

**Caboolture and Kilcoy Hospitals and
Woodford Corrections Clinical Directorate**

Research Report

July 2023 - December 2024

**Metro North
Health**



**Queensland
Government**



Metro North Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Land upon which we live, work and walk, and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.

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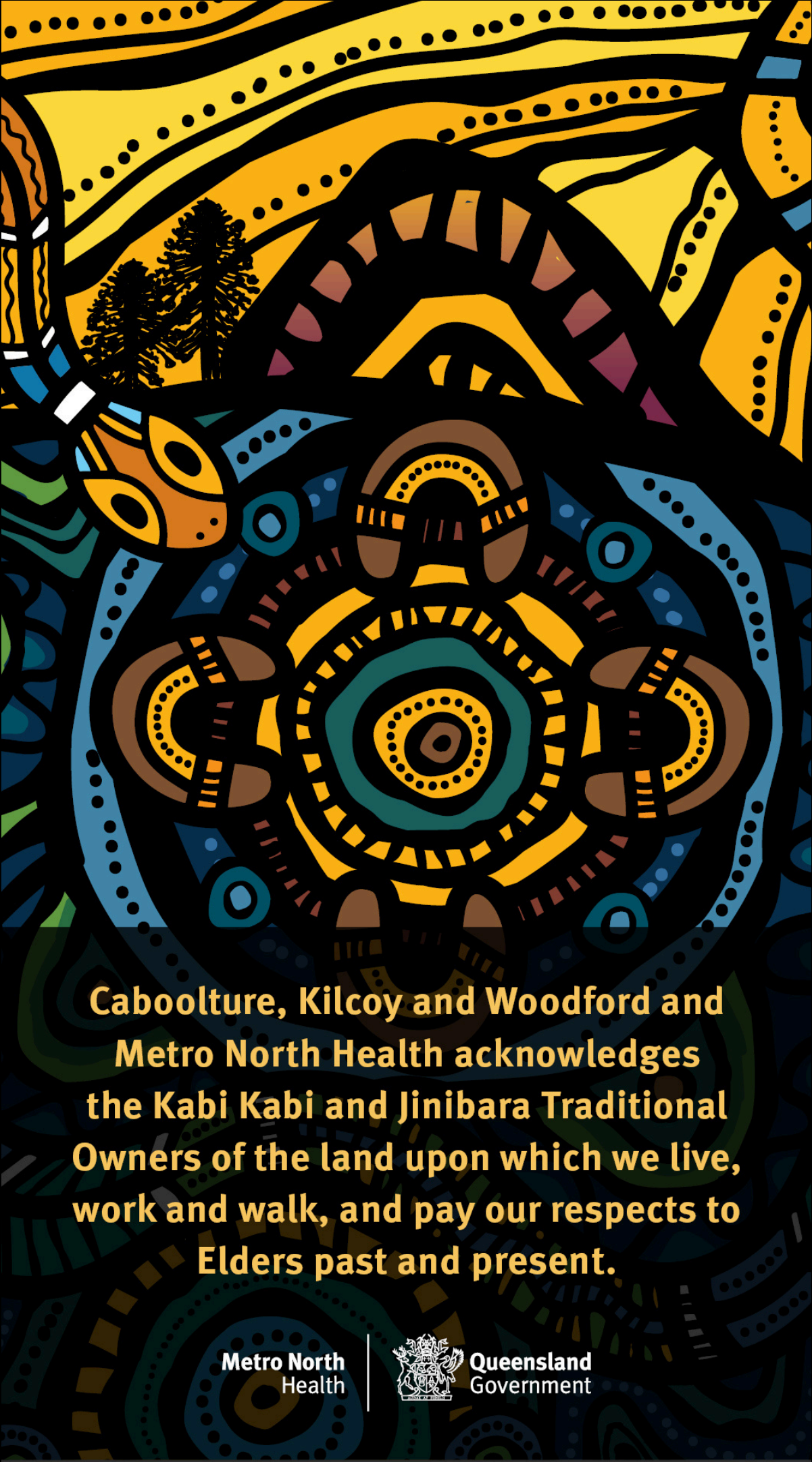
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**Caboolture, Kilcoy and Woodford and
Metro North Health acknowledges
the Kabi Kabi and Jinibara Traditional
Owners of the land upon which we live,
work and walk, and pay our respects to
Elders past and present.**

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Health**



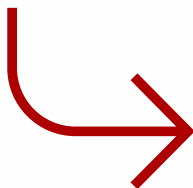
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Key Statistics



41

New approved
research studies

52

Journal articles
published

1

New conjoint
research position
established

8

Health Services
Research Grants
awarded

Over
\$3.6 million
in grant funding

A message from CKW Executive Director

I am pleased to present our 2023/2024 Caboolture, Kilcoy Woodford (CKW) Clinical Directorate research report. This report features our emerging community of researchers and the important fields, milestones and impact our workforce are contributing to improve the care that we can deliver for our community and beyond.

Similar to the 2024 Paris Olympics, research helps to provide the message of hope – that we can do better and stride towards excellence by having the courage and inspiration to be an active participant in continual change.

“ Success in research may look different for each individual journey; however, as Metro North Health (MNH) staff, we are all united in our vision to ‘create healthier futures together.’ ”

Our staff were successful in obtaining \$3.6 million in competitive grant funding which included our second locally-led Medical Research Futures Fund (MRFF) grant.

Our Research Development Unit welcomed the addition of a newly established Nurse Research Fellow Conjoint position, which was kindly supported by our Metro North Health (MNH) Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office and The University of Sunshine Coast.

In this period, we held our annual CKW Research Symposiums in 2023 and 2024. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our presenters, staff and community members who joined us to help showcase the outcomes of our research, where a majority were supported by our university partners. Congratulations to our symposium award winners. I would also like to personally express my sincere gratitude to our keynote speakers, Associate Professor Dylan Flaws (2023) and Professor Claire Rickard (2024) for

inspiring our community of researchers with insights from their research journey – key lessons for all researchers along the research continuum.

After 7 years of our annual MNH Research Excellence Awards, I was very proud that CKW Researcher, Dr Mahesh Ramaman and our Integrated Children's Care Collaborative (Dr Thuy Frakking, Dr Lisa Kane, Ansuyah Padayachee, Annabelle Marozza, Dr Seiji Humphries) won the coveted “Research Support” and “Complex Health Challenges Research” Awards, respectively. These our first wins in any category and it was exciting to see exceptional research support and work recognised by our MNH peers.

Finally, our CKW Clinical Directorate were rated as a “Growing System” when assessed against the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health National Clinical Trials Governance Framework in 2023. This rating accurately reflects our growing research culture and systems. I am looking forward to working with you to continue to build and nurture our research community. I would like to warmly invite you to join or continue with us in our research journey and I hope that this report inspires you to connect with our community of researchers.



Karlene Willcocks

Executive Director,
Caboolture, Kilcoy and
Woodford Clinical Directorate

A message from The Common Good

The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation, through our community initiative The Common Good, is proud to support the growing research community at Caboolture Hospital, Kilcoy Hospital and Woodford Corrections Health.

These sites are home to some of the most dedicated health professionals and emerging researchers, whose work is driving meaningful progress in patient care and health outcomes across the region.

Over the past 18 months, we have invested more than \$350,000 to support this work - providing \$225,000 in general research support to build capacity, and awarding over \$130,000 through The Common Good 2024 Research Grants and matched funding initiatives. With eight grants awarded, many of these projects are already nearing translation - evidence of the real and immediate impact research can have when it's supported at the local level.

We are also delighted to continue our sponsorship of the Caboolture, Kilcoy, and Woodford Directorate Research Symposium, celebrating the incredible work of the dedicated researchers who are committed to sharing their knowledge, fostering collaboration, and continuing to make a positive difference in healthcare.

Beyond research, The Common Good is proud to manage the Caboolture Hospital volunteer program, which has continued to expand since we assumed responsibility in 2022.

Today, more than 40 volunteers contribute over 300 hours each week across 15 areas of the hospital, providing wayfinding, companionship, and practical support that makes a meaningful difference to patients, families, and staff alike.

Earlier this year, the Foundation was honoured to be named Queensland's Philanthropic Foundation of the Year, a recognition of the collective impact we've achieved alongside the dedicated healthcare professionals and communities we serve.

This important work is only possible thanks to the generosity of our supporters - individuals, businesses, and community partners - whose contributions enable us to invest in research, innovation, and programs that benefit this region.

“

To every researcher, clinician, volunteer, and supporter contributing to this work: thank you.

Your commitment and collaboration continue to shape a healthier future for Caboolture and the surrounding communities - and we are proud to stand with you on that journey.

”



Steven Francia

Chief Executive Officer,
The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation
Proudly supporting Caboolture Hospital

Research Development Unit

Research driving health improvements for the community

The CKW Research Development (RDU) is a multidisciplinary team that consists of part-time allied health, lab-based science and nurse research coordinators, research fellows and research officers.

In 2023, our team welcomed Dr Jacqui Peet (Conjoint Nurse Fellow), a newly established position with the University of Sunshine Coast, and Ms Emma Williams (Clinical Trials Nurse, Herston Infectious Diseases Institute | The University of Queensland).

The RDU helps to build research capacity and capability across the CKW clinical directorate through advocacy for additional research support and infrastructure, linkages with academic partners, sharing of research training opportunities, delivery of local research training, and the provision of individualised advice to clinicians on research governance, design, evaluation and dissemination. Various staff from the RDU are also active members of local, state and national research committees/networks that drive advocacy, collaborations and/or infrastructure to support research in healthcare.

Our Team

Adj Assoc Prof Thuy Frakking, Acting Research Director

Dr Louise Purtell, Senior Research Fellow

Dr Andrew Hislop, Acting Research Coordinator

Dr Seiji Humphries, Research Officer

Julia Affleck, Research Officer

Assoc Prof Alison Craswell, Visiting Senior Nursing Fellow | University of Sunshine Coast

Dr Jacqui Peet, Conjoint Nursing Fellow | University of Sunshine Coast

Stacey Watts, Clinical Nurse Research | Emergency Department, Kilcoy and Woodford

Courtney Gittens, Clinical Nurse Research | Emergency Department, Kilcoy and Woodford

Emma Williams, Conjoint Clinical Trials Nurse | CKW Intensive Care & Herston Infectious Diseases Institute



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Metro North Research Excellence Awards

CKW Researchers Shine at Metro North Health Awards Night

Held annually, the Metro North Health Research Excellence Awards are a chance to recognise and reward outstanding achievement in research across all clinical specialities and professions. In 2023, the awards attracted 71 phenomenal submissions and showcased the diverse and far-reaching research projects conducted by individual researchers and teams across Metro North.

Researchers from CKW won an impressive two of only seven awards available. Dr Mahesh Ramanan won the highly competitive Researcher Support Award for his exceptional leadership, mentorship, capacity building and supportive personal approach.

The Integrated Children's Care Collaborative (ICCC), led by Dr Thuy Frakking, took out the Complex Health Challenges Research Award for their pioneering cost-effective integrated care solutions for children with non-complex medical conditions. The ICCC teams consists of CKW staff across many disciplines: Assoc Prof Thuy Frakking, Dr Lisa Kane, Susan McCormick, Dr Seiji Humphries, Alison Burmeister and Anne Padayachee.





Research Support Award **Winner, Dr Mahesh Ramanan**

Dr Mahesh Ramanan provides outstanding research support within Metro North by not only setting the standard for research excellence but also, via his leadership, mentorship, capacity-building, and supportive personal approach, embedding a culture of excellence in Metro North intensive care research. Despite the pressures of being a frontline clinical staff member, especially during the Covid pandemic, Mahesh's research output and support underline his commitment to fostering research and researchers at Caboolture, Kilcoy, Woodford (CKW) and more broadly throughout Metro North.

As a current Metro North Research Fellowship holder, Mahesh leads by example by funding, conducting, and publishing high-quality research. In addition to this influential role, he is greatly respected locally for creating and generously sharing research opportunities with peers and young researchers.



Complex Health Challenges Research **Winner, Integrated Children's Care Collaborative (ICCC)**

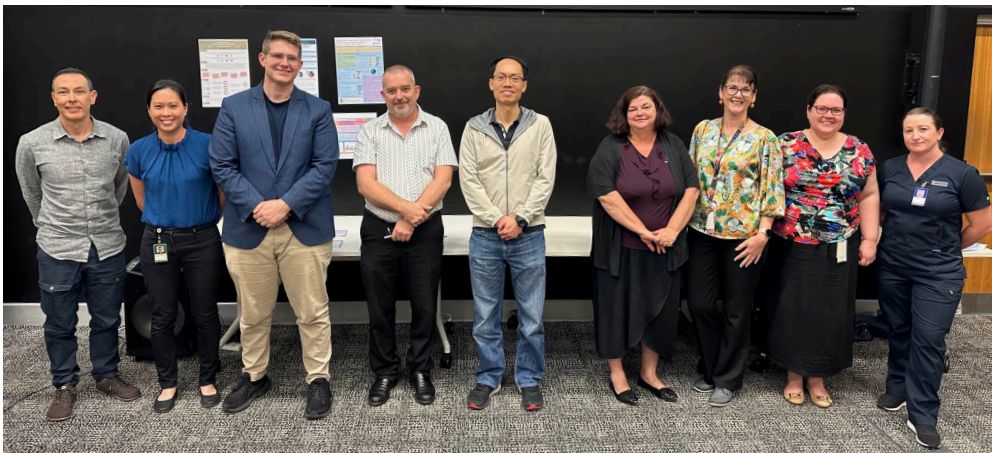
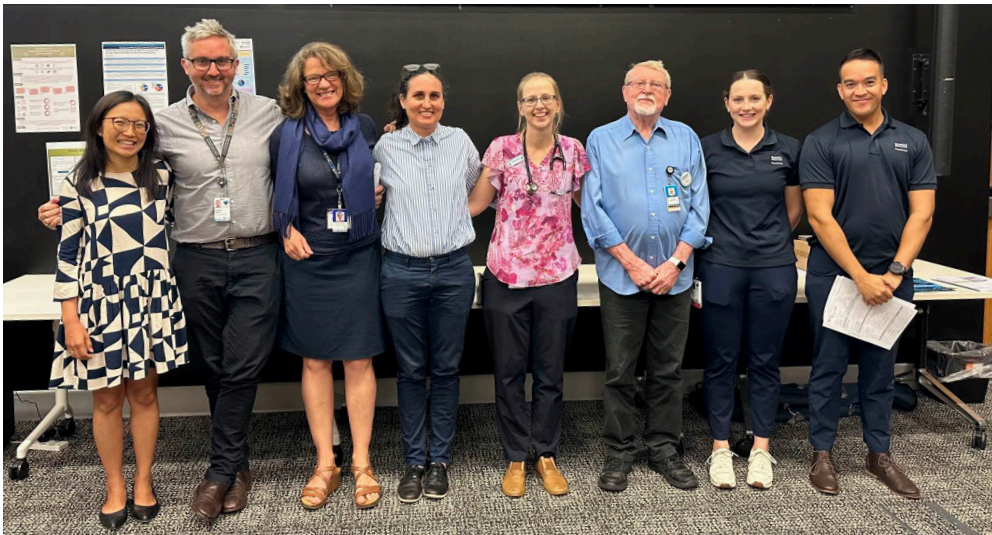
Chronic non-complex medical conditions (non-CMC) [e.g. ADHD, behavioural difficulties] are prevalent and utilise 15-20% of all child healthcare services. Established in 2017, our integrated children's care collaborative (ICCC) consists of multidisciplinary clinicians, executives, and academics across allied health, medicine and nursing. The ICCC partners across university, health, and philanthropic organisations in QLD/NSW/VIC and focuses on pioneering cost-effective integrated care solutions to solve the dilemma of fragmented access to services for children with non-CMC. Better integrated care coordination helps to improve child and family quality of life, and prevent the development of mental health difficulties and adult chronic conditions.

The innovative work of the ICCC has attracted >400K in competitive grants and been recognised in top-ranked journals (JAMA Pediatrics). From 2024, embedding ICCC's model into clinics across Metro North will occur from a combination of health, research and philanthropic funding, annually benefiting 462 children and saving \$465,000 in preventable hospital admissions.

CKW Research Symposium

Since 2021, CKW Hospital has held a local Research Symposium celebrating and promoting our research that is driving health improvements for the CKW community and staff.

Organised by the Research Development Unit and sponsored by The Common Good, these symposiums are an opportunity for researchers to showcase and advocate for CKW-led research across all disciplines.



Top to bottom:
2023 Morning Presenters;
2023 Afternoon Presenters;
2024 Presenters &
CKW Health Research Grant Winners



2023 CKW Research Symposium

The third annual CKW Research Symposium was held on 17th October 2023. The symposium featured 16 oral presentations and five posters across a diverse range of topics that highlighted multidisciplinary collaborations in nursing/midwifery, allied health and medicine.

Highlights included a consumer presentation by Paul Bryden and a keynote presentation by Metro North Mental Health Psychiatrist, Associate Professor Dylan Flaws.

Research Awards

Best Research Presentation	Dr Alison Craswell Caboolture Hospital performance against Australian care standards: A point prevalence study of delirium
Highly Commended Research Presentation	Alana Hogan Understanding nursing assessment of health literacy in hospital context: A qualitative study
Best Quality Improvement Presentation	Dr Sabina Bialkowski Management of type 2 respiratory failure in COPD patients at Caboolture Hospital
Highly Commended Quality Improvement Presentation	Joshua Tussler and Emma Doyle Impact of post-falls huddles on repeat fall rates and safety culture on acute medical wards
Best Novice Researcher	Debbi Sutherland An integrated health and social model of antenatal care for young, vulnerable women: A cohort study of engagement and birth outcome



My journey as a clinician scientist Associate Professor Dylan Flaws

Associate Professor Dylan Flaws is a Psychiatrist who completed an MSc in Psychology during medical school exploring how clinicians measure risk and communicate risk. Later he commenced a PhD exploring the clinical problem of chest pain presentations to emergency departments. He is now focusing his postdoctoral research interests on the physical, cognitive and psychological recovery journey of patients who survive severe illness or injury.



2023 Symposium PHOTOS

Clockwise from top left:
Adj Prof Alanna Geary & Alana Hogan
Paul Bryden (consumer representative);
Adj Prof Alanna Geary & Dr Sabina Bialkowski;
Joshua Tussler & Emma Doyle;
Research Development Unit members



2024 CKW Research Symposium

On 16th October 2024, Professor Claire Rickard, opened the forth annual symposium with a keynote presentation discussing research around intravenous devices, including the appropriate protocols and timeframes for these devices to prevent infection and re-cannulation.

CKW staff then embarked on presentations a breadth of topics that covered patient safety, staff welfare and community trust, culture, falls, electroconvulsive therapy, feeding/nutrition, podcasting for education, prison health, and delirium. This year our judging panel included three consumers and 50% of the 16 presentations were by pharmacy staff highlighting their team’s focus on evidence-based practice and change.

Research Awards

Best Quality Improvement/ Research Project Completed	Belinda Chappell Pillars of team culture: Rx for success with buddy system onboarding
Highly Commended Research/ Quality Improvement Project Completed	Khai Li Ang A retrospective audit for discharge pharmacological management in patients admitted with acute behavioural disturbance
Best Quality Improvement/ Research Project in Progress	Sarah Day & Dr Seiji Humphries Identifying barriers and facilitators to the use of cervical auscultation in detecting aspiration in infants and children
Highly Commended Research/ Quality Improvement Project in Progress	Helen Edwards Menopause in the workplace
Best Novice Investigator	Emma Walker & Jessica Strachan Technician-led interventions to reduce missed medicines doses on medical ward visits



IV Catheters: the obvious place to start for QI or research Professor Claire Rickard

Prof Rickard is a registered nurse and the world’s highest cited researcher for the topics “Phlebitis; Catheters; Cannulas” and “Central Venous Catheters; Catheter Infections; Vascular Access Devices” (SciVal). She founded AVATAR (the Alliance for Vascular Access Teaching and Research) clinical trials network which has members and collaborators worldwide. Prof Rickard has been recognised as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame.



2024 Symposium PHOTOS

Clockwise from top right:
Dr Megan Grace;
Belinda Chappell;
Audience;
Sarah Day & Dr Seiji Humphries;
Jeffery Anderson, Adj Assoc Prof Tuy
Frakking & Karlene Willcocks;
Professor Claire Rickard



Inaugural collaborative grant scheme funds translational research across the care continuum

Sponsored by The Common Good, the inaugural collaborative grants scheme between Caboolture, Kilcoy and Woodford (CKW) and the University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) opened for the first time in 2024. The scheme aims to form collaborations between industry and academia to fast-track translational research that can improve health outcomes for our community. Two \$40K projects were funded which included:

1. Unlocking Precision Healthcare: Tailoring feeding disorder management for culturally diverse children to sustain improvements in health outcomes.

- UniSC Investigators: Dr Laine Chilman
- CKW Investigators: Tracy Grant & Assoc Prof Thuy Frakking

This research will embed the perspectives and needs of clinicians and families from culturally diverse backgrounds to adapt an evidence-based caregiver coaching intervention, Occupational Performance Coaching (OPC) to support healthy feeding outcomes in children and reduce fail to attend rates when accessing paediatric feeding clinics at Caboolture Hospital.

2. PEripheral intravenous device sElection and insertion by a vasculaR access specialist: a randomised controlled trial and embedded feasibility study: The PEER study.

- UniSC Investigators: Assoc Prof Alison Craswell, Naomi Howell
- CKW Investigators: Jeff Anderson, Colleen Hermann & Vanessa Smith

The PEER study has met feasibility criteria to move to a large, adequately powered, RCT comparing the clinical effectiveness of intravenous device selection and insertion by a vascular access specialist (VAS) with standard practice. The outcomes from this research will determine the effectiveness of a VAS service and estimate the cost savings to be made for Caboolture Hospital.

“

This partnership with UniSC was a fantastic opportunity to connect our brightest clinician researchers with academic experts from our Moreton Bay region. The funded projects align with our current Metro North Health Equity Strategy and Research Strategy and I look forward to seeing both project teams continue to build their collaborations beyond this scheme.

Karlene Willcocks,
CKW Executive Director

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Supporting this scheme means that UniSC can also foster the career development of early career researchers like Dr Chilman and ensure that she builds a track record with outcomes that directly improve care for our community.

Prof Tony Perkins,
Foundation Dean, School of Health,
University of Sunshine Coast (UniSC)

”



Left to right: Dr Seiji Humphries,
Annabelle Marozza, Dr Laine Chilman,
Tracy Grant &

Consumer voices in research: Caboolture, Kilcoy and Woodford Clinical Directorate (CKW) Consumer Network

The CKW Consumer Network has been active in the directorate for over ten years, helping to shape local policy and service delivery. Since 2023, members have also supported researchers to embed consumer engagement at all steps of the research journey.

The Network works closely with the CKW Research Development Unit, individual researchers and research teams across diverse clinical areas such as falls prevention, caregiver wellbeing, menopause, patient safety and intensive care.

The partnership provides invaluable insights into research design, implementation and evaluation and helps researchers conduct more inclusive and culturally safe research.

The Network meets monthly and is allocated a dedicated research slot each

month where a researcher presents ideas, provides background and seeks feedback from all consumer members.

In network meetings researchers are invited as guests into a consumer space where consumers greatly outnumber researchers. This empowers consumer members to strongly challenge researchers' preconceptions and their proposed ideas and methodologies.

Incorporating diverse consumer perspectives, particularly from underrepresented groups such as First Nations people, carers and older adults, the Network ensures that research is not only of high scientific quality but also respects cultural and social nuances. This inclusive, co-designed approach has become a gold standard at CKW, fostering a research environment that prioritises patient safety, innovation and health equity.



CKW Consumer Network -
August 2025 meeting

Day in the life of a Clinical Research Nurse - Stacey Watts

Stacey Watts, Clinical Research Nurse, has been leading the coordination of many high-quality research projects in the Emergency Department within the CKW Clinical Directorate since 2020.

Stacey has been central in building research capacity and capability within CKW Emergency and Critical Care for nursing and medical professionals. We sat down with Stacey and discussed her experiences as a Clinical Research Nurse.

What does a typical day look like for a Clinical Research Nurse in the Emergency Department?

In keeping with nursing shift times, I am on-site from 7am scouring for patients that might be eligible for enrolment in our trials, and the day progresses from there.

Day-to-day, I am responsible for the co-ordination and conduct of the various clinical trials and research studies happening within our service line. The tasks vary from being very patient focused - screening, recruiting and consenting eligible participants, collecting data, undertaking participant follow-ups – to being heavily administrative – writing and reviewing research protocols, grants, manuscripts and ensuring all ethical and research governance reporting and requirements are met.

I also do a lot of talking - to clinicians, consumers and research colleagues. Meeting with participants to provide support and education to them and their support networks, meeting with clinicians interested in developing a research question, discussing current and upcoming projects and undertaking education with staff, meeting with study investigators and co-ordinators from

other sites, participating in compliance monitoring with trial sponsors, budget planning with business managers, facilitating clinical trial fluid deliveries with pharmacy or the hospital dock manager – the list is honestly endless. The Clinical Research Nurse (CRN) role is undoubtedly a specialised role, and a great example of how diverse nursing roles can be.

How did you get started in research?

My nursing background is in ICU, but after 14 years, I was ready for a change. A clinical research nurse role meant I could utilise my clinical knowledge, maintain a focus on providing safe, quality care and still contribute to improving patient outcomes, but without the burden of shiftwork. I commenced in a temporary CRN role in ICU, working under the guidance of Professor Fiona Coyer, and then found a permanent home in the Caboolture ED, so still critical care, but the other end of the spectrum.

What do you enjoy about working at CKW? What aspects are challenging for you?

Both the ED and the research teams I am part of are a lot of fun – I enjoy coming to work.

I also enjoy hearing research participants commend the care they received at this facility – research follow-up is an under recognised and underrated service.

A challenge is – not being able to handover! As a nurse, you know after 8 or 12 hours, you can hand any issues to the next shift and it will be taken care of, whereas whatever problems I leave on my desk when I leave are still waiting for me when I come back.

What've been some key highlights in your career in the past 4 years? How has your role evolved over the past 4 years?

Successful grants and academic publications are a research key performance indicator, and while they are certainly nice recognition and reward for a lot of hard work, my highlights are probably permanency of my role – which is not the norm when it comes to research positions, and my contribution to research capacity building through long-term contracts for two ED nurses who have had the opportunity to act in the CRN role, thanks to research grant funding.

What is your work life balance like?

It is just right. A day-shift role is a game changer, and with any free time currently spent on junior sport sidelines with my two kids, part-time work is best for me. It is great to have the ability to do an extra day or two as I can though, during busy periods or when extra funding comes in from different projects we have taken on. I also have an emotionally dependent 5 yr old Cavoodle, who would not approve a full-time gig.

What advice would you give to staff interested in research?

Always ask the question. There are more resources available to researchers across our health and hospital service than ever before, you just have to know where to find them. So of course, link in with your friendly CRN and they will lead you in the right direction.

Bottom left: Max Watts

Bottom right: Stacey Watts, Clinical Research Nurse (ED) and
Courtney Gittens, Clinical Research Nurse (ED)





Research across continents

Experience on a Professional Development Program in Canada (August to December 2024)

Each year the University of the Sunshine Coast provides limited funding to support a researcher through a competitive opportunity to travel nationally or internationally to experience different research cultures working with other research teams. It aims to develop the applicant through immersion in a project and give them opportunity to collaborate with international teams and opportunities not available locally.

In 2024, Assoc Professor Alison Craswell, Conjoint Senior Research Fellow (CKW & UniSc), was selected to receive this competitive opportunity and subsequently spent three months collaborating with researchers on the other side of the world.



“

In collaboration with nursing clinicians at CKW, we identified a gap for older adults in the wider Caboolture community.

Nurse Navigators work hard caring mainly for people with chronic disease, cancer and dementia but have heavy caseloads, don't get to see everyone, experience stress and just can't do it all.

Older adults are often living alone, socially isolated and struggle with transitioning out of hospital and navigating services to meet their needs, in particular MyAgedCare platform.

One day in 2023, we discussed how volunteers might be able to help.

”

Nav-CARE (Navigation: Connecting, Accessing, Resourcing, and Engaging) is a volunteer-led intervention designed to support older adults living with chronic or serious illnesses by connecting them to community resources, providing social support, and enhancing their quality of life.

Developed at the Universities of Alberta and British Columbia, Nav-CARE has been evaluated in several settings and is implemented in a variety of settings across Canada.

Alison and her team in Canada re-defined the model for their community, recruiting and training volunteers to work with transition care older adults to assist them to get the resources they need to support them to transition to their place of choice, be that home, supported care or aged care.

"I was able to see the relationships a 'Connectors', the term volunteer navigators used to describe themselves, had developed with older adults firsthand," Alison said.

Through the developed collaborations, they plan to explore opportunities to pilot a Connector model in the Caboolture community in collaboration with a not-for-profit organisation committed to social prescribing.



Nav-CARE Team, Alberta Canada
Assoc Prof Alison Craswell (far right)

Research staff in the news

Putting Caboolture on international map

Story originally published in Moreton Daily in October 2024

Words by Nick Crockford - Included with permission by Moreton Daily

Emma Williams is helping to put Caboolture Hospital on the international research map.

As Caboolture's first dedicated clinical trials nurse, Emma will co-ordinate medical trials and research projects. These will develop research clinicians and get Caboolture in large international research projects to improve treatment options for the local community.

The role was created with collaborative support from Herston Infectious Diseases Institute (HeIDI) and Caboolture Hospital's Intensive Care and Surgical stream.

"It's really exciting and a passion for me," said Emma, a former "bedside" ICU nurse whose Masters in Nursing started with a research component.

"Coming up with an idea for a research project and the steps involved ignited something in me. Now being able to contribute to how we deliver patient care and improve it is amazing."

Her aim is to "find the prevalent issues" in Caboolture Hospital, what concerns the community, do research to improve it and "translate that research into practice."



Emma Williams

Research staff in the news

"I primarily came on to help senior consultants with huge clinical trials they are trying to undertake, so we can bring more trials to the hospital," said Emma.

Caboolture already collaborates with other hospitals, the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care research group and The George Institute.

"They are able to send research projects to us and help fund them which give us the resources we need," said Emma, "We'll run a lot of larger clinical trials, so there will be international multi-centred clinical trials specifically with ICU.


"We've got one coming on introducing a new drug, widely researched and implemented in America, which hasn't come over here yet. By participating in these trials we are able to get access and bring that to our community ... which is an amazing feat."

Emma has been a nurse for eight years, "starting rurally" before moving to Caboolture Hospital's ICU four years ago and has now taken "a big step into research". Her future goals include starting a PhD.

"The importance of research is being able to provide our patients with evidence-based best practice, guiding and shaping it," Emma said.

"At the moment, I'm helping facilitate and co-ordinate and will then try to start research projects. I'll aim to do more locally and look at local issues. I've been to consumer engagement meetings, to present our research, and that has been so beneficial."





Helen Edwards, Clinical Lead Physiotherapist

Caboolture Hospital Physiotherapist, Helen Edwards, is researching the effects of menopause for women in the workplace. Helen's research is focusing on work engagement and staff retention for the high proportion of workers who may be impacted by menopause transition. A PhD candidate and CKW Health Services Grant recipient, Helen spoke with us about her experiences as a clinician researcher.

Can you tell us about yourself and how you became interested in research?

My road into research was not part of my career plan, more of a stumbling onto a new path. I have worked at Caboolture Hospital for over 25 years mostly as a Clinical Lead Pelvic Health Physiotherapist in the areas of maternity and gynaecology. This involves working with patients who are struggling with bladder, bowel, vaginal or sexual health concerns. These pelvic health issues have significant impacts on women's personal lives as well as their ability to work.

Back in 2017, I came across research on the impact of urinary incontinence on midwives and how it affected their ability to work.

I started to think about the bigger picture and how this wouldn't just be impacting midwives and incontinence wouldn't be the only female health issue that may also be concerning staff. I was also aware of the significant changes happening in the UK and Ireland around menopause in the workplace.

Unfortunately, working clinically there are high clinical demands so for a few years the project sat on the to do list.

In 2023 CAHRLI (Collaborative For Allied Health Research, Learning and Innovation) offered a Pre Research Higher Degree Scholarship (backfill to develop an application to university to undertake a Masters or PhD).

I decided that this was my opportunity to get the ball rolling and develop the project - not necessarily thinking about all the implications of a research higher degree!

My application was successful and in 2024 I was enrolled at the University of the Sunshine Coast taking my first baby steps on the long road to a PhD.

What has your experience been like with grant writing?

Grant writing is a skill I am having to develop to be able to access funding to keep the project moving forwards.

“

This led me to the question around how different symptoms of menopause may be impacting our staff, how this may be impacting patient care at CKW and what support is available around menopause.

”

It does take a lot of time, planning and coordination and can also feel frustrating particularly when there are other competing project tasks that need to be completed or when you get an unsuccessful letter back. However, I have had great support from the Research Development Unit to help with developing the skills needed to complete applications.

The feedback provided from any unsuccessful applications has also helped with improving subsequent applications. In 2024, my application for a Health Research Grant through The Common Good was successful.

How has the grant supported you to make a difference?

The Common Good support over the last 12 months has allowed me to undertake the first phase of the Pause for Menopause project – Asking the Questions: Exploring the experiences of menopause at Caboolture, Kilcoy, Woodford Health Directorate (CKW).

This commenced with developing a consumer informed questionnaire for all staff across CKW (including Woodford Health Service and Bribie Island/ Caboolture Satellite Health Centres) followed by ethics applications and then distribution of the survey.

The survey explored the attitudes, understanding and culture around menopause at CKW and for staff identifying as female at birth, sought to understand which menopause related symptoms they find more bothersome in the workplace.

It also explored whether menopause related symptoms are associated with burnout, affect patient care or are associated with the intention to change jobs or leave the workforce.

The survey was distributed across CKW from December 2024 to February 2025. Over 400 staff participated in the project and there was strong support expressed from staff in being involved with future stages of the project.

The remainder of the funding is currently being used for data analysis – this includes both qualitative and quantitative information. Data analysis has been another steep learning curve with lots of new skills needed to interpret the information.

“

The staff's experience of menopause in the workplace that is emerging from the data is making all the work that has gone into this journey so far very worthwhile.

”

Where to next?

My next step is to continue my grant writing journey for further funding to take a deeper dive into the experience of menopause at CKW.

Initially this will involve exploring some of the themes that have been highlighted in the survey with focus groups (phase 2 – Lets Talk: Menopause at work), and then to codesign possible solutions to support the experience of menopause for women at CKW (phase 3 – Lets Work Together: Developing Solutions to support the experience of menopause for women at CKW).

The overall aim is to improve women's long-term health, positively impact patient care, and improve work capacity and performance by supporting women's experience of menopause transition at CKW.

What have I learned?

So far on my research journey I have learned that it takes time, patience and a consistent work ethic to keep the project moving forwards. It also requires the ability to project manage with each of the steps on the way, to be able to listen and take on board the insights from different stakeholders, lots of passion for your subject and not to give up if you get a setback but look on it as an opportunity to reflect and move on.

I would like to express my thanks to CAHRLI and The Common Good for supporting me with initiating and undertaking the first stage of this project. I am very grateful to be in the position of being able to communicate on behalf of the CKW staff their experience around menopause in the workplace to the CKW community and beyond over the next few months.



Helen Edwards



Aletta Cowen, Emergency Department Nurse Practitioner

In a first for Caboolture Hospital's Emergency Department (ED), a research project led by Nurse Practitioners (NPs) and the University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) researchers has developed a clinical guideline supporting NPs to independently request CT scans for patients with minor trauma and infections, including older adults. The project, funded by a CKW Health Services Grant, highlights the advanced clinical capabilities of NPs and their critical role in improving patient care and Emergency Department efficiency. We talked with Caboolture Hospital NP Aletta Cowen about her project.

Please give a brief introduction about yourself.

I have been a dedicated ED nurse for 23 out of 24 years in my career. For the past 6 years this has been as an ED and primary health/community NP.

I have worked and travelled over many parts of Australia with highlights and had very interesting work experiences in the Pilbara and Alice Springs. This was an inadvertent decision made 18 years ago to come work/travel for a year in Australia, but I never went back to NZ. The opportunities for health care delivery in Australia were too enticing to leave, so this is now home and I can include being a proud mum to 3 busy children nowadays.

One of my girls tells me she wants to follow in nursing footsteps because she loves some of the stories of adventure I have been able to share.

For those who work in the ED environment I think we possess an element of inner thrill-seeking behaviour for an adrenaline rush to anticipate the unexpected and then work cohesively when the going gets tough. Once upon a time I started my emergency career as a volunteer fire fighter in a rural community setting so this meant attending all kinds of emergencies. I also ticked off sky diving from my bucket list in the outback. My outside of work passions include exercising.

I don't do sitting still very well or for very long so I need to keep the variety alive with being physical. It has become a wonderful social network, good for my mental health, sleep routines and overall health integrity. I try to practise what I preach with consideration in holistic wellbeing and the way in which I practise.

I have been asked what else would I do if it was not nursing and there is no other answer. I feel professionally fulfilled as a NP working largely independently and love to feel like I can make a positive difference during often vulnerable times of a person's life. I want to create a positive impression for those I get to care for, in the past, present and future.

Was this your first research grant? If so, what was the process like?

Yes, this was my first research grant. It was a straightforward process, in fact it has probably been the least complicated part of the project.

What been your experience with grant writing?

This was my first ever grant experience. This was largely assisted by the project's supporting team and Research Development team (RDU) to guide our way through the process with valuable advice and know-how.

I was not aware of research grants until our local team suggested how funds could be utilised as it can be challenging to access non-clinical time to dedicate to research/ project commitments.

How will the grant support you to make a difference?

Originally the funds were going to assist with pre and post-trial data collection but when creating the guideline, it was realised that pre data collection could be waived and this altered the direction of the project.

“

Therefore, the grant has enabled a new clinical guideline to be developed utilising NP scope and to support patient flow and patient experience within the ED and research and evaluate the process.

”

I was also able to share this research at the Nursing and Midwifery Research Showcase at RBWH in 2024 as a poster presentation.

Please describe the research funded by the grant?

This project focused on the advanced skills and capabilities of NPs in streamlining flow and improving patient care in the ED at Caboolture Hospital within the adult population.

Using a consensus methodology, our aim was to reach stakeholder agreement on expanding the NP role through the development of a guideline for requesting CT scans for patients with minor trauma. This was undertaken through 2 phases. Phase 1 explored a detailed review and synthesis of the research evidence which was distributed to the stakeholders. Phase 2 included a face-to-face consensus meeting which enabled the expert panel to discuss concerns, seek clarification and receive

guidance from the hospital quality and safety representative.

The project was led by Caboolture ED NPs in collaboration with UniSC researcher and emergency department conjoint Associate Professor Alison Craswell, UniSC Nursing Lecturer Dr Jacqui Peet, and Caboolture Hospital Clinical Research Nurse Stacey Watts.

Where is your project up to now?

This project has been a work in progress with the concept beginning at the rise of the COVID-19 epidemic. Due to the numerous difficulties this unique universal health crisis brought, along with a shift in our NP group, the project naturally evolved in a slightly different direction than first anticipated. I am the remaining NP that meets criteria stipulated on the guideline.

Fortunately, the NP group had already fortuitously cemented a solid reputation within the ED treating clinician team which has meant that the project has continued to survive all the obstacles and has continued to be supported by the key stakeholders. The guideline is now in its final stages awaiting endorsement by the ED Nursing Director.

What have been some highlights in your research journey to date?

There have been many! But the top 2 have to be:

1) I sincerely enjoyed CKW Research Symposium the Nursing and Midwifery Research Showcase at RBWH where health professionals across Metro North shared their research projects, updates and journeys. Throughout the day I surprised myself with how involved I felt in listening to each presentation. The day inspired me to think about future areas of interest that I would love to explore in the research world. I would also like to be able to publish a case study eventually.

2) I feel honoured that throughout the highs and lows of this research project there has been never-ending, tremendous support that I have received from the university researchers in the team, our local Research Development Unit support team and my senior medical colleagues.

What do you hope for your research in the future, post project?

On a local level, my hope is that this guideline receives approval and would be piloted at Caboolture and then could be expanded into other MN ED facilities for ED NPs to utilise. Data collection and a report on the effectiveness of the guideline is planned.

Being my first proper experience in the research journey it has been a massive learning experience and I've needed plenty of guidance.

I will continue to move forward with implementing the guideline once endorsed. On a separate note, I would love to be able to publish a case study one day. I am definitely open to other projects if an opportunity was to come my way.

What tips have you learned in this process?

Research is complex and it can take time. Speaking from personal experience I say 'unfortunately' this means you have to be patient at times, because I'm not so good with being patient. But the key thing is not to give up. There have definitely been times when it felt the project was in the 'too hard basket', but the supporting team resisted and kept going with gentle pushing and suggestions of next step progression, which I am very much grateful for.



Aletta Cowen

Emma Doyle & Joshua Tussler, Physiotherapists

Physiotherapy clinicians and New Investigator Common Good grant recipients, Emma Doyle and Joshua Tussler, undertook a study monitoring the implementation of falls huddles across Caboolture and Kilcoy Hospitals. We sat down with Joshua and Emma to reflect on their experience as novice researchers.

Please give a brief introduction about yourself.

Josh: I am a Senior Physiotherapist working at Caboolture Hospital. I support junior physiotherapists across acute medical wards in the hospital and my clinical interests are cardiorespiratory and high acuity complex care. My current research focus is around a falls prevention initiative in the form of multidisciplinary falls huddles.

Emma: I am a rotational physiotherapist, originally at Caboolture Hospital but have since transitioned to Sunshine Coast Health. I work across all areas of physiotherapy, but am predominantly interested in acute inpatients and musculoskeletal outpatients. My research focus is also around a falls prevention initiative in the form of multidisciplinary falls huddles.

Was this your first research grant? If so, what was the process like?

This was our first grant. The process seemed a bit daunting with the submission requirements but our research advisor Dr Andrew Hislop was fantastic in mentoring and guiding us in writing it and getting it submitted.

What has been your experience with grant writing?

It was a huge learning curve. Definitely required a lot of time and attention to detail. It became achievable by breaking it up into smaller sections and sharing the workload between Andrew and both of us. 3 heads are always better than 1 and are critical for cross-referencing and ensuring accuracy and consistency for submission.

How will the grant support you to make a difference?

It allowed us to complete our research to see patient and staff engagement with the implementation of our hospital wide falls prevention tool. This will hopefully ensure a reasoned approach in regards to its implementation, inform future revisions and ultimately support best practice, evidence based patient care to optimise outcomes.

Please describe the research funded by the grant?

The research allowed us under the supervision of Dr Andrew Hislop to undertake survey design, collecting survey data, data analysis, synthesis and analysis of the data and finally preparation of a manuscript with clinical recommendations.

Where is your project up to now?

We have just finished our written manuscript and are seeking publication with a reputable journal. Towards this end we are seeking further grant funding but in the meantime continue ticking our research over with Andrew presenting on our research project at the Australian Physiotherapy Association conference in Adelaide which is a fantastic opportunity to highlight our research on the national stage and we will be presenting at the local CKW research symposium in September.

What have been some highlights in your research journey to date?

So many! Highlights include:

- Having the opportunity to present the falls huddle project at CKW research symposium in 2023 and 2024
- Presenting our research at the Queensland Health Research Excellence Showcase 2025.
- We have improved our public speaking and our ability to speak to different stakeholder groups including hospital executives, consumer focus groups and senior clinicians
- Achieving grant funding through The Common Good novice researcher grant to fund our research until present
- Completing our draft manuscript!

“Research helps change your critical and analytical thinking and skills and will make you a better clinician.”

Left to right: Adj Prof Alanna Geary, Joshua Tussler and Emma Doyle

What do you hope for your research in the future, post project?

Our hope is to continue our research and use its findings to inform falls prevention in the hospital setting and falls huddle education and training purposes and implementation.

We also hope to continue learning more skills on pathways toward becoming clinician researchers on our journey started by Andrew.

What tips have you learned in this process?

Time management and prioritisation is a must with so many deadlines, things to get done and competing priorities.

We were blessed with a team that worked well together and that allowed us to work to each other's strengths, share the workload and communicate well to achieve what we have.

We are thankful to the Caboolture Research Development Unit for the support and learning opportunities we have had and we are excited for whatever the next step looks like!



Dr Prashanti Marella, Intensive Care Unit Consultant

Bridging Expertise and Insight: An Intensivist and first time grant winner, Dr Prashanti Marella's Experience in Grant Writing and Consumer-Focused Research

Please give a brief introduction about yourself.

I am in a dual role of ICU Consultant and a researcher; I'm dedicated to utilising my clinical experience to explore pragmatic and holistic research outcomes in critical care.

My research focuses on evaluating and developing patient centred outcomes such as measuring and understanding survivorship after critical illness.

This will lead to validation of a database linked outcome for measuring and reporting in critical care literature.

Was this your first research grant? If so, what was the process like?

The project I envisaged required grant support and as I was scoping for resources, I came across the CKW Health Research Grant 2024.

This was my first experience at preparing an effective grant application to give wings to my project.

The protocol for the project had undergone innumerable iterations as with any research project, with mostly spending my days reviewing literature and refining before it evolved into the final document.

What has been your experience with grant writing?

The process of grant writing has been quite a learning experience from honing my skills to craft a project with robust methodology citing clear goals and objectives. It also gave me an opportunity to create everlasting collaborations with expert external partners.

How will the grant support you to make a difference?

The CKW Health research grant gave me the ability to reach out to consumers who have survived ICU and offer them a safe, comfortable space to share their experience and offer their insights.

Being able to offer them a small token of our gratitude in compensation for their time and efforts was hugely beneficial as was having the right team to organise and guide these focus groups. None of this would have been possible without the support of the CKW Health Services Grant.

Please describe the research funded by the grant?

The consumer focus groups gave an opportunity to meet the ICU survivors and explore what survivorship meant to them and how we can measure this outcome using database linkages in critical care studies.

The response was simply astounding, and I had glimpses into their happy moments of survival and some moments of despair and vulnerability.

It was a heartening experience to interact with them and heralded a change in the way I discuss ICU stay and the aftermath with patients and families now.

The grant funding allowed for an experienced team to coordinate these focus groups ensuring the consumers had adequate supports if required, transport, a safe and comfortable location and compensation for their time and efforts in joining us. This face-to-face interaction was invaluable.

Where is your project up to now?

This project has completed data collection, and the manuscript is underway!

What have been some highlights in your research journey to date?

The focus groups will remain the highlight of my research career for they gave me an opportunity to meet patients, some of whom I had pondered what had happened to them after leaving my care in ICU.

Little did I realise that someday I would talk to them about their journey through ICU, hospital into community (home!!).

What do you hope for your research in the future, post project?

This research will pave the way to a population cohort study and a few other projects that will help establish a database linked patient centred metric that explores both survival and survivorship after critical illness.

What tips have you learned in this process?

As a successful grant recipient, I express my gratitude to see this project coming to fruition. An enthused research project management team with expertise (consumer engagement team in my case) is the best thing to have happened to my project.

Dr Prashanti Marella (second from right)



Funding the future of diabetic ketoacidosis therapy

\$1.6 million Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) Clinical Trials Activity grant

Dr Mahesh Ramanan, a CKW Intensivist and Metro North Health Clinician Research Fellow was successful in a Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) Clinical Trials Activity grant of \$1.6 million – CKW's largest research grant in history. As Chief Investigator, Dr Ramanan will lead a team of clinicians and academics across Queensland and New South Wales to determine which fluid (saline vs Plasma-Lyte 148) therapy is most effective for patients presenting with diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA, a life-threatening complication of diabetes in which the body produces excess blood acids known as ketones).

Dr Ramanan's success is a testimony to his experiences as a frontline clinician, persistence as an early career researcher and internal belief that we can do better for our patients. We sat down with Dr Ramanan for an interview, with a hope that his story will help to inspire our research community to strive for better.

How did you come up with the idea for the DKA study?

DKA is a unique condition where most patients are severely dehydrated at admission and needs lots of intravenous fluids. It was somewhat surprising that more research had not already been done on this condition, and the evidence cited in DKA guidelines was mostly of low-quality and outdated.

There are about 7000 hospital admissions with DKA every year in Australia, and lower socioeconomic status areas such as CKW are disproportionately affected.

With all of this in mind, my research mentor (Prof Bala Venkatesh) and I designed and conducted the SCOPE-DKA trial, which was a Phase-2 trial comparing Plasmalyte and Saline (2 of the commonly used fluids in DKA). This trial provided us with crucial information and trends (towards better outcomes with Plasma-Lyte) that helped us design the BEST-DKA trial.

What is DKA and what could this mean for our community?

DKA is a common acute complication of diabetes and can be life-threatening if not promptly treated. It can commonly be triggered by minor (or major) infections, missing insulin doses, heart attacks and dehydration.

It occurs more commonly in communities like CKW (compared to inner city areas) and in rural/remote regions. DKA leads to hospitalisations, ICU admissions and days lost from work and study (most DKA patients are young, with an average age at presentation of ~40-50). Much of this could be avoided or reduced with an appropriate suite of strategies.

Tell us about your funding journey. Were you successful in funding initially?

No. Our first attempt at a NHMRC Clinical Trials grant was unsuccessful. However, we knew that we had an important clinical question to answer, and so we persevered.

You mentioned “persevered” how many attempts was this in reality?

The second major application was for a MRFF Clinical Trial Activity grant which we received in late 2023!

We also subsequently received smaller grants from Diabetes Australia, \$40K Emergency Medicine Foundation, \$165K and Baxter Healthcare, \$300K.

How has the MRFF grant helped you with progressing this project after the smaller grants from other funders? Where is the project up to now?

The MRFF grant ensured that we could offer a decent per patient payment, which means that we could attract high recruiting sites. In fact, we have a

waiting list, and have turned down international collaborators from New Zealand. The trial is about halfway through recruitment, with numbers slightly higher than projected. We are on track for a June 2026 finish date.

What were some enablers at CKW that have helped you with this study?

We have a lot of diabetic patients, some of whom unfortunately end up getting DKA. Patients have been uniformly enthusiastic for us to perform this trial.

Because we see lots of DKA patients, staff are also motivated to recruit patients into this trial. Particularly in the ED, with Stacey’s leadership, BEST-DKA continues to recruit above expectations at CKW.



“Come up with a good idea, be certain about the science and the rationale behind the study, and then stand by your research.

Persevere.”



Left to right:
Dr Mahesh Ramanan, Emma Williams,
April Hatt & Stacey Watts

First DKA Fluid Delivery

Parents' and Speech Pathologists' voices take centre stage

The important perspectives of parents and speech pathologists are being explored by a new study that continues the exciting progress of world-leading CKW-based research into identifying swallowing problems in children.

The latest study, led by Adj Assoc Prof Thuy Frakking, uses qualitative interviews to investigate the experiences of these two groups, who are central to how a diagnosis of swallowing problems, including aspiration (entry of food/fluids into the airway), is made.

The team have already proven that listening to swallow and breath sounds using a stethoscope or microphone – a technique called cervical auscultation (CA) – has high diagnostic accuracy when compared to the traditional techniques used by speech pathologists.

“But CA is not routinely used in clinical practice to assess aspiration in this patient group, despite its accuracy,” Adj Assoc Prof Frakking said.

“On the other hand, those assessments that are commonly used, such as video x-ray swallow studies, are expensive, limited to tertiary hospitals, and involve radiation exposure.”

The team hope to uncover what factors are facilitating or standing in the way of the adoption of CA in clinical practice. These findings will help the development of knowledge translation approaches aimed at increasing adoption of CA.



Caboolture Hospital Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP) performing cervical auscultation

The team hope to uncover what factors are facilitating or standing in the way of the adoption of CA in clinical practice. These findings will help the development of knowledge translation approaches aimed at increasing adoption of CA.

Data collection for participating speech pathologists across a variety of Australian sites has been completed, which included some of our local CKW speech pathologists (pictured below). Interviews with caregivers will be finalised early in 2025.

Highlighting the need and potential impact of this research, CKW study investigators Dr Humphries and Ms Sarah Day (Director of Speech Pathology & Audiology) were awarded the “Best 5-minute presentation award” at the 2024 CKW Research Symposium (see page 14).

The project research team comprises of a multidisciplinary team of clinicians and academics applying their expertise towards identifying barriers and facilitators to the use of CA:

- Adj Assoc Prof Thuy Fracking (Caboolture Hospital)
- Prof Anne Chang (QUT)
- Prof Michael David (M&M Statistical Consulting)
- Dr Steven James, (UniSC)
- Ms Sarah Day (Caboolture Hospital) and
- Dr Seiji Humphries (Caboolture Hospital)

“

Caregivers often report experiencing many challenges in caring for children with swallowing problems, including the time, expense and stress involved in attending a tertiary hospital to access current assessments.

Some also report that video X-rays do not accurately represent their child’s feeding skills at home. Thus, making CA available within a home environment has the potential to significantly reduce the burden on caregivers and improve their quality of life.

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Dr Seiji Humphries,
Study interviewer and
Research Officer

Left to right:
Dr Seiji Humphries (research team member/PI),
Shenali Fernando (SLP/participant),
Joanne Russell (SLP/participant) &
Sarah Day (research team member/PI)

Innovative research and quality improvement strategies in the CKW Pharmacy Department

Despite the demands of clinical service and ongoing hospital redevelopment, the pharmacy department consistently demonstrates a commitment to research and quality improvement at CKW.

Between July 2023 and December 2024, the department contributed to multiple peer-reviewed publications, including five focused on opioid analgesia. They actively disseminated their findings through numerous presentations, including seven presentations at the 2024 CKW Symposium and eight at the 2024 AdPha Medicines Management Conference. Additionally, staff showcased research at the 2023 CKW Research Symposium with a mix of oral presentations and posters.

Approximately 20% of the pharmacy department engages in their broader quality improvement and medicine use management projects, highlighting integrated approach to both research and clinical practice excellence. To gain further insight, we spoke with pharmacists, Khai Li Ang and Belinda Chappell, both are actively involved in the department's research and quality improvement initiatives about their experiences and contributions.

Belinda Chappell

Team Leader Pharmacist, CKW

Pillars of team culture: Rx for success with buddy system onboarding

Podcasting in clinical education for nurses and allied health clinicians - a systematic review

As one of the team leader pharmacists, Belinda Chappel supports the acute service lines and has worked at Caboolture Hospital for 8 years. Her areas of interest include critical care, antimicrobial stewardship, leadership, staff wellbeing and change management.

"I have felt very supported to develop and grow my research skills at Caboolture hospital by pharmacy leadership, the intensive care research team and the Research Development Unit team," Belinda said.

"I get a lot of motivation and satisfaction from looking into why we do things a certain way and challenging the status quo. I also enjoy now being in a position to supervise and mentor others through their own research journeys," she said.

"Highlights across my research journey so far include having the opportunity to see the vancomycin therapeutic drug monitoring project through from idea conception to creating a sustainable systems change and then sharing the

results at a national pharmacy conference and in an international pharmacy journal."

Belinda, alongside fellow pharmacist, Amy Le, developed the project, Pillars of team culture: Rx for success with buddy system onboarding. The aim of this project was to review the experience of the buddy system that was established to support the onboarding of new staff into the pharmacy team particularly across a period of big growth.

The positive feedback received highlighted the buddy system's potential to foster a positive team culture with priority focused on social and emotional wellbeing.

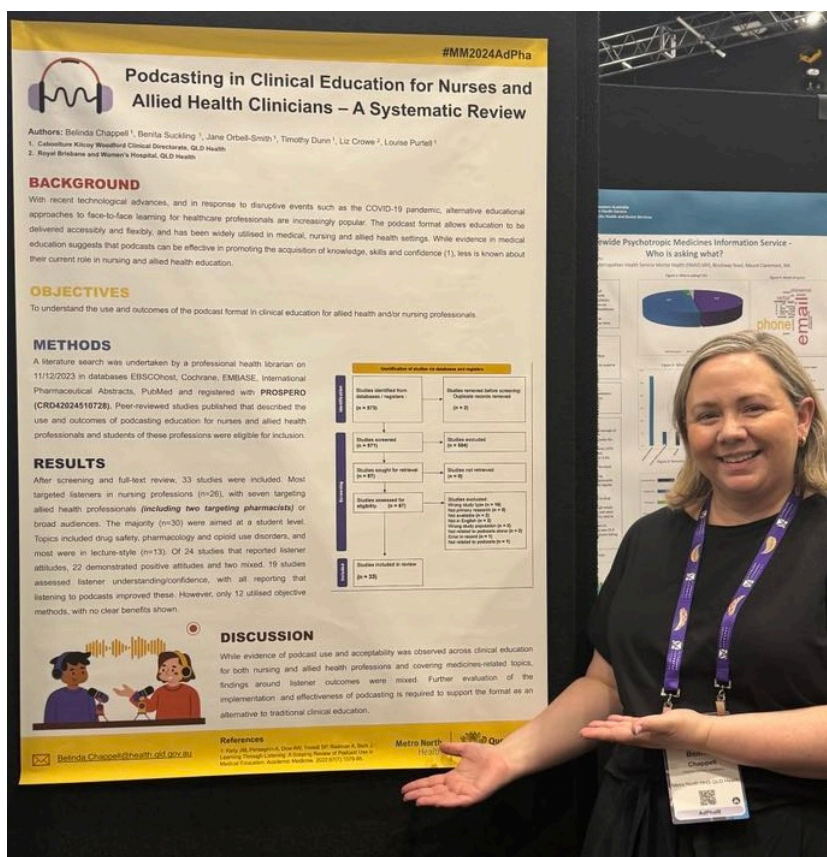
An identified gap from feedback suggested the implementation of a more structured approach including the development of a checklist for buddies which could provide a clearer sense of direction and ensure a baseline level of support for new team members. This checklist has been developed and its impact analysed.

In testament to the quality of her project, Belinda was awarded the "Best Completed Project" at the 2024 CKW Research Symposium (see page 14).

Belinda was also part of a team who performed a systematic review in the development of "The Never Again" podcast - Metro North Health. The review found that whilst evidence of podcast use and acceptability was observed across clinical education for both nursing and allied health professions, the findings around listener outcomes were mixed. Further evaluation of the implementation and effectiveness of podcasting are required to support the format as an alternative to traditional education.

Other local staff involved in this project were, Benita Suckling, Timothy Dunn, Dr Louise Purtell, Jane Orbell-Smith and Liz Crowe.

The review was presented at the 2024 CKW Research Symposium and the 2024 AdPha Medicines Management.



Belinda Chappell presenting at the 2024 AdPha Medicine Management Conference

Khai Li Ang

Clinical Pharmacist, Caboolture Hospital Emergency Department

A retrospective audit of discharge pharmacological management in patients admitted with acute behavioural disturbance

While working in the geriatric ward, clinical ED pharmacist, Khai Li Ang, identified the opportunity to conduct a retrospective audit of discharge pharmacological management in patients admitted with acute behavioural disturbance.

"Caboolture Hospital provided the perfect setting for my research as I observed the excessive prescription of psychotropic agents such as antipsychotics and benzodiazepines during my rotation in the geriatric ward," Kai said

"The gap between practice and the Delirium Clinical Care Standards became a key motivator for me to conduct this project. The fact that psychotropic agents were being over-prescribed, despite recommendations for non-pharmacological approaches, is a significant concern in terms of patient safety and care quality."

"Being my first project, I also greatly appreciated the support and guidance of my supervisors at Caboolture Hospital who had extensive experience in research," she said.

This project highlighted significant opportunities for improvement in prescribing adherence to guidelines and documenting management plan in discharge summaries for ongoing review and monitoring.

Prescribers were educated on the importance of documentation, with the hope that improved communication during the transition of care from hospital to community would reduce the long term use of psychotropic agents.

The findings were also presented and shared at the 2024 Pharmacy Medicines Management Conference and CKW Research Symposium 2024.

"This project has helped me develop valuable research skills such as literature review techniques and data analysis through this project, which will definitely shape how I approach future projects. I've also learnt to appreciate the importance of research in improving systems and services, especially when it directly impacts care."

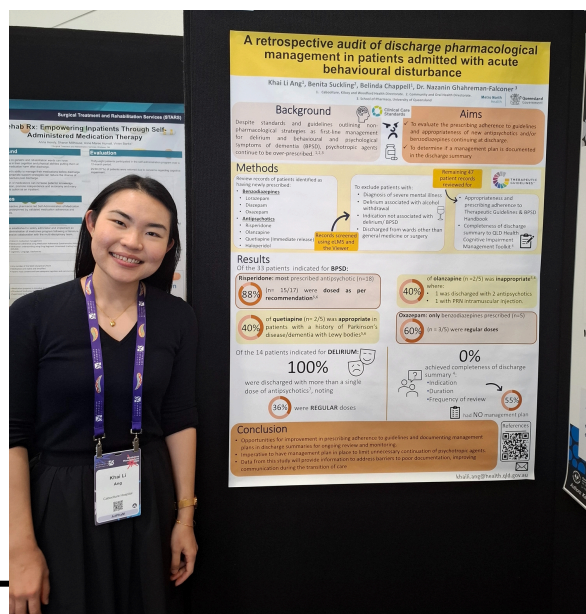
Kai is now working on a project in the Emergency Department involving the implementation of Partnered Pharmacist Medication Charting.

“

With this new legislation, there's a lot of potential, especially in terms of improving safety and enhancing the role of pharmacists in prescribing. I believe that with the strong support Caboolture Hospital provides for research, it will be an asset in pushing this project forward.”

”

Kai Li Ang presenting at the 2024 AdPha Medicine Management Conference



T2 and SeptiCyte RAPID duration study

Duration of bloodstream infection as measured by conventional cultures compared with novel culture independent systems and persistence of biomarkers associated with severe infection

Supported by site principal investigator (PI), Dr Nastaran Rafiei, Caboolture Hospital was one of three sites which participated in a study looking at patients with bloodstream infections and if two new technologies give different results compared to traditional techniques.

Led by Professor David Paterson, sponsored by The University of Queensland and coordinated by Dr Anna Maria Peri, this multicentre, prospective observational study was run across three Metro North hospitals.

Persistent *S. aureus* bacteraemia is associated with metastatic infection and adverse outcomes while Gram-negative bacteraemia is normally transient and shorter course therapy is increasingly advocated for affected patients. Whether the prolonged detection of pathogen DNA in blood by culture-independent systems could have prognostic value and guide management decisions is unknown. Similarly, it is unknown if in patients with blood stream infection (BSI) the persistence of elevation of inflammatory markers detected by novel host response assays may also have a prognostic value.

T2 magnetic resonance (T2) is a culture-independent system with improved sensitivity for the detection of bloodstream pathogens. SeptiCyte® RAPID is a host response assay providing a score (SeptiScore®) indicating the likelihood of infectious vs sterile inflammation.

The project aims are:

1. Compare the duration of BSI as measured by T2 and SeptiCyte with that measured by conventional blood culture (BC)
2. Correlate the duration of BSI as measured by T2 and SeptiCyte with clinical outcomes, including:
 - Metastatic/Persistent infection
 - SOFA success at day 7
 - Functional outcome at 6 months

From January 2022 to March 2023, 102 patients were enrolled across the three participating sites (RBWH, Redcliffe and Caboolture Hospital).

“Caboolture hospital was chosen as a site because we knew we could count on a successful collaboration with the site PI and her research team. Moreover, we expected Caboolture to be a Metro North Health site that could provide enrolment of several eligible patients,” said Dr Anna Peri.

Outcomes of the study showed that T2 proved to be a useful prognostic tool to stratify the likelihood of patients with BSI to have metastatic or persistent infection. Its prolonged positivity after the onset of a BSI also correlated with adverse short term clinical outcomes.

Additionally, the repeated use of SeptiCyte rapid in the four days following the onset of BSI may be useful to suggest the presence of persistent infection in patients with Gram negative BSI but not those with *S. aureus* bacteraemia. Combining the use of culture independent tests and host response assays may improve the detection of persistent candidemia.

Dr Peri says, “Randomised controlled trials are needed to investigate whether the use of rapid diagnostic tests is associated with a clinical benefit compared to the use of conventional BC.”

Three papers have been published summarising the results of the study:

- Peri, A. M., O’Callaghan, K., Rafiei, N., Graves, B., Sinclair, H., Brischetto, A., Lim, K., Parkes-Smith, J., Eustace, M., Davidson, N., Tabah, A., Stewart, A., Chatfield, M. D., Harris, P. N. A., & Paterson, D. L. (2024). Persistence of detectable pathogens by culture-independent systems (T2 Magnetic Resonance) in patients with bloodstream infection: prognostic role and possible clinical implications. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, 78(2), 283–291. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciad663>
- Peri, A. M., Rafiei, N., O’Callaghan, K., Brischetto, A., Graves, B., Sinclair, H., Eustace, M., Lim, K., Parkes-Smith, J., Stewart, A., Davidson, N., Tabah, A., Bergh, H., Chatfield, M. D., Harris, P. N. A., & Paterson, D. L. (2024). Host response signature trends in persistent bacteraemia and metastatic infection due to *Staphylococcus aureus* and Gram-negative bacilli: a prospective multicentre observational study. *Infectious Diseases (London, England)*, 56(4), 268–276. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23744235.2023.2294122>
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Left to right: SeptiCyte RAPID & T2 Magnetic Resonance machines

Publications

Caboolture & Kilcoy Hospitals and Woodford Corrections Clinical Directorate affiliated publications from July 2023 – December 2024 (CKW authors in bold)

Ahuja, A., Baker, T., & **Ramanan, M.** (2024). Impact of frailty on outcomes after cardiac surgery. *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*, 169(6), 1787-1794.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtcvs.2024.05.025>

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Attokaran, A. G., **Ramanan, M.**, Hunt, L., Chandra, K., Sandha, R., **Watts, S.**, & Venkatesh, B. (2023). Sodium chloride or plasmalyte-148 for patients presenting to emergency departments with diabetic ketoacidosis: a nested cohort study within a multicentre, cluster, crossover, randomised, controlled trial. *Emergency Medicine Australasia*, 35(4), 657–663. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1742-6723.14198>

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Eeles, E., **Tran, D. D.**, Boyd, J., Tronstad, O., Teodorczuk, A., **Flaws, D.**, Fraser, J. F., & Dissanayaka, N. (2024). A narrative review of the development and performance characteristics of electronic delirium-screening tools. *Australian Critical Care*, 37(4), 651–658.
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Renger, L., Dhanani, J., Milford, E., Tabah, A., Shekar, K., **Ramanan, M.**, & Laupland, K. B. (2024). Cannabis use disorders and outcome of admission to intensive care: a retrospective multi-centre cohort study. *Journal of Critical Care*, 80. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrc.2023.154504>

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White, K. C., Chaba, A., Meyer, J., **Ramanan, M.**, Tabah, A., Attokaran, A. G., Kumar, A., McCullough, J., Shekar, K., Garrett, P., McIlroy, P., Senthuran, S., Luke, S., Laupland, K. B., & Queensland Critical Care Research Network (QCCRN) (2024). Rapid uptake of adjunctive corticosteroids for critically ill adults with septic shock following publication of ADRENAL trial. A multicenter, retrospective analysis of prescribing practices in Queensland Intensive Care Units. *Anaesthesia, Critical Care & Pain Medicine*, 43(6). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.accpm.2024.101435>

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Whiteoak, B., Dawson, S. L., Callaway, L., de Jersey, S., Eley, V., **Evans, J.**, Kothari, A., Navarro, S., & Gallegos, D. (2024). Food insecurity is associated with diet quality in pregnancy: a cross-sectional study. *Nutrients*, 16(9), 1319. <https://doi.org/10.3390/nu16091319>

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Zampieri, F. G., Cavalcanti, A. B., Di Tanna, G. L., Damiani, L. P., Hammond, N. E., Machado, F. R., Micallef, S., Myburgh, J., **Ramanan, M.**, Venkatesh, B., Rice, T. W., Semler, M. W., Young, P. J., & Finfer, S. (2024). Balanced crystalloids versus saline for critically ill patients (BEST-Living): a systematic review and individual patient data meta-analysis. *The Lancet. Respiratory Medicine*, 12(3), 237–246. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600\(23\)00417-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600(23)00417-4)

Contributed Index Articles with CKW Authors

Anstey, M. H., Maxwell, N., Rickard, C. M., Hammond, N. E., Knowles, S., McGain, F., George Institute for Global Health and the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society Clinical Trials Group, Steering Committee members, Coordinating centre List of investigators, & Site List of investigators (2024). How often are infusion sets for central venous catheters changed in Australian

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and New Zealand Intensive Care Units? A point prevalence survey. *Australian Critical Care*, 37(3), 495–498. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aucc.2023.05.004>

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Grants

July 2023 – December 2024

Project title	Recipient/s (CKW Staff in bold)	Grant name	Funding body	Grant amount
Effects of menopause transition on participation in the workforce within Metro North	Mrs Helen Edwards	Pre-RHD Scholarship	CAHRLI	\$10,000
A randomised controlled trial of plasmalyte versus normal saline as resuscitation and maintenance fluid therapy for patients presenting with diabetic ketoacidosis (BEST-DKA)	Prof Gerben Keijzers, Dr Mahesh Ramanan , Ms Stacey Watts , Dr Jason Chan, Dr Kent Perkins, Ms Lauren Murray, Dr Benjamin Moran, A/Prof Naomi Hammond, Prof Balasubramanian Venkatesh, A/Prof Alisa Higgins, Ms Dorrielyn Rajbhandari, Dr Antony Attokaran, Dr Tom Holland , Prof Elif Ekinci, Dr David Steward, Dr James McCollough	Project Grant	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$164,384
A structures, process and outcome evaluation of the Residential Aged care District Assessment and Referral Rapid Response (RADAR RR) model	Dr EJ Marsden , Ms Catherine Moore , Prof Nadine Foster, Dr Emma Ballard, Prof Joshua Byrnes, Dr Evelyn Kang, Ms Sharon Hodby , Ms Melissa Argent, Ms Debra Visser, Dr Claire Bertenshaw	Leading Edge Grant	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$84,949
Retrospective analysis of GEDI impact on older adult patients presenting to the emergency department with a positive delirium screen (4AT)	Ms Kendall Williams, Assoc Prof Alison Craswell , Dr Henry Tsao, Ms Andrea Taylor, Dr Salih A Salih, Ms Tania Quaglio	Novice Researcher Grant	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$10,000
Older Persons Emergency Network	Dr EJ Marsden , Prof Nadine Foster, Dr Amy Spooner , Ms Sharon Hodby , Ms Stacey Watts	Research Capacity Building	Emergency Medicine Foundation	\$95,394
Application of machine learning to swallowing sounds for the accurate detection of aspiration in critically-ill children	Adj Assoc Prof Thuy Frakking	GCHHS Clinician Research Fellowship	Gold Coast Health	\$235,203

Grants

Application of classifier in the detection of aspiration in premature babies	Adj Assoc Prof Thuy Frakking	Stimulus Grant (2023)	MNH	\$10,000
A randomised controlled trial of plasmalyte versus normal saline as resuscitation and maintenance fluid therapy for patients presenting with diabetic ketoacidosis (BEST-DKA)	Dr Mahesh Ramanan	Clinical Trials Activity Grant	NHMRC	\$1,655,323
External validation of a classifier for the detection of aspiration in children	Adj Assoc Prof Thuy Frakking	MRFF – Assessments of High-Cost Gene Treatments and Digital Health Interventions	NHMRC	\$156,265
A novel approach to partnering with family carers in the presentation of delirium	Assoc Prof Cynthia Aggar, Assoc Prof Alison Craswell , Prof Kasia Bail, Assoc Prof Roslyn Compton, Prof Mark Hughes, Prof Jennene Ann Greenhill, Dr Golam Sorwar, Prof Sue Randal	Partnership Grant	NHMRC	\$1,334,456
Screening of dysphagia in stroke patients at Caboolture Hospital	Dr Adam Dubrava, Dr Dominic Chan, Dr Iain Brothwick, Ms Rebecca Mcerlean, Ms Dana Sylvander	Health Research Grant – Novice Researcher	The Common Good	\$10,000
Droperidol in acute back pain in the emergency room	Dr Jonathan Thomson, Dr Stephen King, Dr Ross Dryden, Dr Karen Furlong, Ms Stacey Watts, Ms April Hatt, Mr Richard Smith	Health Research Grant – Novice Researcher	The Common Good	\$9,980
Preventing recurrent inpatient falls: understanding patient, family-members, and staff perspectives on contemporary falls prevention huddles	Ms Emma Doyle	Health Research Grant – Novice Researcher	The Common Good	\$10,000

Grants

Embracing menopause in the workplace - de we need to reframe the path to a healthier future?	Mrs Helen Edwards	Health Research Grant – (Out of rounds grant)	The Common Good	\$17,243
Survival after critical illness - what do consumers thing	Dr Mahesh Ramanan, Dr Prashanti Marella , Prof Kevin Laupland, Parker Michaels, Ms Emma Williams	Health Research Grant – Experienced Investigator Grant	The Common Good	\$19,985
Use of artificial intelligence in the development of a classifier for the detection of aspiration in premature babies	Adj Assoc Prof Thuy Frakking , Dr Stephen So, Dr Belinda Schwerin, Dr Manuel Bautista, Ms Alicia Blake	Health Research Grant – Experienced Investigator Grant	The Common Good	\$19,884
Unlocking precision healthcare: Tailoring feeding disorder management for culturally diverse children to sustain improvements in health outcomes	Dr Laine Chilman (UniSC), Adj Assoc Prof Thuy Frakking, Ms Tracy Grant, Ms Annabelle Marozza , Dr Laura Burritt (UniSC), Assoc Prof Fiona Graham (UniSC)	CKW & UniSC Collaborative Grant	The Common Good	\$37,709
Clinical effectiveness of selection and insertion by a vascular access specialist in a region setting: a randomised controlled trial and feasibility study	Assoc Prof Alison Craswell (UniSC & CKW), Mr Jeff Anderson, Ms Colleen Herrmann , Ms Naomi Howell (UniSC)	CKW & UniSC Collaborative Grant	The Common Good	\$95,394
Customer-directed mealtime services for people with cerebral palsy across the lifespan	Assoc Prof Kelly Weir (RCH), Mrs Lisa Moshovis, Dr Monica Cooper, Mrs Renae Telo, Dr Katherine Langdon, Dr Andrew Wilson, Dr Noula Gibson, Adj Assoc Thuy Frakking	Healthy Trajectories Seed Funding Round (2023)	University of Melbourne	\$29,728

SSA Approved Projects

SSA Approved Research projects - CKW led or listed as a site July 2023 – December 2023						
SSA Reference	Full Project Title	PI & Affiliation	Site Contact	Department	Sponsor/Lead Collaborating Institution	Site Type
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/43108	Australia and New Zealand Emergency Laparotomy Audit - Quality Improvement (ANZELA-QI)	Dr Ryo Mizumoto (CH)	Dr Ryo Mizumoto	Surgery – Anaesthetics & Periop	RACS	Lead
SSA0023/ MNHHS/97425	Temporal Trends and Volume-Outcome Relationships for Tracheostomies in Australia and New Zealand Intensive Care Units	Dr Prashanti Marella (CH)	Dr Prashanti Marella	ICU	MNH	Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/99502	Staff Attitudes Towards Environmental and Organisational Change in a Large Regional Hospital	Dr Mikaela Brusasco (CH)	Dr Mikaela Brusasco	Geriatric and Rehabilitation Services	MNH	Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/83756	Achieving Gender Equity in Hospital and Health Services Research: Component 3: Metro North Health Case Studies	Prof Janet Davies (RBWH)	Ms Vivian Houston	MNH	MNH	Non-Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/91654	Evaluation of an Implementation Intervention to Enhance Multi-National Translation of Nurse-initiated Protocols for Fever, Hyperglycaemia and Swallowing Management Following Stroke: A Cluster Randomised Controlled Trial	Dr Iain Borthwick (CH)	Dr Oyebola Fasugba	Neurology	ACU	Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/95615	Uptake and Short-term Outcomes of SGLT2i Prescribing for Proteinuric Chronic Kidney Disease	Dr Saskia Leibowitz (RBWH)	Dr Saskia Leibowitz	Medicine – Renal	MNH	Non-Lead

SSA Approved Projects

SSA/2023/ MNHHS/100473	Prevalence of Anxiety in Women Undergoing Elective Gynaecological Surgery	Dr Tasveer Singh (CH)	Dr Tasveer Singh	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	MNH	Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/99288	Implementing Household Food Insecurity Screening in Healthcare Services: Organisational Readiness and Needs Assessment	Dr Rhonda Dryland (CH)	Dr Rhonda Dryland (CH)	Dietetics	QUT	Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/92364	Testing Implementation Tools to Support Healthy Food Environments in Queensland Hospitals: A Pilot Randomised Control Trial	Ms Brooke Maund (MNH)	Ms Brook Maund	Statewide Foodservices	Deakin University	Non-Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/97545	STI Satellite Clinic in Corrections	Ms Amanda Balmer (Woodford Correctional Centre)	Ms Ruth Alley	Sexual Health & HIV Services	UniSC	Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/88119	Secondary Analysis PARIS 1 and PARIS 2	Dr Faye Jordan (TPCH)	A/Prof Donna Franklin	Paediatrics	GCHHS	Non-Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/95161	Investigating a Sustainable Training Model to Improve Paediatric Video Fluoroscopic Swallow Study (VFSS) Quality and Safety	Mrs Joanne Russell (CH)	Mrs Joanne Russell	Speech Pathology	MNH	Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/95293	The Right Treatment for the Right Person at the Right Time. Driving High-Value Aphasia Care through Meaningful Health System Monitoring	Dr Clare Burns (RBWH)	Dr Clare Burnes	Speech Pathology	UQ	Non-Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/92771	Enhancing the Metro North Bed Capacity Response Framework through the Application Resilience Engineering (MN-CARE)	Ms Julie Bunting (RBWH)	Ms Julie Bunting	Nursing	Monash University	Non-Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/91710	The FEBCON-ED Study: A Stepped-Wedge Cluster Randomised Controlled Clinical Trial of Usual Care vs Regular Antipyretics for Children Presenting	Ms Rebecca Clark (CH)	Ms Stacey Watts	Emergency	Monash University	Lead

SSA Approved Projects

	With a FEBrile CONVulsion to the Emergency Department					
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/94087	What is the Incidence of Missed Respiratory Rates, Value Bias and Even Numbers in Patients on Medical and Surgical Wards 24 Hours Prior to a Medical Emergency Call, Across Southeast Queensland?	Miss Jennifer Palmer (UniSC)	Miss Jennifer Palmer	Internal Medicine – Surgery	UniSC	Non-Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/91304	Patient Flow in Queensland's Public Hospitals: A Qualitative Study	Dr Clair Sullivan (MNH)	Dr Andrew Doolan	Emergency	UQ	Non-Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/92488	The National Australian HCV Point-of-Care Testing Program - HCV Antibody Testing Minimal Dataset	Dr Rajendra Prakash (Woodford Correctional Centre)	Ms Mim O'Flynn	Emergency	UNSW	Lead

SSA Approved Research projects - CKW led or listed as a site January 2024 – December 2024						
SSA Reference	Full Project Title	PI &Affiliation	Site Contact	Department	Sponsor/Lead Collaborating Institution	Site Type
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/91605	Balanced Multi-electrolyte Solution Versus 0.9% Sodium Chloride as Fluid Therapy for Patients Presenting with Moderate to Severe Diabetic Ketoacidosis	Dr Alex Tabah (RedH) & Dr Mahesh Ramanan (CH)	Dr Mahesh Ramanan	ICU & Emergency	The George Institute for Global Health	Non-Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/101865	Bowel Preparation and Postoperative Outcomes for Elective Colorectal Surgery in Australia	Dr Richard Bryant (RBWH)	Dr Aleksandra Edmundson	Surgery (Gastroenterology & Hepatology)	Westmead Hospital	Non-Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/92753	Diabetes Service Mapping After Hours	Dr Sean Clark (CH)	Ms Stacey Watts	Emergency	UniSC	Lead

SSA Approved Projects

SSA/2023/ MNHHS/97752	Identifying Barriers and Facilitators to the Use of Cervical Auscultation in Detecting Aspiration in Infants and Children	Dr Thuy Fracking (CH)	Dr Seiji Humphries	Speech Pathology	UniSC	Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/101047	Supporting Fathers Experiencing a Traumatic Pregnancy: Towards Holistic Care	Dr Alka Kothari (RedH)	Dr Alka Kothari	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	UQ	Non-Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/103966	Characterisation of Intravascular Access Device (IVAD) Staphylococcus aureus Blood Stream Infection (SAB)	A/Professor Kate McCarthy (RBWH)	Ms Daner Ball	Infectious Diseases	UQ	Non-Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/104751	Understanding the Factors Influencing the Transition and Retention of Graduate Nurses into Practice: A Mixed-methods Study	A/Professor Alanna Geary (MNH)	Prof Clint Douglas	Nursing & Midwifery	SWSLHD	Non-Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/102711	Implementation of a Blood Management Dashboard across Metro North	Dr Bronwyn Pearse (TPCH)	Mr Joel Hines	Surgery (Anaesthetics & Periop)	MNH	Non-Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/101686	Mapping Clinical Practice and Policy to the 'Management of Peripheral Intravenous Catheters Clinical Care Standard': A Multi-site Point Prevalence Study	Ms Janice Geary (TPCH)	Dr Josephine Lovegrove	Infectious Diseases	Griffith University	Non-Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/105744	Understanding Health Professionals' Knowledge and Attitudes of Supported Decision Making for People with Cognitive and Neurodevelopmental Disabilities	Ms Emma Barbagallo (MNH)	Ms Jessica Orford	Behavioural Emergency Response Team	MNH	Non-Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/107414	Work experiences of cultural load and wellbeing among Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Health employees	Ms Patricia Kennedy (RBWH)	Ms Patricia Kennedy	A&TSI Health	UQ	Non-Lead
SSA/2023/ MNHHS/92314	Deadly Steps in the Emergency Department with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consumers: An Evaluation of a Co-design Cultural Safety Improvement and Awareness Tool	Dr Michelle Davison (RedH)	Dr Michelle Davison	Emergency	SCHHS	Non-Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/106465	Understanding and Improving the Experiences of Registered Nurses deployed from the Intensive Care Unit	Mrs Patricia Andre (CH)	Ms Emma Williams	ICU	UniSC	Lead

SSA Approved Projects

SSA/2024/ MNHHS/107831	The Acceptability and Feasibility of Falls-huddles at CKW	Ms Emma Doyle (CH)	Mr Joshua Tussler	Physiotherapy	MNH	Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/70293	Family Based Research Priorities for Paediatric Emergency Medicine	Dr Suzanne Kenny (CH)	Ms Stacey Watts	Emergency	PREDICT Network	Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/110779	The Tyndall-Bailey Falls Risk Assessment Tool (TB FRAT): Psychometric Properties and Adoption Rates	Ms Rachel Bailey (CH)	Ms Emma Williams	ICU	Royal North Shore Hospital	Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/81910	Understanding Cannulation Applying Novel Descriptions of Insertion Tips Project: An Adaptive Three Arm Effectiveness RCT to Improve Intravenous Cannulation First Time Success	Dr Anthony Hade (RBWH)	Dr Erich Schultz	Anaesthetics	Mater	Non-Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/102909	Cryptococcal Infections in Queensland, Australia: The CryptiQ Study	Dr Krispin Hajkowicz (RBWH)	Dr Krispin Hajkowicz	Infection and Immunity	UQ	Non-Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/75909	The Impact of Angiotensin II vs Noradrenaline on Renal Outcomes in Critically Ill Patients with High Output Shock	Dr Mahesh Ramanan (CH)	Ms Emma Williams	ICU	Austin Health	Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/111888	Menopause in the Workplace	Mrs Helen Edwards (CH)	Mrs Helen Edwards	Physiotherapy	UniSC	Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/112399	A Qualitative Assessment of Institution-free Days After Critical Illness: Consumer- Clinician Focus Group study	Dr Prashanti Marella (CH)	Ms Emma Williams	ICU	The Common Good Foundation	Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/102162	Assessing Maternal and Neonatal Outcomes in Women with Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes Compared with Women Who Develop Gestational Diabetes and Women Without Diabetes in Pregnancy in Queensland Hospitals Over 5 Years	A/Prof Susan de Jersey (RBWH)	A/Prof Susan de Jersey	Mothers and Newborns	SCUH	Non-Lead
SSA/2024/ MNHHS/87786	The National Australian HCV Point-of-Care Testing Program: An Observational Cohort Study to Evaluate the Use of Finger-stick Point-of care Hepatitis C Testing to Enhance Diagnosis and Treatment of HCV Infection - Minimal Dataset	Ms Lyn Cadman (Woodford Correctional Centre)	Ms Lyn Cadman	Blood Borne Virus Portfolio	University of Sydney	Lead

SSA Approved Projects

Abbreviations

A&TSI	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander
ACU	Australian Catholic University
CH	Caboolture Hospital
CKW	Caboolture & Kilcoy Hospitals and Woodford Corrections Health
GCHHS	Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service
HREC	Human Research Ethics Committee
MNH	Metro North Health
PREDICT	The Paediatric Research in Emergency Departments International Collaborative
QUT	Queensland University of Technology
RACS	Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
RBWH	Royal and Women's Hospital
SCHHS	Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service
SCUH	Sunshine Coast University Hospital
SSA	Site Specific Assessment
SWSLHD	Southern Western Sydney Local Health District
TPCH	The Prince Charles Hospital
UNSW	University of New South Wales
UQ	University of Queensland
USC	University of Sunshine Coast



Research Development Unit

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