12 October 2015

**Sunshine Coast staff showcase innovative research as Wishlist research grant recipients announced**

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) staff will showcase their cutting edge medical research as the 2015 Wishlist Research Grants recipients are announced on Wednesday 14 October 2015.

A record 16 research grants worth more than $225,000 will be announced at the annual SCHHS Research Day being held at Nambour General Hospital.

SCHHS Research Committee Chair, Associate Professor Nicholas Gray said the committee had been overwhelmed by the response from researchers this year.

“It is exciting to see both the quantity and quality of research that is being undertaken within the health service,” A/Prof Gray said.

“This year has seen the highest quality work submitted for the Research Day since it commenced in 2011. We have also seen an increase in the number of research projects involving several health disciplines which demonstrates the importance of developing multidisciplinary care for Sunshine Coast and Gympie residents.”

A/Prof Gray said the Research Day was just one of the initiatives underway to support and showcase research in the health service.

“Here on the Sunshine Coast we’re delivering a new Skills, Academic and Research Centre as part of the Sunshine Coast Public University Hospital. The Research Day is about encouraging a culture of research and innovation in the region that provides best possible care for our residents.”

Wishlist CEO Lisa Rowe said the research grants are awarded across three categories.

“This year we’ve funded 11 research projects in the Novice Research Category, four in the Early Career Research Category and Dr Ogilvie Thom from Nambour’s Department of Emergency Medicine has been awarded a grant worth more than $49,000 in the Experienced Researcher Category,” Ms Rowe said.

“The range of research projects was impressive and expansive – looking at everything from progressive anaemia in elderly hip fracture patients to exploring yoga as part of antenatal care.

“It’s very rewarding for Wishlist to be able to play an active role in promoting innovative health care through supporting evidence-based research.”
The Research Day will include 16 presentations from SCHHS staff and invited presentations by two leading health researchers in Australia:

- Professor Alex Broom, Professor of Sociology, University of New South Wales, will present on ‘What drives practice and what limits change? Utilising social science to understand and transform healthcare delivery’
- Professor Wendy Chaboyer, Director National Health Medical Research Council National Centre for Research Excellence in Nursing, Griffith University, will present on ‘Engaging Patients in Care; A Patient Safety Priority’.

The Research Day is a great opportunity for SCHHS staff to develop networks and collaborations with research partners and showcase their work. Other initiatives that will help the growth of research in the health service include improved links with the University of the Sunshine Coast, TAFE Queensland – East Coast, and other academic research institutes.

SCHHS researchers are supported by Wishlist (Sunshine Coast Health Foundation), which provides research funding support for projects undertaken by health service researchers.

The Wishlist Research Grants were first launched in 2009 to offer direct advantages to service delivery and health care throughout the SCHHS.

To be eligible for a Wishlist Research Grant, the Principal Investigator must be a current staff member of the SCHHS, and suggest a research topic that had the potential to address an area of significant disease burden relevant to the health of the broader national or international community.

Wishlist pledged $475,000 of its annual spend to research projects in the 2015/16 financial year—30 per cent of the foundation’s annual commitment to SCHHS.

**PHOTO OPPORTUNITY**

**What:** The 16 recipients of the 2015 Wishlist Research Grants and their research topics will be officially announced at the SCHHS Research Day

**When:** 3.30pm on Wednesday 14 October

**Where:** Nambour General Hospital Auditorium.
2015 Wishlist Research Grants

**Experienced Researcher Category**

Dr Ogilvie Thom (Department of Emergency Medicine) $49,613.15

“Understanding Emergency Department and Mental Health service for delivery to consumers.”

**Early Career Researcher Category**

Dr Lauren Kearney (Women and Families Services Group) $19,998

“Identifying the risk: a prospective cohort study examining postpartum haemorrhage in a regional Australian health service.”

Associate Professor Steven Coverdale (Sunshine Coast Clinical School, Nambour General Hospital) $19,993.22

“Using simulation to facilitate inter-professional learning and teamwork.”

Dr John Moore (Department of Intensive Care) $15,044

“Allostatis and sedation practices in the critically ill – observational pilot study.”

Piotr Swierkowski (SCHHS Executive Director of Medical Services) $14,456

“Evaluation of the prevailing methods of clinical incident analysis and correlation with principles of the contemporary systematic accident causation models.”

**Novice Researcher Category**

Gillian Puckeridge (Surgical Services) $10,107

“Progressive anaemia in hip fractures of the elderly.”

Julie Creen (Paediatric Outpatients) $10,081.50

“Paediatric Outpatients Models of Care: Advanced Health Practitioner.”

Dr Guy Godsall (Department of Anaesthesia) $10,000

“Novel epidural local anesthetic and opioid solutions for stability testing.”

Hannah Lindstrom (Women and Families Services Group) $10,000

“Prophylactic intra-partum epidural intravenous fluid pre-loading: a prospective cohort study.”
Stacey Enchelmaier (Women and Families Services Group) $10,000

“YES – Yoga Especially for Mums by Midwives: a pilot study exploring a new antenatal pedagogy.”

Dianne Collis (Child, Youth and Family Health Service) $9,990.53

“Pondering Poos: Does a group-based primary health service supporting families of children with toileting issues impact upon child wellbeing and perceived parental efficacy?’

Jesse Pesu (Orthopaedic Physiotherapy Screening Clinic) $9,904.16

“Reliability and validity study for the assessment of lateral trunk strength.”

Kirsty Stafford (Allied Health – Surgical) $9,797.90

“A preliminary investigation into the impact of follow-up for patients who present to the Department of Emergency Medicine with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury – a mixed methods study.”

Leanne Hollis (Safety, Quality and Innovation Unit) $9,627.80

“Is SCIg better?”

Troy Stapleton (Radiology) $8,862

“Validating a blood test for abdominal fat load.”

Tanya King (Nutrition and Dietetics) $7,984.04

“Survey of the current practice of oncology dieticians and the perceptions of surgeons who recommend preoperative weight loss using very low calorie diets (VLCDs) in obese patients having neo-adjuvant chemo-radiation for rectal cancer.”

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