# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction, Chief Executive</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Sponsor Research</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research overview</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaesthesia and Acute Pain Management</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intensive Care</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Surgery</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthopaedic Surgery</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research projects</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The missing link in family violence</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuromuscular reversal in thyroid surgery</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast reconstruction after mastectomy</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bipolar disorder and prestige</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interprofessional student placement</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wound pain post caesarean section</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infection in salvage hip arthroplasty</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Grants for Health Research</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research activity</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research governance</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair, Human Research Ethics Committee</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research committees</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research projects considered for approval</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications and presentations</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebrating Research 2011</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebrating Research 2012</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Annual publications**

Peninsula Health’s Research Report 2012 focuses on the achievements and contributions of staff involved in research. For a fuller picture of Peninsula Health’s activities over the past year, please see our other annual publications:

- Quality of Care Report 2012 – highlights Peninsula Health’s progress and achievements in improving clinical care and our consumers’ experience.

For further information about Peninsula Health or to download our annual publications, please visit our website, www.peninsulahealth.org.au.

For printed copies of our publications, please phone Public Relations on (03) 9788 1501.

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*Front cover: Mr Peter McCombe, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, with Dr Ruban Ambikaipalan, Orthopaedic Registrar, who carried out research into long-term major complications that may occur after salvage hip arthroplasty.*
Introduction, Chief Executive

I am pleased to introduce Peninsula Health’s Research Report for 2012. The report provides an opportunity to showcase locally initiated research projects and to introduce some of our exceptional researchers. One of the feature stories highlights research on adolescent violence in the home being undertaken by Jo Howard in the Peninsula Drug & Alcohol Program and Youth Services Program in Community Health with a grant provided by the Legal Services Board. This study, which has attracted significant media interest, is an area in which Peninsula Health has particular expertise and extensive experience. Recently, Community Health appointed a Research and Evaluation Coordinator whose role will be to develop and implement a research and evaluation framework for Community Health which will enable the measurement of health outcomes as well as the identification, implementation and support of new research. I look forward to their future contributions to this report.

I would also like to commend the clinical services who are participating in commercial and collaborative multi-centre research and registries. In particular, the Cardiology Unit has increased its involvement in collaborative studies and is now participating in the Victorian Cardiac Outcomes Registry. Another milestone in the research advancement continuum at Peninsula Health is the development of a Research Repository, a joint initiative of our Medical Library and Research Program staff. The repository will be developed using free, open-source software featured in last year’s Research Report. Initially it will contain abstracts, publications and presentations by Peninsula Health staff – and it will be a vital tool in demonstrating to our community and to current and prospective staff the importance that Peninsula Health places on research.

I would like to congratulate all staff who completed their postgraduate studies over the last year. Of particular note are the PhDs awarded to Dr Deidre Morgan from Occupational Therapy and to Dr Cylie Williams from Podiatry. Cylie is no longer with Peninsula Health, but her work during her time here contributed significantly to her thesis.

The diversity and breadth of research projects being undertaken across Peninsula Health illustrates the emphasis we place on tackling issues that will truly make a difference to the health and wellbeing of our community. Of particular note is the Department of Surgery research into the complication rates of hip arthroplasties following failed internal fixation of femoral neck fractures and the factors that affect a woman’s decision whether to undergo breast reconstruction post mastectomy – and the studies being carried out in Mental Health and Aged Care which explore the issues faced by carers of some aged patients.

The Research Report 2012 provides a window into the research projects in progress across Peninsula Health and the role that research plays in improving the patient and carer experience and the health of our community. It also reflects the dedication of our staff to this goal.

Dr Sherene Devanesen
Chief Executive
On joining Peninsula Health at the end of 2011, I was impressed by the research activity present within the organisation. I was especially pleased to read the Final Report from the organisation-wide survey undertaken by the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards in May 2011. The report described the research program at Peninsula Health as “vibrant and robust” and “primarily focussed on the development of knowledge to improve the delivery of better care to the community”. In commending our Research Report as an excellent publication, the survey team commented: “It showcases the achievements and innovations across many areas of the Health Service. It is a demonstration of the perceived importance of research and outcomes in the provision of best practice healthcare”.

In 2012 the Peninsula Health Research Directors group was formalised. Following the initial meeting the membership was expanded to include research portfolio holders from other clinical areas. We are working towards the implementation of two of the most important recommendations of the Mathews Review: the tracking of publications and the recruitment of a statistician or epidemiologist to support our investigators in research design and analysis and to assist in their search for competitive external funding.

During the year, Peninsula Health became an associate member of Cancer Trials Australia (CTA), a Melbourne-based not for profit service organisation that conducts cancer clinical trials on behalf of investigators and sponsors, namely biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies. One of CTA’s goals is to grow its member base in order to provide patients with greater access to clinical trials and to enable more centres to access investigational agents. Our membership will provide increased opportunities for Cancer Services at Peninsula Health to participate in and offer to our patients clinical trials of new treatments.

Once again, we were pleased to offer Peninsula Health Small Grants for Health Research. Five grants were awarded, including one grant specifically for an emerging researcher. These projects are profiled later in this report.

I would like to thank the Director of Research, Associate Professor John Botha, the staff of the Research Program, and our researchers for their ongoing commitment to research growth at Peninsula Health.

Dr David Rankin
Executive Director Medical Services
Executive Sponsor Research
The past year has revealed small but steady gains in the research arena as more staff engage in research.

Applications for Small Grants for Health Research were numerous and of a high calibre, and the number of publications and ethics applications was substantial.

Our Celebrating Research activities in November are a highlight of the year, and in 2011 we were privileged to have two outstanding researchers present at Peninsula Health during this event.

At the Grand Round, Professor Jayashri Kulkarni, Director Monash Alfred Psychiatry Research Centre, spoke on Women and Mental Illness. Professor Kulkarni discussed new approaches to the treatment of mental illness in women, particularly the impact of sex hormone changes on mental state and the need for a specifically tailored understanding and treatment for women experiencing mental illness.

Professor Garry Jennings AM, Director and Chief Executive Officer Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute, was the Jeremy Anderson Orator at the 2011 Research Dinner. His presentation was entitled Heart Disease – the end of the beginning.

Professor Jennings’ research interests cover the causes, prevention and treatment of cardiovascular diseases. He is perhaps best known for providing the first plausible evidence that regular exercise lowers blood pressure and sympathetic nervous activity while improving glucose metabolism.

In early 2010, Sharon Allsop (Research Coordinator ICU) established a Research Special Interest Group at Frankston Hospital. The primary objective of the group is to provide support, professional development and a forum for networking, discussion, peer evaluation and input. All research coordinators and assistants, and those with a significant research role within the hospital, are invited to promote the group within Peninsula Health to further stimulate and develop research within the Health Service.

I am indebted to the staff of the Research Program, managed by Lee-Anne Clavarino, for their tireless efforts in ensuring that the infrastructure and governance of research is accessible, comprehensive and rigorous.

Last year, it was also my privilege to welcome to Peninsula Health Dr David Rankin, Executive Sponsor Research, who has enthusiastically embraced the research initiatives at Peninsula Health. His leadership in this area is proving invaluable as we initiate further recommendations of the Mathews Review.

I would like to thank each member of our Human Research Ethics Committee and its associated Methods Review Panel for their tireless support of our research program.

Thank you to our partners, collaborators, funders, supporters and researchers whose work is displayed in this report.

Associate Professor John Botha
Director of Research
Research overview

Anaesthesia and Acute Pain Management

**Associate Professor Terry Loughnan, Director of Anaesthetic Research and Training**

The Department of Anaesthesia’s research commitment continues to expand with involvement in both clinical trials and qualitative research.

In collaboration with the Women’s Health Unit, clinicians have been investigating post caesarean section pain (featured later in this report), and conducting a clinical trial investigating the use of carbetocin versus oxytocin in emergency caesarean sections. The smoking cessation research reported in last year’s Research Report has resulted in publications, presentations and a blog, <www.stopbeforetheop.blogspot.com.au>, featuring information for both clinicians and patients.

Dr Stuart Marshall, one of our consultant anaesthetists, is undertaking a PhD. Stuart, and one of our trainees, Dr Emma Boden, have just completed recruitment for a study on nerve stimulation, muscle relaxants and thyroid surgery. This study is featured later in this report.

Emergency Medicine

**Associate Professor Pamela Rosengarten, Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and Director of Education and Research**

A growing interest in emergency medicine research in the last year saw staff receiving a Small Grant for Health Research, two first prizes and two second prizes during Celebrating Research 2011, and publication of two original research studies in peer-reviewed journals. Four emergency medicine registrars completed the research requirement for the Australasian College of Emergency Medicine.

The Emergency Department commenced participation in externally initiated research projects, including a multi-centre clinical trial of intranasal ketamine and a study of three health services investigating barriers and enablers for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to follow up after emergency department investigation for chest pain.

Intensive Care

**Dr Ravi Tiruvoipati, Director of Intensive Care Research**

The Intensive Care Unit has embraced interprofessional team research, with allied health, medical and nursing staff involved in many of our projects. A multi-site project evaluating the clinical outcomes and cost consequences of delayed discharge from intensive care received a $15,000 grant from the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society. This project is examining the incidence and duration of delayed discharge, and evaluating the difference in clinical outcomes and cost implications between patients who do and do not experience delays in discharge. Five health services are participating in this study.

Dr Kavi Haji has commenced a PhD project that will investigate the role of ultrasound in intensive care.

Nursing

**Ms Maureen Habner, Director/Chief Nurse Continuing Education and Development**

In recognition of the increasing importance of nursing research at Peninsula Health, planning is underway to pursue the appointment of an Associate Professor of Nursing Research. This will be a joint appointment with Monash University which will enhance collaborative nursing research activities and strengthen nursing research expertise at Peninsula Health.

Ten nursing-led projects were considered for approval in the past year. These include a PhD project by Sini Jacob, a mental health nurse, who
Research overview

is exploring the meaning of recovery to mental health consumers, carers and nurses. Several other nurses have commenced doctoral studies.

Congratulations to John Abbott, Associate Nurse Manager Intensive Care Unit, on his Small Grant for Health Research which will fund a randomised control trial comparing two dressing types used to treat pressure ulcers in intensive care patients.

Department of Surgery

Mr David Hunter-Smith, Deputy Clinical Director of Surgery – Research and Training and Mr Nigel Broughton, Head of Orthopaedic Surgical Research

In 2011, the Department of Surgery held its inaugural Surgical Symposium, which included presentations for the Professor Jonathan Serpell Prize for Excellence in Surgical Research and presentations by invitation. Keynote speakers were Associate Professor Ian McInnes, Senior Medical Officer (Mortality Review) at Peninsula Health; Professor Julian Smith, Head of Monash University’s Department of Surgery at Monash Medical Centre, Deputy Head of the Southern Clinical School and Head of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Southern Health; and Professor Debra Nestel, Professor of Medical Education at Gippsland Medical School. Jason Toppi, a Gippsland Medical School student, was inaugural prize winner of the Serpell Prize for his research entitled Dupuytren’s contracture: An audit of the outcomes of surgery.

It was an outstanding year for the Orthopaedic Surgical Unit, which undertook six major research projects as well as launching the Frankston Orthopaedic Research Prize, an award funded by the unit’s consultants as part of Celebrating Research for the best presentation by an Orthopaedic Surgery Registrar. Prize winner for 2011 was Dr Ruban Ambikaipalan, and details of his project are provided later in this report.

Research Directors Group 2011/12

Dr David Rankin (Chair)
Executive Director Medical Services
Executive Sponsor Research

Associate Professor John Botha
Director of Research

Ms Lee-Anne Clavarino
Manager Research Program

Mr Nigel Broughton
Head of Orthopaedic Surgical Research

Ms Maureen Habner
Director/Chief Nurse Continuing Education and Development

Mr David Hunter-Smith
Deputy Clinical Director of Surgery – Research and Training

Associate Professor Terry Loughnan
Director of Anaesthetic Research and Training

Associate Professor Pam Rosengarten
Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and Director of Education and Research

Associate Professor Dhiren Singh
Director Aged Mental Health

Dr Ravi Tiruvoipati
Director of Intensive Care Research

Associate Professor Amar Trivedi
Clinical Director Women’s Health

Ms Fiona Turnbull
Senior Dietitian
The missing link in family violence

Jo Howard (right) with Research Assistant Lisa Abbott
The missing link in family violence

With the incidence of adolescents abusing family members on the rise across Victoria, researchers are investigating how to better support the family members and carers who experience it; and how collaboration between agencies, including police and courts, can support the adolescents who use violence within the family to stop.

Community Health researcher Jo Howard, Program Manager of the Peninsula Drug & Alcohol Program (PenDAP) and Youth Services, has a long involvement in the area of adolescent violence in the home. It won her workplace a National Crime Prevention Award, and Jo was awarded a Churchill Fellowship in 2009 to research best practice responses to adolescent violence in the home in the USA and Canada.

“There’s no one clear reason why these young people use physical, verbal or emotional violence against their family members,” said Jo. “There is some evidence to suggest societal, cultural and family changes may contribute. Other evidence links the behaviour with childhood experience of trauma, particularly family violence. Children, particularly males, learn attitudes and behaviours from their fathers – for example, that violence is acceptable to women. They reach adolescence and treat their mothers in the same way their fathers did.”

“Poverty, social isolation, lack of education and employment opportunities are a reality for many families. This kind of disadvantage can negatively influence adolescents as individuals and as family members. The young people we work with are often angry at the world, they lack skills to deal with conflict, they feel ‘entitled’, and they may be dealing with other issues like alcohol, other drug use, or mental health issues.”

Jo’s qualitative study will map adolescents’ and parents’ experience of involvement with police and courts because of violence in the home, contributing to understanding the difference, if any, that this involvement has in stopping the violence and supporting family safety.

The findings will assist agencies to educate and empower parents and family members to understand how the legal system can support them. Ultimately, the project will provide evidence to support law reform in family violence prevention where adolescents are offenders.

The research project is being funded by the Legal Services Board, with involvement from Victoria Legal Aid and the City of Greater Dandenong’s GRIPP1 program.

“Poverty, social isolation, lack of education and employment opportunities are a reality for many families”

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1. GRIPP (Gain Respect Increase Personal Power) is a voluntary diversionary program established by the City of Dandenong for young males, aged 13 to 17, who have come to the attention of the courts or police for using aggressive or violent behaviour. GRIPP works closely with the Dandenong and Frankston courts and Youth Justice.
Neuromuscular reversal in thyroid surgery

Dr Stuart Marshall (left) with Dr Emma Boden and Professor Jonathan Serpell
Neuromuscular reversal in thyroid surgery

While any surgical procedure carries risks, there are specific risks for people having thyroid surgery. One of these is possible injury to the recurrent laryngeal nerve. While rare, it can cause paralysis, usually temporary, of the affected vocal cord.

As part of the anaesthetic given for thyroid surgery, anaesthetists administer a neuromuscular blocking agent. Normally, the effects of this paralysing agent are allowed to wear off naturally throughout the surgery.

A study by Consultant Anaesthetist Dr Stuart Marshall and Anaesthetic Registrar Dr Emma Boden, with Head of Breast and Endocrine Surgery Unit Professor Jonathan Serpell, is exploring whether routine reversal of the paralysing agent creates better conditions for surgeons to assess neuromuscular integrity and reduces the risk of nerve injury.

“Testing the integrity of the recurrent laryngeal nerve during thyroid surgery has become routine practice for many surgeons,” said Stuart. “And there is evidence to suggest this has contributed to a reduced incidence of injury to the nerve. However, in order to test nerve function, there needs to be minimal residual neuromuscular blocking agent. Because muscle sensitivity to paralysing agents can differ considerably, it is possible that studies using peripheral nerve stimulation may have underestimated the degree of blockade of the laryngeal muscles.”

“Some studies have looked at time after administration of intermediate acting neuromuscular blockage. But we are taking a different approach and looking at adequate ability to stimulate the recurrent laryngeal nerve, as measured by surgical conditions.”

“By determining whether routine reversal of intermediate acting neuromuscular blocking agents creates improved surgical conditions for stimulating the recurrent laryngeal nerve, we may be able to further minimise the risk of inadvertent nerve injury for patients undergoing thyroid surgery.”

“Testing the integrity of the recurrent laryngeal nerve during thyroid surgery has become routine practice for many surgeons”
Breast reconstruction after mastectomy
Breast reconstruction following mastectomy is now an important part of breast cancer treatment. In Australia, an estimated 12 per cent of women currently choose breast reconstruction surgery after a mastectomy.

This is significantly less than an estimated 30 per cent in the United States who made the decision to have breast reconstruction surgery after a mastectomy.

Using modules from the internationally-validated questionnaire ‘Breast-Q’, supplemented with additional questions about breast satisfaction and sexual wellbeing, Plastic Surgery Registrar Dr Sally Ng and plastic surgeon Mr David Hunter-Smith have carried out a retrospective study of women who have had a mastectomy at Frankston Hospital or in the private practices of consultant plastic surgeons who visit the hospital.

“This study of approximately 300 women aims to explore why they have or have not chosen to have breast reconstruction after a mastectomy,” said David. “Each woman’s reaction to losing a breast or breasts is intensely personal, and it is very important that they are fully informed about the different types of breast reconstruction surgery and the advantages and disadvantages of having a breast reconstruction before making their decision.”

“We know there are deficiencies in the current model of health care in the management of breast cancer patients. We anticipate that this research will help us better understand the reasons and factors that influence the design and choice of breast reconstruction. In turn, this will enable us to provide more effective pre-surgical information, discussion and support so that patients can make a well-informed decision.”

Initial analysis of the data collected in the study suggests that patients who undertook reconstruction were very satisfied with their physical and psychological wellbeing. They also expressed satisfaction with the medical staff and the amount of information provided about reconstructive options.

“This study of approximately 300 women aims to explore why they have or have not chosen to have breast reconstruction after a mastectomy”
Bipolar disorder and prestige

Dr James Le Bas (left) with Mental Health colleagues
Dr Slobodan Curcic and Dr Priscilla Yardley
Bipolar disorder and prestige

Bipolar affective disorder is one of the top 10 causes of disability in the world, yet there is a lack of understanding about why people become sick in response to life events and their social milieu.

Psychiatrist and PhD student Dr James Le Bas from Peninsula Health Mental Health Service, is heading a 12-month research study to test whether there may be an association between bipolarity and the way people are included in social settings – so-called ‘prestige’. In evolutionary time, social incorporation, mediated through prestige, was very important for survival. It is possible that bipolar disorder is a by-product of the struggle for survival and reproduction.

“Because we live in a complex social matrix, psychiatry needs new understandings of bipolarity,” said James. “In particular, we need to investigate how individual notions of prestige may trigger and prolong bipolar and depressive mood states.”

“Human society is intensely social and society provides a context for our investment in the self. There is an intimate relationship between self esteem and the processes that drive hedonic affects such as enjoyment, amusement, excitement and sorrow. These may be disturbed as part of the illness.”

“In this study, we are testing the linkages between hedonic affects, prestige and bipolar mood swings. This should help us establish whether prestige instability may make people sicker if they are bipolar.”

The research, conducted via a web or paper based survey, has a strong emphasis on hereditary association to illness. It is being undertaken at Peninsula Health’s Mental Health Service and at local general practice surgeries. Three groups of study participants (70 people with bipolar affective disorder, 70 people with major depressive disorder and 70 general practice controls) have been invited to take part in the research as part of a clinical conversation. Participants are being surveyed to measure the relationship between prestige variable responses and mood state.

“By building a better understanding of the origins and causes of bipolarity, we hope to contribute to the development of improved therapies,” said James.

“Because we live in a complex social matrix, psychiatry needs new understandings of bipolarity”
Interprofessional student placement

Fiona Kent (left) with Project Officer Penni Drysdale
Interprofessional student placement

A student-led clinic is now offered to final year students as part of clinical placements at Peninsula Health, thanks to an innovative research project led by physiotherapist Fiona Kent.

The project, carried out in partnership between Peninsula Health, Monash University and the Peninsula GP Network, aimed to develop and pilot a model for a student-led clinic that would create additional clinical placement activity for students.

“Currently, there is a shortage of clinical placements for medical, nursing and allied health students,” said Fiona. “We knew from the health education literature that student-led clinics can contribute to addressing unmet health care needs. So we undertook a gap analysis of the Mornington Peninsula Clinical Placement Network through a waiting list audit, a consumer survey, and an operational management survey. Using these three data sources, we identified a gap in post discharge review of older people after acute hospital admissions.”

Subsequently, an 8-week pilot clinic was launched at Peninsula Health’s Frankston Community Rehabilitation Centre in late 2011, with mixed discipline teams of students screening the physical, functional and social health of older clients after acute hospital admissions.

Eighteen (18) volunteer students from dietetics, medicine, nursing, occupational therapy, physiotherapy and social work worked together to review 25 patients over the pilot period. Using a screening tool that focused on independence at home after hospital discharge, falls risk, daily living activities, nutrition and foot care, the students were able to determine any unmet health needs and to refer clients to appropriate services for further support.

Patient, student and educator feedback from the pilot project was highly positive, and revealed that the multidisciplinary teams worked well together to provide a useful service to people with complex health care needs.

“If the logical combination of a patient group in need of time-intensive multi-faceted consultations with final year students with time to offer and in need of interprofessional education was a great success,” said Fiona. “It provided an exciting opportunity to reconsider the single discipline model of undergraduate education in primary health care, and highlighted potential gains for student learning, organisational practice and most importantly, patient care.”

“We identified a gap in post discharge review of older people after acute hospital admissions”
Wound pain post caesarean section

Associate Professor Terry Loughnan (right) with Dr Jolyon Ford and Dr Mei Cheah
Wound pain post caesarean section

Over the last decade, some European studies have reported that relatively high percentages of women experience chronic pain post caesarean section. In one study, 33 per cent of women reported experiencing pain at two years post caesarean section\(^1\), and in another, 20 per cent reported experiencing pain at three months and beyond, and 6 per cent over six months\(^2\). However, anecdotal local evidence suggests that the rate of chronic pain for Australian women post caesarean section may be lower.

With around 800 caesarean sections being carried out each year at Peninsula Health, researchers within the Departments of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Anaesthesia and Acute Pain Management are auditing the rate and impact of chronic pain development in women post caesarean section at Frankston Hospital. The outcomes of this research will inform the development of more effective counselling and pain management strategies for women after caesarean sections.

Principal Investigators Associate Professor Terry Loughnan and Dr Jolyon Ford, with Dr Mei Cheah and Dr Verity Sutton, have been surveying 400 women who have undergone caesarean sections, emergency or elective, over a period of six months. The survey aims to assess how long participants experience pain from the surgery, whether they have any wound-related problems, and how long it takes for them to return to usual activities without discomfort. Information will be collected at six weeks, three months, and six months after surgery.

“The study recruitment phase has been completed, and follow up at 12 and 26 weeks is currently underway,” said Terry. “The value add of this study is that we are talking to women at 6, 12 and 26 weeks and not relying on recall as other studies have, sometimes up to 18 months after the caesarean.”

“The outcomes of this research will inform the development of more effective counselling and pain management strategies for women after caesarean sections”

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Infection in salvage hip arthroplasty

Mr Peter McCombe (left) with Dr Ruban Ambikaipalan
Infection in salvage hip arthroplasty

Fractures of the femoral neck are repaired using internal fixators such as plates, screws and rods. However, it is not uncommon for these devices to fail.

Causes for failure vary, but may include infected metalware, non-union at the fracture site or bone death due to inadequate blood supply. In these situations, a conversion to a total hip replacement may be required. These conversion or ‘salvage’ hip replacements can be difficult operations because of bone loss, previous metalware or osteoporotic bone. Most are elderly patients.

A study by Dr Ruban Ambikaipalan, Orthopaedic Registrar at Peninsula Health, has investigated the long term major complications (such as infection, dislocation, need for revision surgery, and prosthetic loosening of salvage total hip replacements) after internal fixation devices fail.

A cohort of around 60 patients with failed internal fixation who went on to have salvage hip arthroplasty between 2000 and 2011 was identified. Operation reports, inpatient notes, follow up correspondence and personal contact with the patients were used to identify short and longer term complications and survival rates of their prostheses.

“We found a high rate of deep infection in the conversion arthroplasty compared to primary hip arthroplasty at our centre and in the Australian National Joint Replacement Registry,” said Ruban. “These findings will enable us to develop specific recommendations for more rigorous pre-operative screening for infection, and for close monitoring of conversion arthroplasties post-operatively to minimise the potential for failure of the prostheses.”

“A comparison of our findings with those in the literature on this topic found that this significant increase in deep infection was of concern, and warrants implementation of specific guidelines on managing patients with failed internal fixation.”

Ruban, winner of the inaugural Frankston Orthopaedic Research Prize, funded by Peninsula Health orthopaedic surgeons, presented his findings in December 2011 at the Asia Pacific Arthroplasty Society Meeting 2011 in Beijing, China.

His research study was supported by Mr Peter McCombe, a consultant orthopaedic surgeon at Frankston Hospital.

Ruban has now been admitted into the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Surgical Education & Training Program in Orthopaedic Surgery.

“These findings will enable us to develop specific recommendations for more rigorous pre-operative screening for infection”
Peninsula Health encourages staff to develop their research profiles by providing small seeding grants for approved research projects. By supporting excellence in research, it is anticipated that researchers will develop their experience and skills in attracting external funding for key research projects. Applications from interprofessional teams are encouraged, with preference being given to projects where funding is unavailable from other sources.

One grant is specifically allocated to an emerging researcher who has less than two years’ research experience and has not previously received a research grant.

In 2011/12, Small Grant recipients were:

**Allied Health**

**Iouri Banakh:** PRO-OSTEO Extend I study (improving osteoporosis management in the acute hospital setting): Prospective trial.

The PRO-OSTEO Extend I study aims to improve the rates of assessment and treatment of osteoporosis in patients who are admitted across Frankston and Rosebud Hospitals with minimal trauma fractures, and as a consequence reduce the incidence of new fractures, morbidity and mortality.

**Medicine**

**Associate Professor Pamela Rosengarten:** Observational study of efficacy of intranasal fentanyl for the treatment of moderate to severe pain in adult patients in the emergency department.

This study aims to determine if intranasal administration of fentanyl leads to satisfactory relief of moderate to severe pain in adult patients presenting to the Frankston Hospital Emergency Department and as a secondary outcome avoids the need for intravenous cannulation.

**Nursing**

**John Abbots:** Hydrocolloid dressing v foam dressing for the treatment of pressure ulcers in intensive care patients: A pilot randomised control trial.

This is a randomised control trial that aims to compare the efficacy of two dressing products used for the treatment of pressure ulcers in intensive care patients.

**Robin Digby:** Exploring the needs of families: Communication and involvement in care decisions.

This study intends to identify from the perspective of families and carers, their views and experiences of communication, involvement in decision making and accommodation of their needs while their relative is an inpatient at The Mornington Centre.

**Emerging Researcher**

**Dr Carole-Anne Whigham:** Carbetocin vs oxytocin (Syntocinon) to improve uterine tone at emergency caesarean section.

This is a blinded randomised trial aiming to determine if carbetocin 100 micrograms in 1ml IV or 5 unit Syntocinon IV bolus, is more effective at improving post partum haemorrhage rates in emergency caesarean sections, by measure of need for further uterotonics, need for greater than 5 minute uterine massage, and haemoglobin drop.
Research activity

- Publications: 27
- External presentations: 64
- Projects considered for approval: 86
- Projects reviewed through Victoria’s streamlined ethical review system approved for commencement at Peninsula Health: 21
- Abstracts submitted for Celebrating Research 2011: 78
- Small Grants for Health Research awarded: 5
Chair, Human Research Ethics Committee

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to deliver the annual report as Chair of the Peninsula Health Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) during 2011/12.

The Committee comprises Peninsula Health Board Directors, staff, and members of our community – meeting the requirements of the 2007 National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research.

The Committee farewelled Mr Peter Brookhouse, Chair of HREC, who completed his term as a Peninsula Health Board Director on 30 June 2011. I would like to thank him for his excellent leadership and contribution to HREC since his initial appointment in 1996 as the inaugural Chair. The Committee also welcomed new Board Director, Professor Henry Ekert AM, Ms Alice Irving, and ethicist Dr Dilinie Herbert. We also farewelled two lay members: Mr Ian Taylor, a member since 2007, and Ms Catherine Britt, a member since 2008; and Dr Susan Sdrinis, Executive Sponsor Research. Susan provided invaluable support to HREC and assisted in guiding the Committee through a number of difficult decisions. Susan was replaced by Dr David Rankin.

The diverse range of issues raised in the context of reviewing projects has required informed discussion and contributed to creating an inspiring environment. This year, for the first time, the Committee sought independent ethical advice when a low risk project was completed without an application being made to the Committee. In the interest of open disclosure all participants were informed of the researcher’s oversight and received a copy of the survey results. Relevant policies were revised or developed as a result of this issue.

As part of the Committee’s ongoing process of improvement, a Low Risk Research Subcommittee met for the first time in February 2012, to undertake review of low and negligible risk research. I would like to thank Ms Maureen Habner, who accepted our invitation to serve as inaugural Chair of this subcommittee.

During 2011/12, HREC reviewed 38 applications. A further 27 negligible risk or quality activities were reviewed by the Executive Sponsor Research and/or the Low Risk Research Subcommittee. Twenty-one (21) projects were reviewed under Victoria’s streamlined ethical review system and were subsequently approved to commence at Peninsula Health through the Research Governance framework. This was an increase from 13 in 2010/11.

The deliberations of HREC have been greatly assisted by the Methods Review Panel and the Drugs and Therapeutics Committee. The Methods Review Panel has expanded its membership to better manage the volume and diversity of research submissions with the addition of Dr Sam Leong and Dr Deidre Morgan.

Finally, on behalf of the Peninsula Health Board of Directors I would like to acknowledge the staff of the Research Program who support HREC and provide assistance and advice to all researchers, and the significant contribution and commitment made by our community representatives and staff members to the Committee.

Ms Alexandra Forbes
Chair Human Research Ethics Committee
Research governance

Members of research committees 2011/12

Human Research Ethics Committee

The Human Research Ethics Committee considers and advises the Board of Directors on all ethical matters arising from research activity. It monitors ongoing research through the review of regular reports at a frequency corresponding to the risk to participants.

Ms Alexandra Forbes
Board Director (Chair)

Professor Henry Ekert AM
Board Director (Deputy Chair)

Dr Susan Sdrinis
Executive Sponsor

Dr David Rankin
Executive Sponsor

Associate Professor John Botha
Director of Research

Ms Gwenneth Austin
Healthcare Professional

Ms Catherine Britt
Laywoman

Rev Andrew Constance
Minister of Religion

Ms Jan deClifford
Senior Pharmacist

Ms Julie Grant
Healthcare Professional

Dr Debra Griffiths
Researcher

Ms Maureen Habner
Healthcare Professional

Dr Dillinie Herbert
Ethicist

Ms Alice Irving
Laywoman

Associate Professor Terry Loughnan
Researcher

Mr Simon Ruth
Healthcare Professional

Associate Professor Dhiren Singh
Researcher

Mr Adrian Stone
Lawyer

Mr Ian Taylor
Layman

Dr Ravi Tiruvoipati
Researcher

Dr Ashley Webb
Researcher

Low Risk Research Subcommittee

Ms Maureen Habner (Chair)
Director/Chief Nurse Continuing Education and Development

Mr Nigel Broughton
Head of Orthopaedic Surgical Research

Ms Lee-Anne Clavarino
Manager Research Program

Dr Mainak Majumdar
Intensivist (Donate Life)

Mr Chris Smith
Physiotherapist

Ms Sharon White
Operations Director Emergency and Intensive Care Unit, Chief Nurse Frankston Hospital

Methods Review Panel

Mr Nigel Broughton
Head of Orthopaedic Surgical Research

Associate Professor Ernie Butler
Head of Neurology

Dr Sam Leong
Consultant Anaesthetist

Dr Deidre Morgan
Senior Occupational Therapist

Dr Ravi Tiruvoipati
Researcher

Dr Ashley Webb
Researcher

Dr Andrew McLaughlin
Consultant Anaesthetist

Dr Ranjit Menon
Consultant Psychiatrist

Dr David Rankin
Executive Director Medical Services

Dr Susan Sdrinis
Executive Director Medical Services

Mr Simon Ruth
Healthcare Professional

Dr David Rankin
Executive Director Medical Services

Ms Joan Thomas
Nurse Unit Manager

Ms Sharon White
Operations Director Emergency and Intensive Care Unit, Chief Nurse Frankston Hospital

Dr Helen Hewitt
Clinical Director Emergency Medicine

Ms Gwenneth Austin
Healthcare Professional

Ms Catherine Britt
Laywoman

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Minister of Religion

Ms Jan deClifford
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Researcher

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Researcher

Dr Andrew McLaughlin
Consultant Anaesthetist

Dr Ranjit Menon
Consultant Psychiatrist

Dr David Rankin
Executive Director Medical Services

Dr Susan Sdrinis
Executive Director Medical Services

Ms Joan Thomas
Nurse Unit Manager

Ms Sharon White
Operations Director Emergency and Intensive Care Unit, Chief Nurse Frankston Hospital
Projects considered by the Human Research Ethics Committee

A pilot study into changes in sensation in the foot of people with long term statin use.
Principal Investigator: Brenton West

Implementing best practice in the administration of intramuscular injections: A pilot study.
Principal Investigator: Associate Professor Sean Jespersen

Barbed skin suture wound closure: A prospective randomised comparison of barbed vs. monofilament polyglyconate synthetic absorbable sutures in elective surgery.
Principal Investigator: Mr David Hunter-Smith

Principal Investigator: Dr Christine Chapparo

Exploration of the primary care nurse's attitudes to caring for a client with a new surgically formed stoma.
Principal Investigator: Lee Burrell

Death anxiety in palliative care and emergency department nurses.
Principal Investigator: Dr Louise Peters

The student-led clinic - A pilot study of undergraduate interprofessional learning.
Principal Investigator: Fiona Kent

The effect of routine reversal of neuromuscular blockade on surgical conditions for thyroid surgery.
Principal Investigator: Dr Stuart Marshall

Clinical review of outcomes in patients having undergone a radical prostatectomy.
Principal Investigator: Dr Alwin Tan

A randomised, double-blind, parallel group study to assess the efficacy and safety of 52 weeks of once daily treatment of orally inhaled tiotropium + olodaterol fixed dose combination (2.5 µg / 5 µg; 5 µg / 5 µg) (delivered by the Respimat® Inhaler) compared with the individual components (2.5 µg and 5 µg tiotropium, 5 µg olodaterol) (delivered by the Respimat® Inhaler) in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).
Principal Investigator: Associate Professor David Langton

What is the most consistent method of measuring gastroc-equinus tightness in either normal or pathological states? An assessment of intra and inter observer variability.
Principal Investigators: Dr Amy Nall and Mr Gerard Bourke

Outcomes of total hip replacement following failed internal fixation of neck of femur fractures.
Principal Investigator: Dr Ruban Ambikaipalan

Breast reconstruction post mastectomy: A survey to determine factors that affect patients’ decisions of whether to undergo breast reconstruction.
Principal Investigator: Dr Sally Ng

Efficacy of cranberry in the prevention of urinary tract infections: A randomized controlled trial.
Principal Investigator: Sheryl Pretty

People with dementia and the hospital environment.
Principal Investigator: Robin Digby

The femoral intramedullary guide: Does it reflect the anatomic axis of the femur? A cadaveric study.
Principal Investigator: Mr Peter Brydon

Clinician perspectives of end-of-life care at The Mornington Centre.
Principal Investigator: Dr Heather Tan

Post caesarean section pain.
Principal Investigators: Associate Professor Terry Loughnan and Dr Jolyon Ford

Are you child proof? Promoting child safety in the emergency department.
Principal Investigator: Dr Megan Deutsher

Managing increasing challenges in motorcycle safety: Strengthening research evidence for effective policy and countermeasure development.
Principal Investigator: Dr Lesley Day

Overcoming domestic violence.
Principal Investigator: Professor Thea Brown

Evaluation of clinical outcomes and cost consequences of delayed discharge from intensive care: A multicentre prospective observational study.
Principal Investigator: Dr Ravi Tiruvoipati
Research governance

Adolescent violence in the home – the missing link in family violence prevention and response.
Principal Investigator: Jo Howard
Australian and New Zealand SNAPSHOT ACS.
Principal Investigator: Dr Geoff Toogood
Assessment of carer distress during admission of patients to an aged psychiatry inpatient ward.
Principal Investigator: Dr Carmel Peavey
Exploring the meaning of recovery to mental health consumers, carers and nurses using phenomenology.
Principal Investigator: Sini Jacob
Food for thought: Improving the health and wellbeing of residents in supported residential services (SRS) through food and nutrition.
Principal Investigator: Erin Farnbach
Exploring the needs of families: Communication and involvement in care decisions.
Principal Investigator: Robin Digby
Risk of brain cancer from exposure to radiofrequency fields in childhood and adolescence.
Principal Investigator: Professor Malcolm Sim
The use of smartphones in the recording and dissemination of medical images.
Principal Investigator: Dr Michael Kirk
Carbetocin vs oxytocin (Syntocinon) to improve uterine tone at emergency caesarean section.
Principal Investigator: Dr Carole-Anne Whigham
Understanding barriers and enablers for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples to follow up after emergency department investigation for chest pain.
Principal Investigator: Professor Anne-Maree Kelly
Principal Investigator: Laureate Professor Rob Sanson-Fisher
Impact of routine transthoracic echocardiography and respiratory ultrasound assessment in critically ill patients.
Principal Investigator: Dr Kavi Haji
Evaluating hand hygiene interventions and their ability to reduce healthcare associated infection.
Principal Investigator: Professor Nicholas Graves
Family presence during resuscitation: A survey of emergency personnel working in public hospitals in the state of Victoria.
Principal Investigator: Associate Professor Simon Cooper
Victoria Cardiac Outcomes Registry (Frankston).
Principal Investigator: Professor Chris Reid
Evaluation of respiratory and cardiac ultrasound in predicting successful weaning from mechanical ventilation.
Principal Investigator: Dr Kavi Haji
Projects reviewed under the streamlined ethical review system
A 12-month, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of reslizumab (3.0 mg/kg) in the reduction of clinical asthma exacerbations and change in lung function in patients (12-75 years) with eosinophilic asthma.
Principal Investigator: Associate Professor David Langton
A randomised controlled trial evaluating a nurse-led survivorship care package (SurvivorCare) for bowel cancer survivors.
Principal Investigator: Dr Vinod Ganju
An adaptive, comparative, randomized, parallel-group, multi-center, phase Ib study of subcutaneous rituximab versus intravenous rituximab both in combination with chemotherapy (fludarabine and cyclophosphamide), in patients with previously untreated CLL.
Principal Investigator: Associate Professor John Catalano
Two weeks of low molecular weight heparin for distal vein thrombosis.
Principal Investigator: Dr Huy Tran
A phase 3, double-blind, multicenter, randomized, placebo-controlled trial evaluating repeated courses of aztreonam for inhalation solution in subjects with non-CF bronchiectasis and gram-negative endobronchial infection.
Principal Investigator: Associate Professor David Langton
A large international placebo-controlled factorial trial to assess the impact of clonidine and acetylsalicylic acid (ASA) in patients undergoing noncardiac surgery who are at risk of a perioperative cardiovascular event. Principal Investigator: Dr Julian Mahood

A phase-3, multi-center, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group study to compare efficacy and safety of pomalidomide in subjects with myeloproliferative neoplasm-associated myelofibrosis and red blood cell-transfusion-dependence. Principal Investigator: Associate Professor John Catalano

A double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group, fixed-dosage study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of armodafinil in subjects with major depression associated with bipolar I disorder. Principal Investigator: Associate Professor Sean Jespersen

Effect of roflumilast on exacerbation rate in patients with COPD treated with fixed combinations of LABA and ICS. A 52-week, randomised double-blind trial with roflumilast 500 µg versus placebo. The REACT-trial. Principal Investigator: Associate Professor David Langton

A randomised, open label, multi-centre, phase III study to investigate the efficacy of bendamustine compared to treatment of physician’s choice in the treatment of subjects with indolent non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma (NHL) refractory to rituximab. Principal Investigator: Associate Professor John Catalano

A phase 3, randomized, open label trial of lenalidomide/dexamethasone with or without elotuzumab in subjects with previously untreated multiple myeloma. Principal Investigator: Associate Professor John Catalano

A randomised multicenter phase III study in patients with locally advanced adenocarcinoma of the pancreas: Gemcitabine with or without chemotherapy and with or without erlotinib. Principal Investigator: Dr Romayne Holmes

Double-blind study of LY2216684 flexible-dose 12mg to 18mg once daily as adjunctive treatment for patients with major depressive disorder who are partial responders to selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor treatment. Principal Investigator: Associate Professor Sean Jespersen

A randomised, open label, multi-centre, phase III study to investigate the efficacy and safety of RO4917838 in stable patients with persistent, predominant negative symptoms of schizophrenia treated with antipsychotics followed by a 28 week, double-blind treatment period. Principal Investigator: Associate Professor Sean Jespersen

A phase 3, multi-center, randomized, 12-week, double-blind, parallel-group, placebo-controlled study to evaluate the efficacy and safety of RO4917838 in patients with sub-optimally controlled symptoms of schizophrenia treated with antipsychotics followed by a 40-week double-blind, parallel-group, placebo-controlled treatment period. Principal Investigator: Associate Professor Sean Jespersen
Research governance

Projects considered by the Low Risk Research Subcommittee

- Food intake and meal satisfaction of general medical and surgical patients. Principal Investigator: Karen Edis
- Smart crush: An investigation of medication errors in patients with swallowing difficulties. Principal Investigator: Eric Luong
- Study of the efficacy of nicotine replacement therapy at Peninsula Health. Principal Investigator: Viviane Khalil

Negligible risk and quality assurance projects considered by Executive Sponsor Research

- Critical phase distractions in anaesthesia. Submitted by: Dr Rachel Corris
- Awareness and barriers of paediatric clinical practice guidelines. Submitted by: Dr Hamish Graham
- Indications for ECT. Submitted by: Associate Professor Sean Jespersen

Enteral feeding: Impact of interrupting enteral feeds on achieving estimated energy and protein requirements in mechanically ventilated patients who are tolerating enteral feeds. Submitted by: Sharon Allsop and Fiona Turnbull

Audit of lung cancer service referral pathways. Submitted by: Southern Melbourne Integrated Cancer Services

The use of an absorbable pin in proximal interphalangeal joint fusion for the treatment of claw and hammer toe. Submitted by: Dr Devinder Garewal

Blood cultures to do or not to do. Submitted by: Dr Marjolein Slaa and Associate Professor Pam Rosengarten

Note: All project titles have been listed as submitted by the Sponsor or Principal Investigator.
Aged Care Medicine

Presentations


Anaesthesia and Acute Pain Management

Publications


Presentations

Cancer Services

Publications


Publications and presentations

Presentations


de Man T, Thomson J. Frozen gloves for the prevention of docetaxel-associated nail toxicity – are they practical in a busy oncology day unit? [poster presentation]. Multinational Association of Supportive Care in Cancer and International Society of Oral Oncology, 2012 International Symposium on Supportive Care in Cancer, New York City, United States of America, June 2012.


Cardiology

Publications


Community Health

Publications


Presentations

Bright S. “If I knew I was going to live this long, I would have taken better care of myself”: The Older Wiser Lifestyle (OWL) early intervention. The Victorian Association of Cardiac Rehabilitation, Clinical Study Day, Melbourne, March 2012.


Financial Support, Research Grants or Prizes


Howard J. Adolescent violence in the home – The missing link in family violence prevention and response. Legal Services Board, $121,500.
Publications and presentations

Emergency Medicine

Presentations


Intensive Care

Publications


Presentations


Financial Support, Research Grants or Prizes

Tiruvoipati R. Evaluation of clinical outcomes and cost consequences of delayed discharge from intensive care: A multicentre prospective observational study. Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society Safety, Quality, Audit and Outcome Grant, $15,000.

Mental Health

Publications


Presentations

Cantley-Smith R, Joseph B. Addressing physical health issues of consumers with mental illness: Knowledge, skills, attitude and confidence of mental health clinicians in performing ‘metabolic monitoring’. Australian College of Mental Health Nurses, 37th International Mental Health Nursing Conference, Gold Coast, October 2011.


Joseph B. Primary mental health nursing. Royal College of Nursing Australia Community and Primary Health Care Nursing Conference 2011, Hobart, October 2011.
Publications and presentations

Joseph B, Munro I. ‘Learning to swim between the flags’: Experience and challenges of nurses from diverse cultural backgrounds working within the Australian mental health system, a literature review [poster presentation]. Australian College of Mental Health Nurses, 37th International Mental Health Nursing Conference, Gold Coast, October 2011.

Nursing

Presentations


Occupational Therapy

Publications


Presentations

Morgan D. Concealed in the ordinary: The extraordinary nature of participation at the end-of-life [poster presentation]. 7th World Research Congress of the European Association of Palliative Care, Trondheim, Norway, June 2012.

Morgan D. Contending with functional decline at the end-of-life. 11th Australian Palliative Care Conference - Diversity 2011: Strengthening Quality Care at the End of Life, Cairns, August 2011.

Morgan D. Habilitation: When restoration of function is not possible [poster presentation]. 7th World Research Congress of the European Association of Palliative Care, Trondheim, Norway, June 2012.

Morgan D. How do I inhabit a disintegrating body? [poster presentation]. 7th World Research Congress of the European Association of Palliative Care, Trondheim, Norway, June 2012.

Morgan D. We will help you live until you die…but do we? 11th Australian Palliative Care Conference - Diversity 2011: Strengthening Quality Care at the End of Life, Cairns, August 2011.

Morgan D. We will help you live until you die…but do we? 23rd Annual Palliative Care Conference ‘Live until you die’, Penrith, May 2012.

Orthopaedic Surgery

Presentations


Pharmacy
Publications


Presentations
Banakh I. PRO-OSTEO project (improving osteoporosis management in the acute hospital setting) a pilot single-centre study. Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia Victorian Branch Summit, Melbourne, August 2011.


Physiotherapy
Presentations
Kent F. Patients’ perceptions of consultations undertaken by physiotherapy undergraduate students. Australian Physiotherapy Association Conference, Brisbane, October 2011.

Plastics and Maxillofacial Surgery
Publications


Presentations


Publications and presentations


Podiatry

Publications

Presentations

Shannon M, Ball A. An interdisciplinary approach to the introduction of new technology to acute and community services: Low frequency ultrasonic debridement. 9th National Australian Wound Management Association Conference 2012, Sydney, March 2012.


Williams C. Foot and ankle characteristics of idiopathic toe walking gait. 2012 International Foot and Ankle Biomechanics Symposium, Sydney, April 2012.

Subacute and Ambulatory Care Services

Publications

Presentations
Burns K. Cognition Care Support Team; Improving health outcomes for older people with cognitive impairment in the acute setting. International Dementia Conference - Risky Business: Facing up to Dementia, Sydney, June 2012.


Financial Support, Research Grants or Prizes
Peninsula Health Falls Prevention Service in conjunction with the Frankston Mornington Peninsula Primary Care Partnership and Monash University Accident Research Centre. Evaluation of community-based projects to prevent falls among older people. National Health and Medical Research Council Partnership Project, $250,000 across the 2011/12 and 2012/13 financial years.

Thoracic Medicine

Publications
Celebrating Research is a two week event that celebrates and showcases research at Peninsula Health. Events include research prizes for allied health, nursing, junior medical staff and students; a poster competition at Frankston Hospital; and the Research Dinner and Jeremy Anderson Oration.

**Research Prize winners**

**Allied Health Research Prize**

**First:** Hayley Jefferson and Peter Hough

The accuracy of the pedometer worn at the knee compared to the hip, in measuring step counts for inpatients of a geriatric evaluation and management unit

**Second:** Deidre Morgan

Contending with palliative decline: The work of adaptation

**Third:** Erin Farnbach

Evaluation of nutrition and physical wellbeing in local supported residential care

**Nursing Research Prize**

**First:** Joanne Molloy and Naomi Pratt

Outcomes following a MET call – What happens after we MET?

**Second:** David Lewis

Cardiac troponin I does not independently predict mortality in critically ill patients with severe sepsis

**Third:** Maureen Canning

Bundles of success in reducing CLABSI in ICU

**Registrar Research Prize**

**First:** Dr Nikki Gambhir

D-dimer in emergency practice: Guideline adherence and implications on cost to the hospital

**Second:** Dr Louise Parker

An audit to determine the incidence of post-operative hypoxaemia on arrival in the recovery room after the implementation of supplemental oxygen and pulse oximetry monitoring during transfer

**Third:** Dr Ruban Ambikaipalan

Outcomes of total hip replacement for failed internal fixation of femoral neck fractures

**Student Research Prize**

**First:** Dheeshana Sayakkarage, Rosemary Sanderson and Robert Phan

Peninsula Health Stroke Unit investigate for lost opportunities in acute thrombolysis

**Second:** Jeremy Chan and Megan Whatley

Patients who leave the emergency department without being seen: The Frankston Hospital experience

**Scientific Poster Prize winners**

**Allied Health**

**First:** Hayley Jefferson and Peter Hough


The accuracy of the pedometer worn at the knee compared to the hip, in measuring step counts for inpatients of a geriatric evaluation and management unit

**Second:** Lisa Hansen

Chao S, Hansen L.

Improving the uptake of influenza vaccination in high risk elderly patients - A pharmacy technician’s role

**Third:** Dr Ashley Webb

Webb A, Robertson N, Sparrow M, Woodman J.

Addressing physical health issues of consumers with mental illness: Knowledge, skills, attitude and confidence of mental health clinicians in performing metabolic monitoring

**Interprofessional**

**First:** Erin Farnbach

Farnbach ER, Dawson P, Phillips J, Woodman J.

Evaluation of nutrition and physical wellbeing in local supported residential care (SRS) facilities

**Second:** Dr Ashley Webb

Webb A, Robertson N, Sparrow M, McCormack L, Connell G.

Stop before the op: Patient knowledge and attitudes to smoking cessation before elective surgery

**Nursing**

**First:** Lee Burrell

Burrell L, Pretty S.

Exploration of the primary care nurses attitudes to caring for a client with a new surgically formed stoma

**Second:** Rosie Cantley-Smith and Bindu Joseph

Cantley-Smith R, Joseph B.

Addressing physical health issues of consumers with mental illness: Knowledge, skills, attitude and confidence of mental health clinicians in performing metabolic monitoring

**Other presentations**

**Allied Health**

Bright SJ, Fink A, Beck J, Singh D.

An Australian version of the Alcohol-Related Problems Survey (ARPS): A comprehensive computerised screening tool for older adults
Celebrating Research 2011

deClifford J, Lam SH, De Groot G, Slater N.
Speak Up – A pilot project

Klaic M, Lunt A.
Interdisciplinary care in stroke rehabilitation

Paton M.
The use of simulation training in physiotherapy

West B, Williams C.
Changes in sensation of the foot in people with long term statin use: A literature review

Williams C, Tinley P, Curtin M.
Is idiopathic toe walking a symptom of sensory processing dysfunction?

Nursing

Cantley-Smith R, Joseph B.
Addressing physical health issues of consumers with mental illness: Knowledge, skills, attitude and confidence of mental health clinicians in performing metabolic monitoring

Shannon M, Foley N.
Review of new technology – Low frequency ultrasonic debridement in wound bed preparation for split skin grafts

Jacob S, Munro I.
The scope of recovery in mental health: A preliminary investigation

Barriers and enablers of research utilization in nursing

Shannon M.
Streamlining negative pressure wound therapy

Registrars

Amarakoon I, Balakrishnan P, Haji K, Carney I, Botha J, Tiruvoipati R.
Prognostic value of cardiac troponin in elective surgical patients

Bhalla V, Gupta S, Haji K, Carney I, Botha J, Tiruvoipati R.
Prognostic value of cardiac troponin in emergency surgical patients

Kheyri K, Jones J, Clarke C, Lynch P.
A review of unexpected outcomes and unplanned interruptions to care in subacute inpatient care units at Peninsula Health from February to June 2011

Kieu V, Mah E, McCombe D, Hunter-Smith D, Penington A, Morrison W.
Reconstruction after breast cancer – Can we improve the abdominal morbidity of deep inferior epigastric perforator (DIEP) free flaps?

Lim V, Hunter-Smith D, Trompf L, Toppi J.
Dupuytren’s contracture: An audit of the outcomes of percutaneous needle fasciotomy (PNF) for Dupuytren’s disease versus open fasciectomy (OF)

Langton D, Flanagan D, Braun G, Mulder J, LeBlanc V.
General practitioner experiences in diagnosing and managing obstructive sleep apnoea

Soon I, Loughnan T, Taverner M.
Transcutaneous application of pulsed radiofrequency treatment for shoulder pain

Students

Andrew C, McMahon K.
Characterising pertussis admissions to the Frankston Hospital Paediatric Unit

Rosengarten P, Dai E, Kemale A, Vaux L, Deutsher M.
Intravenous paracetamol: Should prescribing practice be restricted in the emergency department?

Boonstra T, Ganesan B, Hong J, Shan D, Toppi J, Trompf L, Tiruvoipati R.
Influence of smoking on clinical outcomes in patients admitted to ICU post elective surgery

Boonstra T, Ganesan B, Hong J, Shan D, Toppi J, Trompf L, Tiruvoipati R.
Body mass index and outcomes in elective surgical patients

Leow W, Liu F, Findlay M, Hunter-Smith D.
Managing rare life threatening conditions. A case report and discussion

Liu F, Hunter-Smith D, Findlay M.
There’s melanoma, and then there’s melanoma!

Lim V, Toppi J, Trompf L, Hunter-Smith D.
Dupuytren’s contracture: An audit of the outcomes of surgery

Other posters

Andrew C, McMahon K.
Characterising pertussis admissions to the Frankston Paediatric Department

Ball A, McCabe K.
Low frequency ultrasound debridement in the podiatry setting

Bright SJ.
An Australian Early Intervention Program for Older Adults: Protocol development and preliminary data

Child J.
Community participation at Peninsula Health – A case study

Kane L, Stewart A.
How hard are they working? Measuring the exercise intensity of participants in the Agestrong program (pilot study)
Celebrating Research 2011

Lam A, Kelley PG, Broughton S. The development of a Peninsula Health Antibiogram based on blood culture isolates from 2009-2010

Langton D, Flanagan D, Braun G, Mulder J, LeBlanc V. General practitioner experiences in diagnosing and managing obstructive sleep apnoea

Klaic M, Lunt A. Interdisciplinary care in stroke rehabilitation

Molloy JHM, Pratt NM, Tiruvoipati R, White S, Simms K. Outcomes following a MET call - What happens after we MET?

Morgan D, Aranda S, Currow D, Denehy L. The importance of continued living at end-of-life

Paton M. The use of simulation training in physiotherapy

Pretty S, Moss C, Cant R, O’Brien T, Cross W, Munro I. Barriers and enablers of research utilization in nursing

Rosengarten P, Dai E, Kemale A, Vaux L, Deutsher M. Intravenous paracetamol: Should prescribing practice be restricted in the emergency department?

Shannon M, Foley N, McCabe K, Ball A, Luppino K, Jilbert E. An interdisciplinary approach to the introduction of new technology to acute and community services: Low frequency ultrasonic debridement

Soon I, Loughnan T, Taverner M. Transcutaneous application of pulsed radiofrequency treatment for shoulder pain

Tay A, Yang J. Could Google Translate™ be used to help translation in a hospital setting?

Tay A, Goh L. Measuring the improvement in patient flow by placing a doctor at triage

Varkevisser F. Community circuit training – The next step in stroke rehabilitation


Williams C, Tinley P, Curtin M. Foot and ankle characteristics of children with an idiopathic toe walking gait

Celebrating Research 2012 will take place in November. The program includes the following:

Research @ Grand Round
Wednesday 7 November
Academic Centre
Frankston Hospital

Peninsula Health Research Dinner and Jeremy Anderson Oration
Friday 9 November
Peninsula Country Golf Club
Skye Road, Frankston

Scientific Poster Competition
Monday 12 November – Wednesday 21 November
Frankston Hospital

Interprofessional Research Prize
Tuesday 13 November
Peninsula Clinical School
Frankston Hospital

Registrar Research Prize
Thursday 15 November
Peninsula Clinical School
Frankston Hospital

Student Research Prize
Monday 19 November
Peninsula Clinical School
Frankston Hospital

Best of the Best Research @ Grand Round
Wednesday 21 November
Frankston Hospital

Interprofessional Research Prize
Tuesday 13 November
Peninsula Clinical School
Frankston Hospital

Registrar Research Prize
Thursday 15 November
Peninsula Clinical School
Frankston Hospital

Student Research Prize
Monday 19 November
Peninsula Clinical School
Frankston Hospital

Best of the Best Research @ Grand Round
Wednesday 21 November
Frankston Hospital

Text in bold = presenter or poster coordinator
## Fast facts 2011/12

### During the year a total of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People attended our emergency departments</td>
<td>79,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients were admitted to our hospitals</td>
<td>74,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People were admitted to our hospitals for surgery</td>
<td>15,121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community mental health occasions of care were provided</td>
<td>73,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses of care were provided through Community Health</td>
<td>128,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental courses of care were provided</td>
<td>22,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occasions of service were provided at our various diabetes clinics</td>
<td>2,745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug &amp; alcohol courses of care were provided</td>
<td>1,894</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Each month at Peninsula Health an average of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Babies were born</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (0–16 years) were admitted to our hospitals for treatment</td>
<td>303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (0–16 years) attended our emergency departments</td>
<td>1,253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People attended our emergency departments</td>
<td>6,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People were admitted to hospital from our emergency departments</td>
<td>2,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People were admitted to Frankston Hospital for emergency surgery</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People were admitted to our hospitals for elective surgery</td>
<td>896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescription items were dispensed</td>
<td>7,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X-rays and medical imaging procedures were performed</td>
<td>8,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inpatient rehabilitation treatments were provided</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patients were admitted to our Hospital in the Home service</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital in the Home visits were carried out</td>
<td>875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiac cases were treated</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer treatments were provided</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Acknowledgements

Peninsula Health acknowledges the contribution made by all staff involved in research. The Research Report 2012 showcases a small number of locally initiated projects that have commenced in 2011/12, but recognises the many ongoing clinical trials in departments such as Anaesthesia, Cardiology, Cancer Services, Emergency Medicine, Intensive Care, Mental Health and Thoracic Medicine that have the potential to markedly improve patient care.

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