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Centres for Health Research



Ethics [<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/ethics.asp>]

PAH HREC Office Update

It is fast approaching the end of the year and our office has been busier than ever. We would like to formally welcome back Helen Banks, as she returns to the Executive Support Officer role after her secondment to the Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital. Helen can be contacted on extension 7672 and she is more than happy to assist with any enquiries.

Due to the upcoming 2007 National Research Ethics Conference being held 16th – 18th October 2007, only a small number of staff will be available to assist with your enquiries during this week. The closing date for the next HREC meeting is Friday 19th October 2007 and any queries should be referred to Georgina Gill. She will endeavour to address any queries you may have and will contact the relevant HREC staff member during the conference if there are any urgent matters.

2007 National Research Ethics Conference

The 2007 National Research Ethics Conference seeks to promote debate about the ethical dimensions of human research. It is being held in Melbourne from 16th – 18th October 2007. Good research is ethical in design as well as in conduct. This conference will explore:

- Ways in which researchers can integrate an ethical framework into the design, conduct of and publication of their research,
- How engaging with the broader Australian community, including research participants themselves, can deliver better research with more relevant outcomes for all Australians, and
- How institutions and those responsible for the conduct of the research may enhance research endeavours through sound research governance frameworks.

For further information visit <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/ethics/conference.htm>

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'Good Clinical Practice for Physicians & Investigators' Course

Good Clinical Practice for Physicians (GCP) and Investigators is a one day overview of GCP, while highlighting research practice essentials. It is an intensive training course designed to boost knowledge and understanding of GCP and locally applicable regulations and guidelines such as the TGA Regulations, NHMRC National Statement, FDA Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), the European Directives, and the International Conference on Harmonisation (ICH) and the processes involved.

This course will provide participants with a synopsis of GCP expectations and performance in clinical trials by learning the intrinsic investigator's responsibilities to ensure essential patient safety, well-being and protection of rights. This will lead to a reduction in operational risks and data queries; and therefore, better quality studies which get to publication faster. Moreover, TGA and NHMRC require compliance to ICH standards for all research.

This course is ideal grounding to gain global certification as a Certified Clinical Research Investigator

Who should attend?

Clinical research physicians, investigators, biotech executives, research scientists or other members of the clinical team who either have had less than 2 years experience in clinical trials or experienced staff requiring an up-to-date refresher course.

Course details

Where: Parkview Hotel, 17 Blue Street, North Sydney, NSW

When: Friday 19th October 2007

Cost: \$695 (10% Group discount for more than 4 registrations)

For further information contact Robyn on (03) 9076-8909 or register online at <http://www.nucleusnetwork.com.au/CCRegister.aspx>

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Contracts [<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/contracts.asp>]

New Standardised Medicines Australia Clinical Trials Agreement

All Clinical Trial Agreements must now use the standard CTA developed by Medicines Australia <http://www.medicinesaustralia.com.au/pages/page39.asp>

Should you have further questions please contact the Centres for Health Research office on (07) 3240-7663, via e-mail PAH-Research@health.qld.gov.au or John_Meyer@health.qld.gov.au

Grants [<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/funding.asp>]

Allied Health Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme

The 2008 application round for the Allied Health Postgraduate Scholarship Scheme is now open. This scheme aims to support Queensland Health allied health professionals to undertake postgraduate course work.

Scholarships up to the value of \$7,000 over two years are offered to permanent employees of Queensland Health. Successful applicants will be bonded to Queensland Health for one year. Areas of study should be identified as key to Queensland Health priorities and be aligned with area health service needs.

Applications close on Monday, 29 October 2007. Application packages will be available from early October from the Office of Rural Health website at: <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/orh/scholarships/default.asp>

All eligible allied health professionals, commencing or continuing postgraduate study in 2008, are encouraged to apply for these scholarships.

Queensland Clinical Research Fellowships

The 2007 / 2008 Round of the Queensland Clinical Research Fellowships are now open. The Queensland Clinical Research Fellowships offered under the Smart State Health and Medical Research Fund provide funding for outstanding early career and experienced clinical researchers to undertake innovative research in Queensland hospitals and health services, to enhance the translation of healthcare innovation from research into practice.

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Applications close on Thursday, 15 November 2007.

Medical, nursing and allied health clinicians involved in clinical research are encouraged to consider applying for a Fellowship. A research-focused clinical workforce is a key goal of Queensland Health's Research and Development Plan 2007-2012. Creating a culture that values and promotes research is also an important focus of Queensland Health's Strategic Plan 2007-2012, assists in the delivery of best practice, and drives improvement, innovation and efficiency across the health system.

Features of the fund include:

- Two levels of Fellowships
 - Level 1 for experienced clinical researchers
 - Level 2 for early career clinical researchers of rising prominence
- \$100,000 per annum for three years, a total of \$300,000 for Level 1 Fellowships
- \$50,000 per annum for three years, a total of \$150,000 for Level 2 Fellowships
- Fellows are to have a proven track record in quality clinical research
- Research project is to be novel, innovative and consistent with the Queensland Research & Development priority of health and wellbeing
- Fellowship funding is to be matched by cash funding at a rate of no less than 1:1
- Up to one Level 1 and two Level 2 Fellowships will be awarded per annum
- Funding rounds will be open, competitive and merit-based

For eligibility criteria and application forms go to www.sd.qld.gov.au/innovationfunds or for further information regarding the Fund and advice relating to research and development funding, please contact Research and Development Advisory Services Branch (http://www.sd.qld.gov.au/dsdweb/v3/quis/templates/content/qui_cue_cntnht.ml.cfm?id=47314) on rdadvisory@sd.qld.gov.au or (07) 3227-7211.

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Centres for Health Research



PAH Visiting Professor Scheme 2008

The Centres for Health Research and the Office of Dr David Theile Snr (Clinical CEO) have established a fund to support a limited number of "visiting professors" to the hospital campus.

The scheme provides funding to allow visits by national or international clinicians and scientists, and aims to:

- Encourage clinical and research collaboration both interstate and overseas;
- Enable and facilitate sharing of clinical and research views and findings; and
- Enhance education on campus.

Funding is relatively limited but it is envisaged that it would cover return domestic airfares, accommodation and modest honorarium as appropriate.

It is hoped that eminent overseas clinicians and scientists who are attending Australian scientific meetings could be approached and recruited to 'add on' a visit to PAH as part of their Australian itinerary.

A one-page application for funding, using the prescribed application form (http://www.health.qld.gov.au/pahospital/research/docs/visiting_professor_07.pdf), should be emailed to Mr John Meyer, Centres for Health Research (John.Meyer@health.qld.gov.au) by 5pm on Wednesday 31st October 2007.

Nursing & Midwifery Research Grant Scheme

The Queensland Health, Nursing & Midwifery Research Grant Scheme was established is open to all nurses and midwives working with Queensland Health. The scheme aims to encourage nursing and midwifery research activities by providing financial support to nurses and midwives undertaking these initiatives. For further information, please log onto <http://qhps.health.qld.gov.au/ocno/content/research.htm>

NHMRC

Refer to the NHMRC calendar of grants: [2006/2007 Funding by Grant Type](#)

University of Queensland

View the available grants offered at <http://www.uq.edu.au/research/funding/>

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Conferences & Events

Guest Lecture

“Pathogenesis of HIV infection”

Speaker: Professor Anne Hosmalin - Deputy Director, Immunology Department, Cochin Institute, Paris

Date & Time: Friday 12th October 2007 at 12.30pm

Venue: Russell Strong Auditorium, Princess Alexandra Hospital

Further information: Dr Gethin Thomas, UQ Diamantina Institute of Cancer, Immunology & Metabolic Medicine

Telephone: 0434 975 235 or (07) 3240-5832

E-mail: g.thomas1@uq.edu.au

New Directions in Leukaemia Research Conference (NDLR)

The NDLR conference is being held on the Sunshine Coast from Sunday 30th March to Wednesday 2nd April 2008.

A combination of both international and national speakers will cover the full spectrum of "bench to clinic" leukaemia research. This meeting will bring together leading scientists and clinicians in an intimate and relaxed atmosphere to discuss and debate current concepts in understanding the molecular basis of leukaemia, new paradigms and breakthroughs at the forefronts of leukaemia research together with emerging therapies for the treatment of this prevalent and intractable disease.

Important Dates:

- Early bird registration deadline: 24th January 2008
- Standard registration deadline: 22nd February 2008
- Abstract deadline: 8th February 2008

Further information is available on the Conference website: <http://ndlr2008.com>

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Innovation Commercialisation & IP Summit 2007

The inaugural Innovation Commercialisation and IP Summit (ICIP) 2007 brings together a range of industry leaders in innovation development and commercialisation to addresses strategic management, legal and financial issues associated with exploiting intellectual property and technology, with a specific focus on the issues associated with the practicalities of protecting and exploiting IP assets of an organisation. Its theme revolves around protection, commercialisation and exploitation of technology and intellectual property. ICIP 2007 is being held 5th - 7th December 2007 at the Swissotel, Sydney NSW. For further information, log onto <http://www.iir.com.au/icip>

News

ARC & NHMRC Awards

Congratulations to the many PAH researchers who were successful in obtaining funding from the recently announced ARC and NHMRC awards. Researchers at the PAH are involved in new research grants worth over \$8 million, while covering a wide variety of basic science and clinical areas.

Highlights include:

- Two large NHMRC Project Grants to Dr Neil Wetzig, to conduct clinical trials on sentinel node based management of breast cancer
- An NHMRC Project Grant to Dr Nuala Byrne, on improving long term weight loss
- An NHMRC Project Grant involving Professor David Johnson and Professor Stephen Lynch, on improving patient outcomes through dosage individualisation of immunosuppressant drugs
- An NHMRC Project Grant to Professor Matthew Brown, to conduct an Australian Genomewide Association Study in Osteoporosis
- An NHMRC Project Grant to Associate Professor Elizabeth Powell and Dr Julie Jonsson, on obesity in impaired treatment response in chronic hepatitis C
- An NHMRC Project Grant involving Associate Professor Graeme Nimmo, on inhibition of histidine kinase signal sensing
- An NHMRC Project Grant to Dr Ingrid Hickman, on obesity-related inflammation and insulin resistance in chronic liver disease
- Two NHMRC Project Grants involving Professor Michael Roberts, on antibiotic dosing and drug delivery by topical application
- An ARC Linkage Grant (in conjunction with Benitec Ltd) to Dr Nigel McMillan, for investigations into the role of RNA interference in immune response
- An NHMRC Practitioner Fellowship to Professor John Upham
- An NHMRC Research Fellowship to Dr Jon Whitehead

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