health services interventions, health service redesign), brain imaging research (neurovascular ultrasound particularly transcranial doppler embolus protection, multi-module CT imaging and MRI brain imaging).

Association with Research Centres:
- Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research
- Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS
Phone: + 61 2 4921 3490    Fax: + 61 2 4921 3488    Email: Chris.Levi@newcastle.edu.au
The Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing (RCGHA) is a dynamic, cross-disciplinary research group that researches individual, health care and societal factors that affect men and women's health and wellbeing throughout life and as they age. The Centre also examines the ways in which communities respond to an ageing population. The Centre utilises the University's acclaimed research capacities across public health/policy, clinical and basic science disciplines. Its core focus is to maximise analyses of longitudinal and linked data, undertake observational, experimental and translational studies in relation to gender, health and ageing, research into appropriate use of medications and other health care resources, and evaluation of innovative approaches to caring for older people.

The broad research capacity of RCGHA supports partnerships with industry, government and other institutions, as well as collaboration with other Universities both in Australia and internationally. The Centre membership includes over 50 academics with expertise in health and clinical sciences, psychology, sociology, health economics, epidemiology, statistics and architecture which all apply to understanding biological, social and environmental factors that affect the health of men and women as they age. The Centre also includes two World Health Organisation Collaborating Centres:

- The Centre for Pharmacoeconomics and Rational Pharmacotherapy
- The Centre for International Longitudinal Studies on Gender, Ageing and Health

and

- The Collaborating Centre for Older Person's Care (within the School of Nursing and Midwifery).

Our aim is to develop research assets and expertise to answer key questions on:

- Factors affecting the physical and psychosocial health of men and women at different life stages, as they age, through longitudinal and descriptive analyses.
- Effective approaches to promotion of health and management of chronic illness for optimal quality of life throughout the life course and as people age, in the community and in community and residential aged care.
- Use and costs of health care services and medications and best practice management of chronic disease.
- The uptake and impact of new health policy initiatives at both the individual and population level.
- Relationships between work and retirement and the health of men and women as they age.
- Impact of built and social environments on the health of men and women as they age.
- Workforce needs of an ageing population.

Our research focuses on factors affecting health at different life stages across genders, socio economic status, and geographical areas and with an emphasis on the longitudinal changes in health and lifestyle as people age. The work is directly aligned to the national research priority: Ageing Well, Ageing Productively and focuses on national health priorities and is observational, evaluative and translational.

**Director:** Professor Julie Byles

**Deputy Directors:** Dr Deborah Loxton, Associate Professor Lynne Parkinson

**Program leaders and management committee:** Professor Julie Byles, Associate Professor Lynne Parkinson, Dr Deborah Loxton, Professor Isabel Higgins, Professor Dimity Pond, Dr Jane Robertson, Associate Professor David Sibbritt

**Research Areas**

**The Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health:**

At the centre of our observational and evaluative research is the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health which provides significant opportunities to address many of the key research questions and which enables extensive collaboration across the University, and nationally and internationally. This project has been funded by the Department of Health and Ageing since 1996. The study involves a national sample of over 40,000 women from three birth cohorts (1921-26, 1946-51, 1973-78), and with a new cohort born 1989-1994 to be recruited in 2012. The women are surveyed each three years, and with linkage to administrative data sets, providing a wealth of data. The study is a national resource contributing information to government, and providing data resources for collaborators from across Australia and overseas.

**The NSW Health 45 and Up Study** – the largest longitudinal study of health and ageing in Australia.

**Dynamic Processes of Optimal Ageing (DYNOPTA)** – a project that engages researchers across Australia to pool data from over 50,000 participants involved in nine longitudinal studies of ageing.

**Men and Women Ageing Well** – a project that capitalizes on two existing studies – the Australian Longitudinal Study on Women's Health, and the Health in Men Study involving over 12,000 older men from Perth, Western Australia.

**The Hunter Community Study** – a study of the health and well being of people in the Hunter.

**Discredited Medicines Project** – An NHMRC funded project that explores the impacts of discrediting medicines, on consumer health outcomes, on risk-benefit perceptions of consumers, prescribers and pharmacists and on regulatory process.

**Housing and Independent Living Project** - The HAIL project was funded by the NSW Government Ageing Disability and Home Care, Department of Human Services. It has examined the environmental and built factors important for maintaining independence in older age.

**Perinatal Mental Health Assessment: Does it improve**
Maternal Health outcomes? - A grant from the Bupa Health Foundation (formerly the MBF Foundation), with a team from the UNSW and St John of God Healthcare led by Professor Marie-Paul Austin collaborating with a team from RCGHA led by Dr Deborah Loxton and including Catherine Chojenta, has been awarded funding for a research project investigating perinatal mental health.

Contraceptive Use, Pregnancy Intention and Decisions of Australian Women - An Australian Research Council Linkage Grant with a team led by Associate Professor Jayne Lucke at the University of Queensland and Dr Deborah Loxton from RCGHA was recently awarded funding to undertake a longitudinal study of the patterns of contraceptive use by young Australian women aged 18-23.

Complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) use among mid age women: A national mixed-method study across the urban-rural divide - The aim of this NHMRC funded project is to understand why higher proportions of mid-age women use complementary and alternative medicines (CAM) in rural areas than in urban areas of Australia.

Department of Health and Ageing Dementia Collaborative Research Centres Project - Education for GPs and Practice Nurses to improve recognition and management of dementia: Implementing a NSW adaptation of the WADTSC Project - This grant was to adapt and implement a training program for GPs and practice nurses about dementia care.

Enhancing Best Practice in Residential Aged Care - This project supported the development and implementation of best practice nutrition and hydration strategies in nine residential aged care facilities throughout NSW, using a Participatory Action Research approach.

Life History and Health Project - Funded by the Australian Research Council this project involves collaboration between researchers at the University of Newcastle and University of Sydney as well as international collaboration with the English Longitudinal Studies on Ageing. The project will examine how life experiences of the baby boom cohort (born 1946-1950) influence health, productivity, well-being, and pension and service use at ages 60 to 64 years in 2010-11.
EXECUTIVE PROFILE
PRIORITY RESEARCH CENTRE FOR GENDER, HEALTH AND AGEING

JULIE BYLES PhD
Professor
Director, Priority Research Centre for Gender Health and Ageing

QUALIFICATIONS

PhD
University of Newcastle

Bachelor of Medicine
University of Newcastle

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Ageing
Longitudinal studies
Health services
Preventative medicine
Gender

Research expertise
Risk determination, health assessment, screening and diagnostic tests, health care evaluation, measurement of health outcomes, the role of health services, preventive activities, healthy ageing.

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing
Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: + 61 2 4913 8643   Fax: + 61 2 4913 8323   Email: Julie.Byles@newcastle.edu.au
DEBORAH LOXTON PhD

Research expertise keywords:
Women’s health, domestic violence, social and economic wellbeing and health, mental health, health service use, reproductive health, maternal health and wellbeing

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing

Email: Deborah.Loxton@newcastle.edu.au

view full profile

LYNNE PARKINSON PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Ageing, women’s health, quality use of medicines, needs assessment, health promotion, health services research, community based intervention, healthy ageing, arthritis

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Gender, Health and Ageing

Email: Lynne.Parkinson@newcastle.edu.au

view full profile
The Priority Research Centre for Health Behaviour (PRCHB) strives to improve community health through service delivery interventions promoting healthy behaviours and quality healthcare. Led by its highly experienced Director, Laureate Professor Rob Sanson-Fisher, the PRCHB brings together a number of separate research groups to harness their combined wealth of research expertise. These groups include:

- Hunter New England Population Health (HNEPH)
- Health Behaviour Research Group (HBRG)
- Discipline of Health Behaviour Sciences
- Behavioural Science Strategic Research Partnership (STREP)
- The School of Psychology
- Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CCEB)
- Maddison Collaboration.

The PRCHB research focuses on social and individual factors which affect the health of populations; developing measures and interventions for reducing prevalence of preventable disease risks while increasing equitable and evidence-based health care delivery. The PRCHB works to assess and reduce the psychosocial impacts of chronic disease and is involved in improving responses to emerging infectious disease threats.

The PRCHB combines researchers from a variety of fields including: psychology, public health, medicine, nutrition and dietetics, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and nursing to carry out high quality, intervention-focused health behaviour research targeting key public health issues.

PRCHB members are leading innovative projects across a range of fields including:

- Cancer prevention and screening
- Psychosocial health of cancer patients and their families
- Palliative care
- Increasing children's consumption of fruit and vegetables
- Indigenous health
- Reducing alcohol misuse and related violence, injury and harm
- Reducing smoking
- Reducing cardiovascular risk
- Reducing and treating depression and anxiety
- Implementing health information technology
- Diabetes prevention
- Increasing physical activity
- Early identification of Alzheimer's disease
- Preparedness for emerging infectious diseases.

The PRCHB aims to improve the health of the community using evidenced-based strategies to increase the number of: competitive research grants, externally funded fellowships, research higher degrees completed in fundable time and papers published in high impact journals.

PRCHB members have strong track records in the following four areas:

1. **Reducing preventable health risks**
   
   We have developed measures for monitoring preventable disease risks, and implemented efficacious interventions to reduce the prevalence of health risks, including smoking, unhealthy alcohol use and inadequate sun protection. Our interventions for increasing appropriate rates of cervical, bowel and breast cancer screening has led to national and international changes in public health policy and practice.

The ‘Good for Kids, Good for Life’ program which aims to prevent overweight and obesity in children and adults, is the most comprehensive intervention of its kind in Australia.

Promoting Indigenous health by strengthening and extending research capacity in this area, has been successful due to the forging of close links with the Wollotuka Institute. Establishing the barriers to Indigenous health equity and seeking solutions to health disparities have been explored through in-depth and ongoing discussion and interaction with Indigenous communities. Research has included: trials to reduce smoking among pregnant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, developing sexual and antenatal health education for Aboriginal women, and trialling a diabetes prevention program focusing on the nutrition and physical activity of Aboriginal children in rural communities.

2. **Reducing psychosocial impacts on people affected by chronic disease**

   The PRCHB has an international reputation in assessing the psychosocial impact of disease, developing clinical practice guidelines and education of clinicians in adopting, developing and evaluating interventions to minimise disease impact, and translating research findings into routine care - particularly in relation to cancer. Australia’s first large-scale longitudinal study tracking the psychosocial wellbeing of adult cancer survivors and their partners/caregivers into the “survivorship” stage, along with studies of adolescent cancer survivors and their parents, and terminally ill cancer patients are currently being undertaken by the PRCHB.

3. **Improved preparedness for emerging infectious disease threats**

   PRCHB members have strong track records in developing measures to contain public health risks effectively, particularly in the areas of bio-preparedness, as well as established international credentials in the domains of public health surveillance and disaster preparedness. They have extensive and unique practical experience in risk communication in relation to public health threats, aimed at achieving appropriate risk-reduction behaviours by the public, and extensive knowledge in developing and evaluating novel public health strategies.

   The PRCHB facilitates linkages between lead researchers and international centres of excellence, with expertise in bio-preparedness and behaviour. We endeavour to expedite knowledge transfer between these international centres and the University of Newcastle through collaborative post-doctoral research scholarships and competitive international research grants.

4. **Bridging the evidence-practice gap**

   PRCHB members have contributed substantially to the medical literature in the gap between evidence and practice and have established collaborative relationships with professional colleges, the National Institute of Clinical Studies (a group which has responsibility for attempting to reduce the evidence-practice gap in Australia) and national and international colleagues. We have been successful in obtaining competitive research grants and undertaking some of the larger controlled studies in this field.
EXECUTIVE PROFILE
PRIORITY RESEARCH CENTRE FOR HEALTH BEHAVIOUR

ROBERT SANSON-FISHER PhD
Laureate Professor
Director, Priority Research Centre for Health Behaviour

QUALIFICATIONS

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AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Public health
Psycho-social/behavioural

Research expertise
Health behavioural research, health promotion, health service evaluation, cancer control, improving health outcomes for vulnerable population groups.

Association with Research Centres:
Centre for Research and Education in Ageing
Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Priority Research Centre for Health Behaviour

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS
Phone: + 61 2 4913 8169  Fax: + 61 2 4913 8779  Email: Rob.Sanson-Fisher@newcastle.edu.au
This Priority Research Centre brings together researchers from the Mothers and Babies Research Centre, (headed by Professor Roger Smith), the Egg-to-Embryo Group (headed by Professor Keith Jones) and the Reproductive Biology Group (Laureate Professor John Aitken). The Centre for Reproductive Science addresses one of the Australian Government’s most important national research priorities – ‘A Healthy Start to Life’. Recent research demonstrates that the long term health and welfare of individuals is critically affected by the quality of the gametes that form the embryo and the nature of the intrauterine environment provided by the mother during foetal development.

The University of Newcastle is internationally recognised for its contribution to studies of human reproductive health and pregnancy. The Centre for Reproductive Science targets the future health of all Australians by improving the health of pregnant women and providing key information on the determinants of a healthy start to life. The Centre for Reproductive Science also supports the work of the highly successful Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology and Development administered by the University of Newcastle.

The primary aim of the Centre is to promote reproduction as one of the major research themes of the University. By joining together three of the most productive research groups in Newcastle we aim to create a cohesive entity with the critical mass of scientific expertise, technical competence and clinical infrastructure needed to promote the University’s international profile in this area, enhance our ability to attract external funding and further develop our research training role. Furthermore, the creation of an integrated Centre is in keeping with recommendations of the recent Hunter Medical Research Institute review, which highlighted the clear-cut advantages of collaboration between the teams constituting the Centre.

**Research areas**
- Ageing and Reproductive health
- Defining the ideal diet during pregnancy
- Gamete biology
- Genetic and epigenetic regulation of pregnancy
- How to protect the brain of the foetus at birth
- Myometrial function
- Neuroprotective mechanisms in pregnancy
- Predicting Premature Birth
- Prostaglandin signalling
- Progesterone biology
- Reducing unexplained intrauterine death
- Timing of birth
- Understanding the mechanisms regulating the onset of labour
- Understanding the intra uterine origins of Aboriginal health disparities
- Understanding why pregnant women are at risk from Swine Flu
- Understanding why newborn male babies die more often than their sisters.

Image by Yoga Kandasamy
EXECUTIVE PROFILE
PRIORITY RESEARCH CENTRE FOR REPRODUCTIVE SCIENCE

ROGER SMITH PhD
Professor
Co-Director, Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science

QUALIFICATIONS

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AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Preterm birth
Premature labour

Research expertise
Clinical and basic science expertise in the physiology of human birth and the pathophysiology of premature birth. Indigenous pregnancy.

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS
Phone: + 61 2 4921 4376  Fax: + 61 2 4921 4394  Email: Roger.Smith@newcastle.edu.au
EXECUTIVE PROFILE
PRIORITY RESEARCH CENTRE FOR REPRODUCTIVE SCIENCE

KEITH JONES PhD
Professor
Co-Director, Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science

QUALIFICATIONS

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AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Reproductive biology | Cell cycle
Cell division       | Ovarian biology
Mitosis             | Female fertility
Meiosis             | Chromosomes
Oocytes             |                                

Research expertise
Mammalian reproductive biology, especially female reproduction with emphasis on oocytes and the meiotic divisions. Cell division and early embryo development, such as the transition from meiosis to mitosis, and the embryonic divisions leading up to implantation. Mitotic cell divisions of cultured cells, and the control of M-phase. Mis-segregation of chromosomes that lead to aneuploidy. Control of the meiotic divisions of oocytes with focus on the mechanisms that control faithful chromosome segregation such as the Spindle Assembly Checkpoint.

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Reproductive Science

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The Centre Director of the new PRC in Physical Activity and Nutrition is Professor Ron Plotnikoff, Faculty of Education and Arts, with Co-Directors Professor Clare Collins, Faculty of Health, and Professor Philip Morgan, Faculty of Education and Arts. Our PRC will take a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach to understanding physical activity and nutrition for population health, with particular emphasis on education and health promotion strategies for chronic disease prevention, treatment, and wellbeing. The PRC aims to examine these interrelationships across the lifespan, by targeting “at risk” populations, multiple levels (individual, social, organisational, population) and within various settings (schools, clinics, workplaces, communities).

The Priority Research Centre in Physical Activity and Nutrition currently has eight Principal researchers, 31 Associate researchers from across the Faculty of Education and Arts, the Faculty of Health and the Faculty of Science and Information Technology, nine External Associate researchers, and 32 RHD students.

The research areas include: education and health promotion in relation to physical activity and nutrition, nutrition and dietetic practice, objective measures of dietary intake and indicators of nutritional status, investigations into the role of dietary supplements and functional foods, physical activity interventions, exercise physiology, and impact of nutrition and physical activity interventions on disease outcomes including obesity, respiratory diseases (asthma, COPD), cardiovascular disease, diabetes, arthritis, cancer and brain disorders across various contexts and settings including schools.

The PRC will offer unique interdisciplinary expertise and leadership by:

- providing capacity to build on recent important successes
- galvanising education and public health researchers, biochemists, exercise physiologists, food scientists, Accredited Practising Dietitians (APDs), nutritionists and behavioural scientists to combat the obesity epidemic and related chronic disease burden to improve the quality of life of Australians.

Research and training activities will cover the spectrum of theory development and measurement, intervention building and testing, and knowledge transfer. The primary aim of the PRC is to achieve high quality research, training, and knowledge translation in the development and testing of efficacious/effective, theory-driven, multi-level, population-based physical activity and nutrition-related interventions and natural experiments that can ultimately be used and sustained in practice.

The objectives of the PRC are:

- to contribute significantly to the scientific advancement of physical activity and nutrition with a particular emphasis on education and health promotion strategies
- to develop and test theories and measures related to physical activity and nutrition
- to develop an evidence-base for the feasibility, efficacy and effectiveness of physical activity and nutrition-related interventions
- to synthesise the best available evidence into practice guidelines and facilitate knowledge transfer and uptake by professionals working in these fields
- to build unique and interdisciplinary educational/training capacity in these areas.

**Research areas**

The Research program to address our stated objectives will consist of the following six inter-related themes, each with a Theme Leader:

1. Physical Activity and Nutrition for Population Health, Professor Ron Plotnikoff, Faculty of Education and Arts
2. Obesity, Professor Philip Morgan, Faculty of Education and Arts
3. Therapeutic Nutrition, Professor Clare Collins, Faculty of Health
4. Clinical and Experimental Nutrition, Professor Manohar Garg, Faculty of Health
5. Exercise Sciences, Professor Robin Callister, Faculty of Health
6. School-based Physical Activity and Nutrition, Dr David Lubans, Faculty of Education and Arts.
QUALIFICATIONS

Degree/award | Organisation
--- | ---
PhD | University of Newcastle
Bachelor of Science | Griffith University
Diploma in Clinical Epidemiology | University of Newcastle
Diploma of Nutrition and Dietetics | University of Sydney

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
- Nutrition
- Diet
- Obesity
- Paediatrics
- Dietary methodology
- Systematic review
- Diet quality

Research expertise
- Nutrition and dietetics, developing and evaluating nutrition interventions.

Association with Research Centres:
- Priority Research Centre in Physical Activity and Nutrition

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS
Phone: + 61 2 4921 5646  Fax: + 61 2 4921 6984  Email: Clare.Collins@newcastle.edu.au
Because cancer is a highly heterogeneous disease, optimum patient care will require treatments that are tailored to each patient’s tumour. Consequently, in the future, cancers will be characterised not by their tissues of origin but by their molecular makeup. This will allow assessment of individual disease risk, personalised tumour recurrence risk, and treatment with personalised targeted therapies. Therefore, a translational research strategy focussed on biomarkers and new targeted therapeutics has great potential to facilitate personalised cancer management leading to better health outcomes.

The Priority Research Centre for Cancer will deliver advanced approaches to assess patient risk and disease progression using cutting edge techniques in the fields of molecular genetics, genomics, bioinformatics, proteomics and magnetic resonance spectroscopy that can be incorporated into clinical trials and public health research. This research capacity is supported by close collaboration with the clinical facilities of the Hunter New England Local Health District and the complementary research expertise in the Priority Research Centres for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information Based Medicine, Chemical Biology and Health Behaviour.

Using the biobanking experience developed for breast cancer, the Priority Research Centre (PRC) will extend the collection to other tumours, such as colon, melanoma, and lung cancer. The aim is to collect well-annotated tissue from every patient entered in a clinical trial or undergoing cancer treatment. Biological endpoints will be incorporated into the clinical trials by integrating new approaches and capabilities such as: proteomics and magnetic resonance imaging and spectroscopy to diagnose and monitoring treatment; and NextGen sequencing to define genetic risk factors. These data will also be used by scientists to define new drug targets, develop lead compounds for cancer treatment and validate prognostic and predictive biomarkers for personalise therapy.

The PRC for Cancer has extensive clinical trials expertise including two of Australia’s largest cancer clinical trials groups. The Australian New Zealand Breast Cancer Trials Group (ANZ BCTG), led by Professor John Forbes, is responsible for collaborative randomised clinical trials involving 80 institutions in Australia and New Zealand and most of the leading breast cancer clinical trials groups internationally. The Prostate Cancer Trial Group led by Professor Jim Denham ran the largest randomised clinical trial in locally advanced prostate cancer therapy, as well as the largest treatment trial of any type of cancer ever designed and conducted in Australia and New Zealand.

Integrated with clinical trials in melanoma, the Melanoma Research Group led by A/Professor Xu Dong Zhang focuses on why metastatic melanoma cells are resistant to treatment and the role of cellular pathways involved in ER stress and TRAIL-induced apoptosis in this resistance. A second major theme in cellular and molecular oncology is understanding the role and regulation of oncogenic signalling by the receptor tyrosine kinase, c-KIT, for therapy of leukaemia and gastrointestinal stromal tumours.
QUALIFICATIONS

Degree/award
Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery

Organisation
University of Melbourne

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Clinical trials
Pharmacology
Pharmacokinetics
Pharmacogenomics

Research expertise
Basic and clinical pharmacology of anticancer drugs, including drug measurement, pharmacokinetics pharmacodynamics, and relevant genetics/genomics. Clinical trials in cancer mainly medical oncology.

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Cancer
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE
PRIORITY RESEARCH CENTRE FOR CANCER

XU ZHANG
Associate Professor
Co-Director, Priority Research Centre for Cancer

QUALIFICATIONS

Degree/award       Organisation
PhD          University of Sydney
Bachelor of Medicine       Shanxi Medical University PR China

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Melanoma
Apoptosis
Tumor Immunology

Research expertise
Melanoma cells that are resistant to treatment and the role of cellular pathways involved in ER stress and TRAIL-induced apoptosis in this resistance.

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Cancer
Priority Research Centre for Bioinformatics, Biomarker Discovery and Information-Based Medicine

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS
Phone: +61 2 49138174    Fax: +61 2 49138184    Email: Xu.Zhang@newcastle.edu.au
The Family Action Centre (fAC) is a multidisciplinary centre with the vision of a truly civil society and a belief that family wellbeing is the cornerstone of healthy communities. The fAC is self-funded, receiving funds from State and Commonwealth Government departments, philanthropic organisations, corporate and private sponsorship, and through consultation, teaching and commercial activities.

The fAC exists to strengthen families and communities and to influence policy and practice in this field. This is achieved by:

- developing and implementing programs
- undertaking research, teaching and training
- conducting national conferences, colloquia and workshops
- teaching in the undergraduate and postgraduate programs and providing professional development.

Our current programs include the Fathers and Families Research Program, the Caravan Project, Home-Start, programs that engage Aboriginal fathers and programs that focus on early intervention, literacy and health for marginalised families.

The Family Action Centre began in 1986 with one project, which addressed the needs of caravan park families. This project taught us the importance of working at a number of levels to bring about change for the individuals and the community in which they live, i.e.

- to work with families
- partner with services
- talk to all levels of government
- provide training to impact on others working with these communities.

This has become a model that underpinned the development of the fAC into an independent research centre that is part of the Faculty of Health at the University of Newcastle.

The fAC has developed many innovative and effective support programs, several using trained volunteers and involving parents and children. It is from this grounded experience that the fAC is able to inform others on important issues that require attention from service providers, researchers and policy makers.

The fAC believes that the importance of the family cannot be overstated; and that society is reliant on families and communities to grow strong and resilient children.

Centre achievements

- Adoption of practice guidelines developed by the fAC at a policy and practice level in two areas of focus:
  - Engaging fathers
  - Working with caravan park residents.

- Training of 17,000 family and community sector professionals in effective practice in a number of areas of service delivery.

- Linking research, policy and practice in family and community work through co-ordinating annual national conferences and forums.

- Development and adoption of The Intensive Playgroup Support Model for the Commonwealth Government that now is a funding category for service.

- Development of innovative models of practice: Caravan Project, Home-Start, Homelink SNUG and fLAG.

- Provision of unique opportunities for Work Integrated Learning for students from a range of disciplines.

- Partnership with Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care to promote positive images of Aboriginal and Torres Islander fathers with their children and to conduct national conferences that focus on what is working for Aboriginal and Torres Islander families and communities.

- Development and teaching of undergraduate and postgraduate courses that focus on multidisciplinary approaches to family and communities in Australia and internationally.

Current research

- Father-Child Physical Play and Preschool Children’s Self Regulation
  - Research team: Richard Fletcher, Jennifer StGeorge, Emily Freeman, Kerry Chalmers, Tracy Burrows
  - Project description
    - We aim to examine the relationship between father child physical play and children’s self-regulation. Fathers have been filmed playing with their 4-year-old child and the quality of the interaction is coded. This will then be compared with a number of measures of the child’s self-regulation abilities and emotional and behavioural functioning.

- Grandparents’ Perceptions of Grandfather’s Roles
  - Research team: Richard Fletcher, Jennifer StGeorge
  - Project description
    - Grandparenting is receiving increasing attention in society particularly in relation to grandparents having responsibility for the full-time care of their grandchildren. Grandparents who do not have full-time care of their grandchildren also have important roles to play in supporting family relationships. However, there is less known about grandfathers than grandmothers. We seek to explore grandparents’ perceptions of fathering and grandfathering in their extended families.

- Building Connections through Play
  - Research team: Richard Fletcher, Nicole Reece, Jennifer StGeorge, Emily Freeman
  - Project description
    - This feasibility study aims to assess the effectiveness of delivering child development materials to separating parents in maintaining their level of child focus after separation. Parents with a child under 5 years of age undergoing separation will be given age-appropriate parent-child activity booklets and
access to a Child Development Consultant (CDC) over the course of 3 months. Parents will complete a number of survey-style measures pre and post intervention in order to assess their level of child focus.

- **Commuting Parents and Family Wellbeing (Stage 2)**
  - Research team: Richard Fletcher, Emily Freeman, Jennifer StGeorge
  - Project description
    - The aim of this project is to study the effects of commuting on the parent-child relationship. Parents of children aged 12 years or younger who commute to work for a minimum of 2 hours each day will be given a survey asking them about their perceptions of their commute, their relationship with their child, and the strategies that they use to maintain a strong connection with their child.

- **LSAC data project: Paternal Mental Health**
  - Research team: Richard Fletcher, Emily Freeman, Craig Garfield (USA), Graham Vimpani
  - Research question
    - Does having a depressed father early in a child’s life affect a child’s social and emotional development?

- **LSAC data project: Childhood Obesity**
  - Research team: Richard Fletcher, Emily Freeman, Phil Morgan, Clare Collins, Robin Callister, Tracy Burrows
  - Research question
    - Does it matter which parent is overweight or obese when predicting the development of childhood obesity?

- **The Triple P Positive Parenting Program**
  - Research team: Richard Fletcher, Emily Freeman
  - Research question
    - Is Triple P effective in improving both mothers’ and fathers’ parenting practices? – a meta analysis of RCTs assessing the effects of Triple P on mothers’ and fathers’ parenting.

- **Aboriginal Healthy Dads, Healthy Kids Community Program**
  - Research team: Phil Morgan, Richard Fletcher, Craig Hammond, Emily Freeman, Clare Collins, Robin Callister, Tracy Burrows
  - Project description
    - To adapt and pilot the Healthy Dads, Healthy Kids community program with Aboriginal fathers.

- **Child Focus Index**
  - Research team: Richard Fletcher, Emily Freeman
  - Project description
    - We are developing a comprehensive measure of parents’ level of child focus while they are undergoing separation and divorce.

- **Engagement of Aboriginal Fathers in Family Dispute Resolution**
  - Research team: Richard Fletcher, Craig Hammond, Emily Freeman
  - Project description
    - Identifying Aboriginal father identity factors to promote engagement of Aboriginal fathers with post separation services in Dubbo.

- **Parenting Alliance and Parenting Stress in Families with a Child with ASD**
  - PhD research: candidate Christopher May, supervisor Richard Fletcher
  - Project description
    - An examination of the relationship between parenting alliance and parenting stress in families who have a child with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

- **The Healthy Dads, Healthy Kids community program: Promoting Family Health through Sustainable School and Community Partnerships**
  - Research team: Phil Morgan, Clare Collins, David Lubans, Robin Callister, Richard Fletcher, Ron Plotnikoff, Tracy Burrows
  - Project description
    - Effectiveness trial of The ‘Healthy Dads, Healthy Kids’ (HDHK) weight reduction program.
EXECUTIVE PROFILE

JUDI GEGGIE
Director, Family Action Centre
Assistant Dean, Community Engagement

QUALIFICATIONS

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AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Family strengths
Strengths-based approaches to community development

Association with Research Centres:
Family Action Centre

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: + 61 2 4921 6859  Fax: + 61 2 4921 8686  Email: Judi.Geggie@newcastle.edu.au
RICHARD FLETCHER PhD

Research expertise keywords:
Father-infant attachment, fathers, separated parents and child development, parenting, postnatal depression fathers, indigenous fatherhood

Association with Research Centres:
Family Action Centre

Email: Richard.Fletcher@newcastle.edu.au

Rough and Tumble Play sequence used by Fathers & Families Research Program to develop a measure of developmentally appropriate father-child play. Photo by Conor Ashleigh

Image provided by Richard Fletcher
The Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health (CRRMH) is a major rural initiative of The University of Newcastle, the Faculty of Health, NSW Health and the Western NSW Local Health District. The CRRMH aims to improve the provision of mental health services through the identification of and response to the needs of rural and remote communities. In particular, this includes the development of appropriate service models for rural mental health care, providing professional development opportunities for clinical staff and offering education and training.

Established in 2001, the CRRMH continues to expand its links to rural communities through its advisory committees, community education activities and service-related projects that involve a range of community organisations and services.

The CRRMH works to progress the mental health of rural and remote communities through academic leadership, collaboration and achievements in its program areas of service development and planning, research and education.

The Service development and Planning program comprises a suite of major state and national projects. The CRRMH holds leadership of major state-wide mental health initiatives in rural areas, e.g. NSW Rural Adversity and Mental Health Program (RAMHP) and Farm-Link National Suicide Prevention Strategy project, both of which have promoted partnerships between rural communities, rural Area Health Services, the NSW Farmers Association and other rural community organisations.

There has been a significant increase in research capacity and output for the CRRMH. Since 2006, the CRRMH has been awarded over $3.2M in external competitive research grants such as the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). The CRRMH has secured a second round of NHMRC funding for its longitudinal Australian Rural Mental Health Study that will see the three and five year follow up contacts with this important cohort of rural households. The Centre’s reputation for excellence is demonstrated by invitations to national and international conferences, requests for research collaboration, overseas and interstate applicants for CRRMH research positions and media requests for expert opinion.

The Education program at the CRRMH has developed particular expertise in the development and evaluation of learning and development programs. Currently, all education initiatives are conducted as research programs. This has substantially contributed to the evidence base for the effectiveness of programs and also provides important information about their uptake in rural and remote NSW. Furthermore, the education program has strong partnerships with the NSW Consumer Advisory Group and the NSW Institute of Psychiatry that have helped optimise and inform the scope and content of education programs. Significant progress was achieved during 2009 in accrediting education programs at both the University of Newcastle and the NSW Institute of Psychiatry.
EXECUTIVE PROFILE
CENTRE FOR RURAL AND REMOTE MENTAL HEALTH

PRASUNA REDDY PhD
Professor
Director, Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health

QUALIFICATIONS

Degree/award | Organisation
--- | ---
PhD | University of Melbourne
MA (Psych) | University of Melbourne

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Mental Health & Chronic Disease
Rural Mental Health
Ethics & Professional Practice in Psychology
Prevention Programs – Depression, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease
Gestational Diabetes and Perinatal Health

Research expertise
Diabetes prevention, clinical links between depression, heart disease, diabetes and management of chronic disease.

Association with Research Centres:
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS
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TRACY ROBINSON

Research expertise keywords:
Child and adolescent mental health, early intervention and mental health promotion, drug and alcohol

Association with Research Centres:
Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

Email: Tracy.Robinson@newcastle.edu.au

HELEN STAIN PhD

Research expertise keywords:
RCT, child and adolescent mental health, mental health service delivery, mental health service evaluation, mood disorders, neuroscience, population health, psychotherapeutic interventions, psychotic disorders, rural and remote mental health, schizophrenia, suicide and self harm

Association with Research Centres:
Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health
Priority Research Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research

Email: Helen.Stain@newcastle.edu.au
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF RURAL HEALTH AND RURAL CLINICAL SCHOOL - NORTHERN NSW

The University Department of Rural Health (UDRH) and the Rural Clinical School (RCS) has made it possible for undergraduate and postgraduate students studying medicine, nursing, nutrition and dietetics, medical radiation science, physiotherapy, oral health, podiatry, occupational therapy, and pharmacy at the University of Newcastle to complete a large part of their education and training in a rural setting. In addition to providing rural placements for undergraduate students, the UDRH and RCS also actively recruits postgraduate students and carries out research.

The UDRH was established following an agreement between the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing and the University of Newcastle in 2002 and in partnership with Hunter New England Local Health District and the University of New England. It covers approximately 20% of the land area of New South Wales and includes Tamworth, Armidale, Taree, Moree and the surrounding communities in a corridor of land that stretches north to the town of Tenterfield on the border of New South Wales. The UDRH provides a valuable community service and is recognised as an important part of the solution to the rural health crisis.

The RCS was established in July 2006 with the specific aim of guaranteeing that 25% of urban based students at the University of Newcastle would spend one full clinical year in a rural setting. It operates in tandem with the UDRH and covers the same land area.

Since the RCS was formed, the University of Newcastle and University of New England have established a Joint Medical Program (JMP) with an annual combined intake of 160 students. The Rural Clinical School in conjunction with the School of Rural Medicine will provide extensive clinical training in a rural setting on a scale that has not been seen before in Australia. The RCS is dedicated to providing support to medical students who are completing 12 month placements in the area.

The aim ultimately of both the UDRH and RCS is to provide high quality education for undergraduate students in medicine, nursing and allied health in a rural setting. In achieving this, both programs seek to expose undergraduate students to the career and lifestyle opportunities available outside of metropolitan areas, and start to redress the chronic shortage of healthcare workers in regional, rural and remote Australia.

Research areas
The particular focus of our research is on issues that affect the delivery of health care services and the health outcomes of people who live in regional, rural and remote locations.

Rural and remote health workforce
- Interprofessional collaboration and teamwork
- Recruitment and retention of the health workforce
- Profiling the health workforce
- Models of health service delivery.

Education and training for rural and remote health care
- Monitoring and evaluation of health professional education
- Interprofessional education
- Research capacity building
- Developing on-line resources for continuing education.

Indigenous health care and education in rural and remote communities
- Better health for Indigenous mothers and babies
- Indigenous sport and recreation programs
- Educational transitions for Indigenous students
- Community engagement in research.

Clinical evidence in rural and remote health care
- Implementing and evaluating diagnostic and therapeutic guidelines
- Evidence based practice
- Multidisciplinary primary health care
- Emergency department and acute hospital care.
EXECUTIVE PROFILE
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF RURAL HEALTH

STEVEN DOHERTY PhD
Associate Professor
Director, University Department of Rural Health

QUALIFICATIONS

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<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>University of Newcastle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery</td>
<td>University of New South Wales</td>
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AREAS OF RESEARCH

Research keywords
Rural health
Medicine

Association with Research Centres:
N/A

FIVE RECENT PUBLICATIONS


CONTACT DETAILS

Phone: +61 2 6767 8462  Fax: +61 2 6761 2355  Email: Steven.Doherty@newcastle.edu.au
JENNIFER MAY

Research expertise keywords:
Rural workforce, general practice

Association with Research Centres:
N/A

Email: Jennifer.May@newcastle.edu.au

ANTHONY SMITH PhD
Associate Professor

Research expertise keywords:
Clinical sciences, medical radiation science, rural allied health workforce

Association with Research Centres:
N/A

Email: Tony.Smith@newcastle.edu.au
CONTACT US

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CALLAGHAN NSW 2308
AUSTRALIA

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