



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2017-2018



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# Message from the **Chairman Liam Kelly**

For supporters of the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF), there is a great sense of pride to be gained from reading this report.

This is a snapshot of what has been achieved together over the past year in our efforts to improve the health and wellbeing of our veterans and their families. I am excited by the vision Miriam and her team have for growing the reach and impact of the Foundation's work.


In the last 12 months, the Veteran Mental Health Initiative has commenced several new projects, with a particular focus on involving the families of veterans to improve health outcomes. The Clinical Trials Unit has grown in size, enabling the team to take on new studies in oncology, liver and respiratory illnesses. To extend its reach, the GMRF Liver Cancer Unit has established a national network of liver cancer researchers and clinicians, facilitating a collaborative approach to addressing the impact of this devastating illness.

I'm tremendously proud of what this team has been able to achieve, and I'm equally proud of how it's been made possible through support from Discovery Partners like RSL Queensland, Thynne + Macartney, Sullivan Nicolaides

Pathology and Medibank's 'Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund', as well as a groundswell of grass-roots community support.

GMRF donors are enabling medical research which has been developed with a clear vision of delivering translational benefit to veterans. We reaffirm this commitment as we approach Remembrance Day, 100 years on from the end of the First World War. We will pause and remember those who have served our country, and honour their legacy by enhancing support for veterans and their families, now and into the future.

GMRF is in it for the long haul. While some of our programs and projects will deliver immediate benefit, much of this research into new treatment options will be of greatest benefit to our children and grandchildren. I and the GMRF team are so grateful for the many supporters who share this long term vision and have committed to making it a reality.



**Liam Kelly QC - Chairman**



*"I am excited by the vision Miriam and her team have for growing the reach and impact of the Foundation's work."*

## Message from the **CEO Miriam Dwyer**



For the last 12 months the GMRF team have been consolidating and building on the key strengths of our Foundation across all aspects of our work. The research teams continue to exceed all expectations in reaching significant academic output, presenting their work nationally and internationally and publishing their work in high impact journals. Our clinical trials team continue to provide access to cutting edge medications to patients through new research trials and once again this year won the “Favourite Site in Australia” as voted by our peers in the Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology industry. Most importantly we continue to share our successes with you our loyal supporters.

Our supporters are the glue that holds the Foundation together. Without your commitment, significant advances would not be possible.

Your support has resulted in the education of over 700 GPs and Allied Health Professional in recognising the signs and symptoms of PTSD. Your support has also allowed us to educate veterans and their families and the broader Australian community on the scourge of fatty liver disease and how changes to our lifestyle can

improve our health. Your support has also supported students achieve their goals and has set them up for a lifetime of service to medical research. We aim to continue to work with you to deliver outstanding results long into the future.

Finally, a note of thanks to Liam Kelly QC, our Board Chair, who has been a wise and valued advisor to me over the past 12 months. Thanks also to the wonderful GMRF Board who give so generously of their time to guide the Foundation. My sincere thanks to Chris Went the CEO and Executive Team of Greenslopes Private Hospital, who continue to play a vital role in sustaining and reinforcing the value of GMRF to the fabric of the hospital. Last, but certainly not least – thank you to EVERYONE who works at GMRF. I am in awe of your commitment and dedication each and every day and it is because of your collective efforts that we are making a significant difference!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Miriam Dwyer".

**Miriam Dwyer - Chief Executive Officer**

*“Our supporters are the glue that holds the Foundation together. Without your commitment to support the Foundation’s work, significant advances would not be possible”.*



# Message from the **Director of Research Prof Darrell Crawford**

I am not aware of a more successful medical research facility co-located with a private hospital in Australia than the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation at Greenslopes Private Hospital. We are a small research facility that punches substantially above its weight in terms of national and international recognition.

As our name suggests, we are principally an organisation that researches themes related to improving the health of our veterans and their families. Our Veterans Mental Health Initiative has drawn great praise for its innovative approach to identifying veterans most likely to struggle with the transition to civilian life. The PTSD program has extended its initial observations into the associated physical co-morbidities and produced some excellent studies on sleep disorders and better approaches to their management.

Fatty liver disease, altered iron metabolism and the emerging epidemic of liver cancer are health problems for veterans across the world and our teams are making great strides in advancing knowledge in these fields.

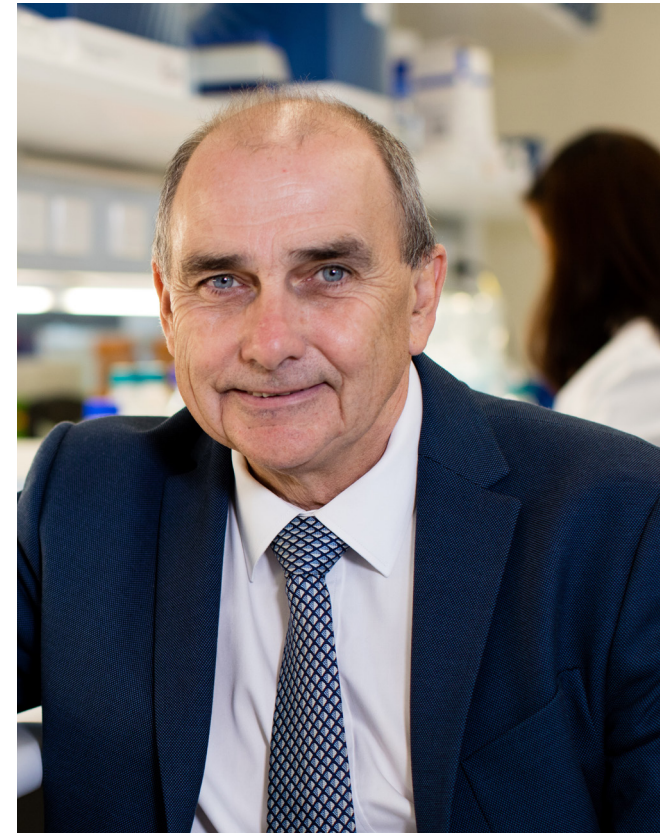
We are now seeing excellent articulation between our Clinical Trials Unit and basic research programs as we participate in international studies examining the role of novel treatments for haemochromatosis and nontuberculous mycobacterial diseases.

Our PhD students have performed exceptionally. Three students will have graduated with their PhD by the end of the year, and the remaining students have made excellent progress and continue to meet all milestones.

Our record of accomplishment over the years has been most impressive. We have grown from strength to strength and built new programs, new collaborators and new initiatives. This advancement is impossible without the support of our donors who have played a crucial role in our progress. We thank you most sincerely for your contribution to enhancing the health of our veterans and the wider Australian community.

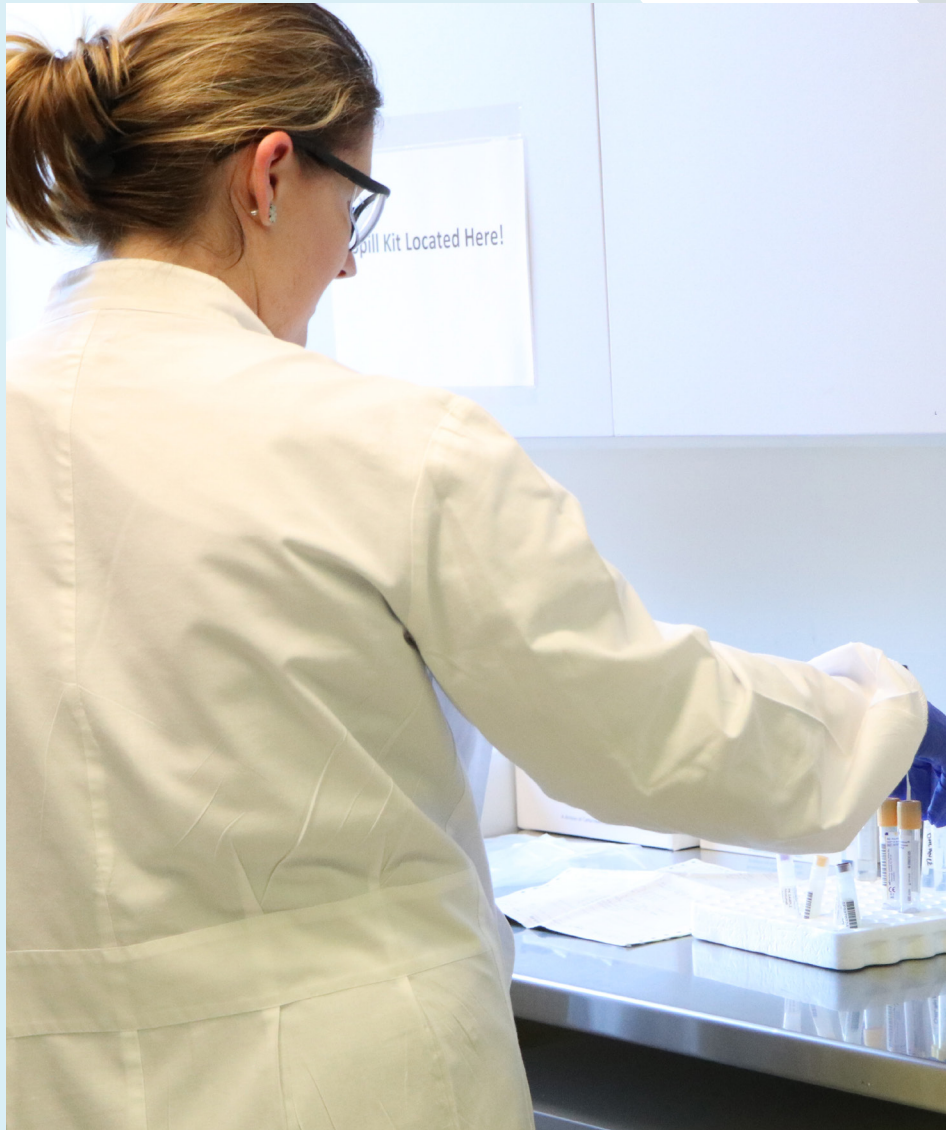


**Prof Darrell Crawford - Director of Research**



*“We are a small research facility that punches substantially above its weight in terms of national and international recognition.”*

# GMRF Profile



## About us

Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation is an Approved Research Institute (ARI) committed to life-changing medical research. We engage with individuals, businesses, and communities to grow the research of the Gallipoli Medical Research Institute. We focus on translational research with immediate and meaningful impact. We are proud to be based on the campus of Greenslopes Private Hospital (GPH).

The in-kind support we receive from GPH, in combination with the income we derive from our Clinical Trials Unit, pays for our administrative costs. **Therefore, 100% of donations we receive go directly to medical research.**

## Our vision

Enhanced health and wellbeing of our veterans, their families, and the wider Australian community through the highest quality medical research.

## Our mission

To lessen the impact of serious illness today while also searching for the cures of tomorrow by:

- Working to alleviate the burden of disease impacting our Veteran community
- Providing the infrastructure, governance and resources to support approved research endeavours
- Conducting and funding translational laboratory research; research that can have the quickest movement from 'bench to bedside'



# GPH Cancer Wellness Program

## Program Highlights

### Ranee Saffioti - Program Coordinator

Since the Cancer Wellness Program began 18 months ago it has grown to reach 172 members, with 39 new members since January 2018. This year we introduced two new topics to the free monthly education sessions for patients, carers and their support network. Feedback and numbers from these sessions have shown they were very helpful to participants. The size of the group attending these sessions varies from 30 attendees to 6 attendees. These smaller and more intimate groups allow for a more personal approach which is important for topics such as Talking to Kids about Cancer.

The 2018 program began in February with a session on Financial and Legal support. In April we ran a Survivorship Workshop in

conjunction with Cancer Council Queensland, which was complemented by a Palliative Care session in June. The Survivorship Workshop was popular with 19 participants nominating to attend after they received a Survivorship Discharge Pack. These packs have helped 48 patients and carers feel supported post cancer treatment this year.

We are looking at creating a website to provide information to patients and connect them with the cancer wellness support available across the state. Moving forward we hope to collaborate with the Ramsay Health Plus Program which will offer on-site services such as: exercise physiology, occupational therapy and speech pathology.

Thanks to GMRF and its generous donors, this Cancer Wellness Program is the support we can offer to patients and their loved ones empowers them to achieve better outcomes.

**172** Patients reached.

**84** Attendees at monthly education sessions.

**19** Attendees at the Survivorship Workshop..

**2** New topics this year: Legal & Financial support and Palliative Care



# Research Highlights 2017/2018



## Veteran Mental Health

### TRANSITION FROM SERVICE TO CIVILIAN

Almost half of all Australian veterans report at least one mental health issue when transitioning from service to civilian society. The impact of a poor transition can be devastating, with a high suicide rate amongst those who have recently discharged from service.

GMRF's Veteran Mental Health Initiative (VMHI) is working to address this issue through its Reintegration Study launched in 2016 following a \$5 Million, 5 year grant from RSL Queensland Branch. This is a multi-phase study, designed to improve transition for Australian service veterans. Over the past 12 months the projects have included; a) A qualitative analysis of cultural reintegration and psychological adjustment to civilian life following military service, b) Development, trial and psychometric properties of the Military-Civilian Adjustment and Reintegration Measure, c) Transition to employment following military service: a qualitative analysis of experiences of Australian veterans.

Phase 1 will lead to a significant increase in the knowledge regarding the transition experience of Australian veterans, as it is the first qualitative study to be conducted in Australia.

Phase 2 of the Veteran Reintegration Study is focused on the development of a psychometric assessment tool. Following validation, this tool can be utilized nationally by health care providers as routine clinical practice to enable timely detection and assessment of reintegration difficulties. It will also have a significant impact on clinicians understanding of the relationship between transition and reintegration difficulties and mental health, which will lead to more targeted intervention.

The VMHI Team have been working with RSL Queensland on the creation of the 'Employer Ready' initiative to provide an evidence-based platform to educate employers on the value of a veteran. This initiative includes a series of e-learning modules developed by the VMHI team including Military Culture and the Civilian Workplace and Dispelling Myths and Misconceptions about Veterans, which were informed by results of the Veteran Reintegration Study. The e-learning modules are currently undergoing a pilot phase and will be rolled out by the end of 2018.



"We need to offer people support before they hit rock bottom. This research will establish a method to assess veterans needs early and be proactive about promoting readiness."

VMHI Lead Dr Madeline Romaniuk



# Research Highlights 2017/2018

## Veteran Mental Health

### MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is an Australian-developed training program designed to address the widespread lack of knowledge surrounding mental health. MHFA training teaches participants about general mental health, chronic psychological conditions, behavioural warning signs of distress, and provides information on referring persons to focused mental health services. The aim of this study is to investigate the utility of MHFA training for families who are supporting an Australian veteran with a mental health condition.

This is the first investigation of MHFA training with family members of veterans, which may inform a potential national roll-out of the training offered



**Awarded 3 major research grants from Medibank and the Department of Veterans Affairs to launch new mental health projects**

through DVA and VVCS. This study is funded by Medibank's Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund.

### COMPASSIONATE MIND TRAINING

Compassionate Mind Training (CMT) is an evidence-based intervention developed for individuals who have experienced past exposure to trauma and have psychological conditions linked to self-criticism and shame. It incorporates components of a number of therapies, but places compassion at the core of its approach. In 2018, the VMHI team received a grant from the Medibank Mental Health & Wellbeing fund to conduct an 18-month study utilising CMT for veterans and their partners.

The aim of this study is to investigate the utility and benefits of CMT for military veterans and their partners to determine if it is effective at improving



**Almost 400 veterans have completed an online survey about their transition experience as part of Phase 2 of the Reintegration Study**

relational well-being, self-compassion and reducing psychological symptoms. Findings of this study will inform the potential application of compassion-focused interventions more broadly to the veteran population and their partners, which may be a useful in conjunction with trauma-focused cognitive behavioural therapy interventions.

### PROGRAM EVALUATIONS

The Veteran Mental Health Initiative Research Team are currently evaluating the psychological outcomes of the Trojan's Trek support program and Mates4Mates Equine-Assisted Therapy Program. This research will lead to quality improvement and modifications to service delivery to ensure programs are in line with evidence. It may also serve to secure further funding to enable ongoing availability of the program for veterans.



**Two new major projects launched to enhance mental health support and coping strategies for veterans and their families**

# Research Activities 2017/2018

## PTSD Initiative

### VIETNAM VETERAN SUB-STUDIES

Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is having a devastating impact on current and former service personnel. The Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF) is working to alleviate the burden of this crippling illness.

While the PTSD Initiative Vietnam veteran study concluded last year, with results published in the Medical Journal of Australia, a number of sub-studies have been ongoing. These continue to explore a range of factors associated with PTSD.

PTSD Initiative researchers have conducted ongoing analyses of the Vietnam veteran study data to compare physical and psychological health outcomes of Vietnam veterans with and without PTSD. These comparisons include psychological outcomes, dietary intake, medication, and genetics.

One of these studies, led by Sleep Fellow Dr Justine Gibson is exploring different features of sleep behaviour disorders in veterans with PTSD compared to those without PTSD. Dr Gibson recently presented her preliminary findings at the 2018 Sleep Down Under Conference in Brisbane.

Another body of work utilising the PTSD Vietnam Veteran Study data is exploring the epigenetics of PTSD, which is the changes to genes due to environmental factors. As a member of the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium (PGC) for PTSD, GMRF is part of world-wide research aiming to identify the genes involved in the development of PTSD. Three manuscripts on research into the genetics and epigenetics of PTSD have been submitted for publication and are currently under review.



*The Vietnam Veteran Study continues to further understanding of the whole body impact of PTSD. The study has led to a number of sub-studies, including investigating the impact of PTSD on sleep quality and risk of obstructive sleep apnoea in veterans.*



# Research Activities 2017/2018

## GP & Allied Health Education Program

From the results of the PTSD Initiative study, we developed an accredited education module to help general practitioners (GPs) and other health professionals manage the symptoms and co-morbidities of PTSD. The module, available on the ThinkGP website, includes a training model entitled “PTSD: A wound of mind and body”, for which GPs can obtain continuing education points for completion, in addition to two videos and two articles discussing the identification and management of PTSD.

GMRF also presented at three GP conferences during the past 12 months to promote the education module to health professionals.

To date, over 700 GPs have completed the education module, with feedback from participants highlighting the value and quality of the program:

- *It is excellent activity, gives good insight to the effect of PTSD on the person as a whole and on their families.*
- *It is perfect for GP level learning.*
- *Very well organised and succinct module, very helpful and informative. I especially liked the patient and carer perspectives provided.*
- *It was very well explained as was the difference between PTSD and general anxiety information.*



*“I believe it is important to understand factors in all families that can adversely impact on family functioning. I found the information on the prevalence of PTSD in sexual assault victims interesting, as well as the recognition of the mental health impact on children of PTSD sufferers.”* Participant Feedback.

# Research Activities 2017/2018



## Liver Research Unit

Over the past 12 months, the GMRF Liver Research Unit has focused on two major research themes.

### FATTY LIVER DISEASE RESEARCH

The first theme focuses on fatty liver disease and to determine if excess iron in fat tissue plays a role in worsening the injury in the liver. Fatty liver disease affects 1 in 4 adults and its prevalence is increasing due to the obesity epidemic. Fatty liver disease involves an abnormal accumulation of fat, causing inflammation, scarring and an increased risk of liver cancer. Previous research has shown that fat cells and iron are major players in the disease, but the exact nature of their influence on each other was unknown.

Fat tissue is responsible for production of inflammatory mediators that may affect the liver. Our studies aim to examine these pathways linking liver injury and adipose tissue (fat tissue).

In addition, understanding pathways leading to liver injury in fatty liver disease and iron overload may lead to therapies which reduce the likelihood of liver disease progression.

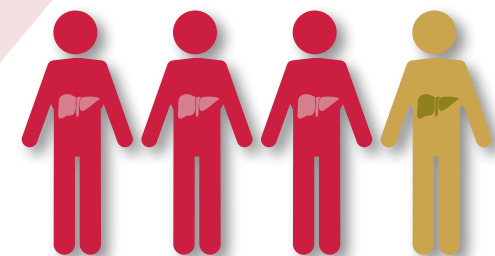
### LIVER TRANSPLANTATION RESEARCH

The second theme examines how fatty livers could be more successfully used in liver transplantation. At present livers with excess fat are rejected for use as

donor organs due to their increased risk of failure post transplant. As it stands, approximately 13% of patients die within three years of their transplant. 15-18% will require re-transplantation due to failure of their donor liver.

Our studies may help clinicians to understand whether fatty livers that would normally be discarded can be safely used for transplantation in future. This would increase the available pool of donor organs and reduce liver transplant waiting list times. We also hope our examination of drugs that may block injury that occurs during transplant will improve the outcome of transplants and result in less mortality and morbidity post-transplant.

There is a shortage of donor organs in Australia and we hope our studies will lead to an increase in numbers of donor organs available and to improve the outcomes for patients following liver transplants.



1 in 4 Adult Australians has, or will develop, fatty liver disease



# Research Activities 2017/2018

## Liver Cancer Unit

The global burden of primary liver cancer is rapidly increasing due to late detection, limited treatment options available and recurrence due to therapy resistance. These are some of the major problems that need to be solved and our unit's research themes will address some of these current problems in the field.

### LIQUID BIOPSY-BASED BIOMARKER DISCOVERY

As part of a multi-pronged approach to addressing liver cancer, our researchers are developing liquid biopsies; a series of tests to detect cancer at an earlier stage.

These liquid biopsies are non-invasive blood and saliva tests that detect cancer by-products. These cancer by-products have potent clinical utilities as novel biomarkers.

Liver Cancer Unit Head Dr Aparna Jayachandran, believes there is great potential impact of this research considering that an effective method for the diagnosis and prognosis of liver cancer has not yet been developed.

"Early stages present with no clearly identifiable symptoms, and it can be a great challenge to distinguish early HCC from diseased livers," Dr Jayachandran says.

The first project involved in this body of work is currently underway, with research aimed at discovering novel biomarkers - unique signatures - that can effectively and reliably detect cancer cells. The team aim to use these unique signatures in diagnosing liver cancer at an early stage, monitoring recurrence and treatment response in patients.

### TARGETING CANCER STEM CELLS

The treatment options available to patients diagnosed with liver cancer are very limited. Recurrence of liver cancer after treatment remains a major problem that needs to be solved. Resistance to radiotherapy and chemotherapy has been attributed to Cancer Stem Cells (CSC). CSCs represent a specialized population of transformed cells that are responsible for tumour initiation, and maintenance.

Thus, CSC-focused therapy seems destined to be the core of effective anticancer approaches. Despite the importance of CSCs in liver cancer, very little is known about how these cells become resistant to drug therapies. The purpose of this study is to understand mechanisms that enable CSCs to acquire therapy resistance. We aim to target CSCs so as to re-sensitise them to drug treatment. This study will also examine the effect of embryonic microenvironment to rewire the aggressive behaviour of CSCs to a less aggressive state.

## PROBLEM

Liver Cancer is often diagnosed at an advanced stage; with a survival rate of 1-3% within 5 years of diagnosis.

## OUR SOLUTION

Development of liquid biopsies to identify cancer and start treatment at an earlier stage.



In December 2017, GMRF established the Australian Experimental Liver Cancer Research Network (AELCRN), a national network of liver cancer scientists and clinicians to take a collaborative approach to tackling the impact of liver cancer.

# Research Activities 2017/2018



Respiratory Research Department Head Dr Rachel Thompson



**12 publications** in journals, abstracts and book chapters.



**Major advance** in understanding M abscessus.



**Interventions** for control of biofilm in hospital plumbing.

## Respiratory Research Unit

The GMRF Respiratory Research Unit has two main focus areas of research:

### BRONCHIECTASIS

Bronchiectasis is a disease of damage and dilatation of the airways/bronchial tubes in the lung that predisposes people to recurrent and chronic lung infections. Our work looks at how this affects people, why do they get it in the first place, what infections they get, how they are managed and how we can improve their quality of life. The Respiratory Research Unit has been instrumental in the establishment of the first Australasian Bronchiectasis Registry. In addition to clinical research the unit is offering patients the opportunity to participate in the registry and in clinical trials for new treatments.

### NON TUBERCULOUS MYCOBACTERIAL DISEASE

Non Tuberculous Mycobacteria (NTM) are organisms found in soil, dust and water, that can infect patients with bronchiectasis, and can cause bronchiectasis in their own right. Our research focuses on how mycobacteria survive in the environment, water in particular, how they infect humans and cause disease, how they may be becoming more resistant to antibiotics and disinfection, and how we may be able to control them (e.g by ways of controlling their growth in plumbing systems). We are also exploring aspects of the patients' immune system that might lead them to getting these infections, so that we may be able to offer better treatments.

As well the above research projects, the Respiratory Research Unit is also providing current patients with access to new treatments through their involvement in cutting edge clinical trials conducted by GMRF's Clinical Trials Unit..



# Research Activities 2017/2018

## Skin Tear Research

In collaboration with the Wound Management Cooperative Research Centre (CRC), Ms Karen Finch a research nurse at Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF) conducted an investigation into skin tears amongst elderly patients at various wards at Greenslopes Private Hospital.

Launched in 2011, the project examined the potential benefit of a twice-daily application of moisturiser when applied to the hands and feet of elderly patients. Karen enrolled 762 patients in the study, with their outcomes compared to a historical control group. At the time the study commenced, there was no protocol in place for a moisturising routine for patients.

Skin tears is reported to be the most common wound found amongst the elderly. They cause considerable pain and loss of quality of life for the patient and can lead to long-term chronic wounds. On top of this skin tears are a significant cost to the healthcare system.

The findings, which were published in June this year, showed a significant reduction in the number of skin tears for patients on a twice-daily moisturising routine. The average monthly incidence rate in the intervention

group was 4.35 per 1000 occupied bed days (96 skin tears over 12 months) which was significantly lower than those found in the historical control group of 6.61 per 1000 occupied bed days (89 skin tears over 6 months).

The Wound Management Innovation CRC has now concluded its eight year research investigation. Through the funding of projects such as GMRF's skin tear research study, CRC has contributed significantly to the understanding and treatment of wounds and helped to develop new tools and risk assessments to improve wound healing and quality of life for people with wounds in Australia.

"We are delighted these results have now been published, and that they have highlighted the potential benefit this relatively low-cost intervention can make in reducing health care costs and improving care outcomes,"

GMRF CEO Miriam Dwyer



# Clinical Trials Unit



## A snapshot of growth

Over the last 12 months, the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) has been involved in the commencement of several new trials in therapeutic areas of oncology, liver and respiratory diseases, that offer new treatment options for patients at Greenslopes Private Hospital. Currently there are 34 active trials in recruitment, dosing or patient follow-up.

The size of the team has also increased, from 12 to 15 staff with expanded Clinical trial Coordinator, Clinical Trial Assistant, Ethics Coordinator officer and Data Entry Officer.

As the Unit has grown so too has its reputation. The team were delighted to be recently awarded ARCS Favourite Investigational Site 2018, having already received the accolades in 2014 and 2017.



**11 new clinical trials**  
in oncology, liver and  
respiratory illnesses.



**Currently recruiting for**  
15 trials  
(10 oncology &  
5 non-oncology).



**Team increased**  
from 12 to 15 staff.



**First in world**  
for ethics approval for  
several Clinical trials.



**First in world**  
to recruit patients for  
three studies.



**First patient**  
dosed in Australia on  
new haemachromatosis  
study.



# Clinical Trials Unit

## An expanding network

GMRF's Clinical Trials Unit have worked with Ramsay Health Care Clinical Trial Network to establish new trial sites in nominated Ramsay Health Care Hospitals. Over the past 12 months, the team has coordinated centralisation of start-up procedures, Ethics submission, promoted business development, budget, Standard Operating Procedures and governance. New Clinical Trial Coordinators were established at new sites, and the GMRF Start-up team responded to queries to establish 4 clinical trials at 3 sites (Victoria and Queensland). GMRF representatives promoted the RHC Clinical Trial Network to Clinical Trial Sponsors and Clinical Research Organisations in Sydney and Melbourne.

There are 12 Medical Officers as affiliates of the GMRF Clinical Trials Unit including 7 Oncologists/

Haematologist, 3 Gastroenterologist and 2 Respiratory Physicians.

They are the Principal Investigators of our clinical trials with the Greenslopes Private Hospital. Dr Ken O'byrne organises the Annual Brisbane Cancer Conference where several of our affiliate Oncologists presented at the 2017 November Meeting. Dr Victoria Atkinson has been a pivotal Principal Investigator for many International melanoma studies some of which have now been published.

Some of these trials has resulted in pivotal data that has been used to register these drugs for general advanced melanoma use in the world. Dr Atkinson also had several presentations at the 2018 World Melanoma Conference (October, Brisbane, Australia), where several of the GMRF clinical trials staff attended.



The GMRF Clinical Trials Unit is facilitating access to potentially life-changing new treatments for patients battling serious illness right now.

Dianne, pictured above with CTU Clinical Trial Coordinator Nishreen recently commenced dosing on a CTU trial for a new haemochromatosis treatment.

After battling the illness for the past 34 years, Dianne is hopeful not just for a positive outcome for herself, but that the trial may pave the way for publicly available treatments for her children and grandchildren.



### **Awarded** ARCS

Favourite Investigational Site 2018, for the second year running.



**New treatments** on the the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme as a result of the Unit's trials.



**Successful completion** of FDA Audit for new trial in respiratory illness



**Collaboration** with the Ramsay Clinical Trials Network to establish new trial sites.

# GMRF PhD Scholarship Program



PhD Student Ritu Strestha (centre) with her PhD Confirmation Panel

## RITU SHRESTHA LIVER CANCER UNIT

**After joining the GMRF Liver Cancer Unit as a volunteer research assistant in 2016, Ritu Strestha commenced her PhD last year and has hit the ground running.**

Ritu is researching possible underlying mechanisms for drug resistance in Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC), a primary liver cancer, with a focus on cancer stem cells and a phenomenon which makes cancer cells more aggressive and results in the spreading of cancer throughout the body (known as epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition, or EMT). Cancer stem cells are usually resistant to available therapy and can cause tumour relapse. Ritu is aiming to target EMT and cancer stem cells in an effort to reverse drug resistance so that drugs can kill cancer cells more effectively.

In July 2018, Ritu successfully completed her first PhD milestone, the Confirmation of Candidature. Ritu also contributed as First Author on a publication, a rare feat for a first year PhD Student. Her first chapter of her PhD research was accepted in *Frontiers in Oncology*, and her second chapter has been published in the *World Journal of Stem Cells*. She has also had four other articles published in the area of liver cancer research in the last 12 months.

Recognising the enormous potential in her research, the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) awarded Ritu the Young Investigator Bursary to present her findings at a major liver cancer conference in Geneva, Switzerland.

*"It is so exciting that my work is being accepted. The conference was a great platform for me to meet people and gain more knowledge about current research into HCC,"*



**First PhD Milestone**  
completed -  
Confirmation of  
Candidature



**Awarded** the Young  
Investigator to present  
research at the EASL  
Conference in Geneva



**First Author**  
Publication in the World  
Journal of Stem Cells



# GMRF PhD Scholarship Program

## RAJI BAIYDA

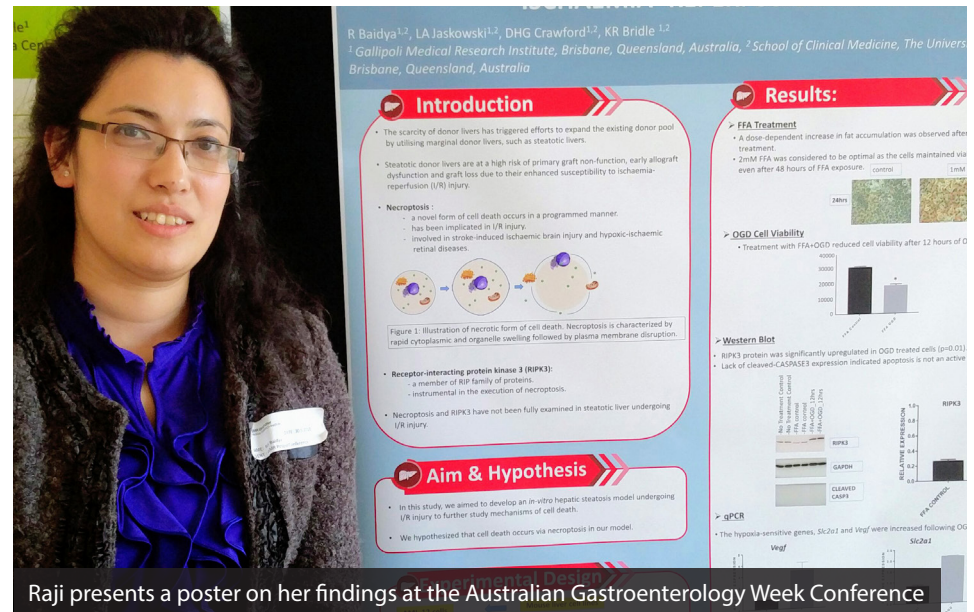
### LIVER RESEARCH UNIT

**Raji Baiyda joined the GMRF Liver Research Unit as a PhD student in 2017 to help progress the Unit's work in increasing the number of donor livers suitable for transplantation.**

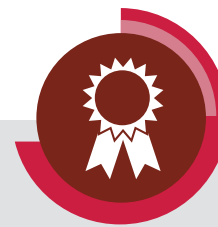
Raji is researching a form of cell death called necroptosis, which is particularly important during liver transplant when there is an interruption to the blood supply during surgery termed ischaemia/reperfusion (I/R) injury. Using a cell culture model, her preliminary data have shown that the fat in combination with I/R results in necroptosis in our cells. She has used a therapeutic agent which appears to inhibit this cell death.

The goal of Raji's research is to develop markers of injury that can be used to determine which livers might be suitable for transplantation and more importantly to predict those that may fail during transplantation. The ultimate aim is to improve the numbers of successful liver transplants and reduce deaths on the liver transplant waiting list.

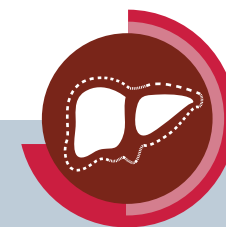
Raji has made excellent progress on her PhD so far, having completed the first two chapters of her thesis and successfully completed her first PhD milestone; the Confirmation of Candidature. In August 2018 Raji was awarded Best Poster - Student, Laboratory/Basic Science at the 58th Annual PA Hospital Health Symposium. She has also submitted abstracts to national and international meetings on this work and presented at the Australian Gastroenterology Week Conference.



Raji presents a poster on her findings at the Australian Gastroenterology Week Conference



**First PhD Milestone**  
completed -  
Confirmation of  
Candidature



Through her PhD Raji is aiming to increase the number of livers available for transplant. Currently 15-18% of patients will require re-transplantation due to failure of donor organ

# GMRF PhD Scholarship Program



Laurence receives his PhD Award from GMRF Patron Dame Quentin Bryce

## LAURENCE BRITTON LIVER RESEARCH UNIT

Dr Laurence Britton recently completed his PhD thesis investigating the role of adipocyte iron in nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, an illness that affects an estimated 5.5 million Australians.

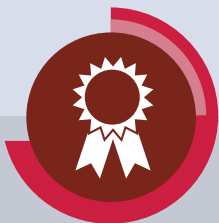
As part of his research, Dr Britton has discovered a pivotal mechanism by which iron is able to make the liver more vulnerable to the injury and metabolic dysfunction that precedes the disease. He found that iron reduced the availability of the protective hormone ApoE, which is involved in fat regulation and insulin resistance.

Understanding the modulating role of iron provides researchers with a definite starting point from which to map the development of fatty liver dysfunction. Each element of dysfunction providing an opportunity to develop a new treatment to block the process and prevent disease progression.

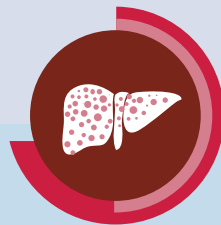
Dr Britton's findings also provide further evidence to why obesity and type II diabetes are significant risk factors for non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and gives researchers a target for future therapeutics.

During the past 12 months, Dr Britton presented his research at the Australian Gastroenterology Week Conference on the Gold Coast and attended the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) Conference in Paris. The findings of his research have now been published in a number of prominent scientific journals.

Dr Britton is working full time in Hepatology between the Princess Alexandra Hospital and Greenslopes Private Hospital.



PhD Thesis  
successfully  
completed in 2018



Discovery of a key  
element of the role  
iron plays in liver  
dysfunction



Three first author  
publications in the past  
12 months

# GMRF PhD Scholarship Program

## BIJAY DHUNGEL LIVER CANCER UNIT

Bijay recently completed his PhD in the GMRF Liver Cancer Unit and his work was aiming to develop new treatments for Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC), a form of primary liver cancer.

The aim of Bijay's PhD thesis was to design and evaluate targeted gene delivery and therapeutic platforms for HCC using genetically modified Adeno associated viruses (AAV).

Bijay's work has developed these AAVs and modified them to ensure they are specific to liver cancer cells while reducing the impact on normal liver cells. To do this Bijay particularly focused his work on micro RNAs that are known to be important in liver cancer.

Bijay's work has confirmed that these micro RNAs may be a powerful and versatile tool to achieve targeted gene delivery for both research and therapeutic purposes.

The major outcomes of Bijay's research were:

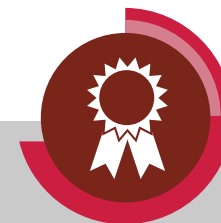
- Genetic differences between normal liver hepatocytes and HCC can be utilized to create targeted gene therapeutic systems, which can limit the therapy to HCC and spare normal liver. These therapies will now require further validation in clinically relevant disease models.
- Although focused on HCC, these targeting strategies can be adopted for other cancer types, or any diseased cell, provided appropriate cell surface receptors, promoters, and miRNAs are identified.

Bijay successfully completed his PhD in 2018 and published a number of scientific articles in the final year of his PhD. Bijay will now take up a position with The University of Sydney.

*Bijay's full PhD Scholarship is generously provided by the Thorsen Family Foundation.*



Bijay at work



PhD Thesis  
completed in 2018



Six First Author  
Publications in  
2017-2018



# GMRF PhD Student Update

## SLAWOMIR ANDRZEJEWSKI OPHTHALMOLOGY RESEARCH

Slawomir Andrezejewski is in the second year of his PhD investigating aspects of therapeutic targeting in retinal disease. The aim of his research project is to develop gene therapy to treat various blinding conditions such as diabetic retinopathy using the Adeno-Associated Viral (AAV) vector as the therapeutic agent. The AAV vector will be equipped with various genes to improve the pathological environment in affected retinal tissue.

Following his Confirmation of Candidature in April 2018, Slawomir is now finalising his first publication. The focus of this publication is the comparison of assessed incidence of neutralising antibodies to the therapeutic strategy in over 200 samples diabetic and non-diabetic patients.

In addition to this, Slawomir is also finalising data for his second publication which outlines his investigation into intracellular transport of adeno-associated virus in retinal pigment epithelium cells in order to better target the retina in diabetes. His current research is also directed towards the evolution of a new viral capsid which is in a structure similar to the adeno-associated virus, but better able to target specific cells in the retina. He is also examining another capsid variant which would have improved rate of penetration of the retina than the natural serotypes of the vector.

*Slawomir's PhD scholarship is funded through the generous support of the Thorsen family Foundation*

## WOLE AKOSILE VETERAN MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH

Psychiatrist, Dr Wole Akosile a QUT PhD candidate is using the data from the PTSD Initiative Vietnam Veteran Study to undertake his PhD entitled "Molecular mechanisms and pathways in the development of cardiovascular disease in individuals with PTSD".

As part of his thesis, Dr Akosile has had meta-analytic paper for publication demonstrating the possible link between PTSD and coronary artery disease. Dr Akosile's findings have also shown what specific PTSD symptoms are significantly associated with a history of myocardial infarction. These symptoms include avoidance memories and reminders, sleep disturbance and hyperarousal. The most significant of these symptoms was sleep disturbance.

There are two papers currently under review or in the process demonstrating the importance and role of inflammation in the pathogenesis of coronary artery in Vietnam veterans. This thesis investigated the role of Nod-like receptor factors called inflammasomes and they play a central role in the process of inflammation across several systems in the body including the cardiovascular system. Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms in these inflammasomes (NLRP12 and NLRP3) have been shown to be associated with elevated coronary calcium score in Vietnam veterans.

Dr Akosile presented his research at the GMRF PTSD Initiative - Genetics and Epigenetics Presentation in February 2018 at QUT and to PTSD Initiative participants and their families. His PhD is part-time and ongoing.

# GMRF Innovation Grants

## Enhancing outcomes at Greenslopes Private Hospital

The GMRF Innovation Grants Program is empowering staff at Greenslopes Private Hospital (GPH) to use their first-hand experience to enhance clinical outcomes for patients and fellow staff. Now in its seventh year, the grants program has been used to fund a range of projects that have made a significant and measurable difference to the health of patients and staff.

### **Too Stressful to Think of: Does Ability to Tolerate Distress have an Influence on Treatment Outcomes in Veterans?**

Dr Karolina Alichniewicz, Dr Justine Evans, Jasmine Inglis, Keith Payne Unit

Distress tolerance has been identified as a potential risk factor that maintains PTSD symptoms but in standard PTSD treatments is not specifically targeted.

Leading a group of staff from the Keith Payne Unit, Psychologist Dr Karolina Alichniewicz was awarded a GMRF Innovation Grant for her project aiming determining whether high ability to tolerate distress among veterans is associated with better treatment outcomes.

As part of her application, Dr Alichniewicz identified the value of the project in helping to answer this important clinical question due to the role it could play in determining sequencing of PTSD treatments. It may also point to alternative treatment avenues for those who do not respond to standard PTSD treatment.

The project involved 78 participants from a number of support programs including the Trauma Recovery program, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Anger Management and Alcohol Management.

The findings of the study revealed participants with higher ability to tolerate distress tended to have lower initial depression and stress levels for those participating in the Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Anxiety group and in the Anger Management group.



Similarly, participants with higher ability to tolerate distress, tended to have less risk and less harmful alcohol drinking habits in Alcohol Management group.

The findings of reduced alcohol consumption being associated with improvements in distress tolerance is clinically important as substance use is often used as coping strategy for managing negative emotions.

Dr Alichniewicz and her team will present their project findings at the 2018 GMRF Research Awards Night.

***The GMRF Innovation Grants Program is made possible by Thyne + Macartney Lawyers, Greenslopes Private Hospital, and generous GMRF donors.***



# GMRF Board of Directors

## Chairman

### Mr Liam Kelly

**BA (Hons) LLB (Hons) (UQ)**

Liam Kelly graduated from the University of Queensland in 1988 with honours in English literature and in law. He was awarded the university medal for law. He was awarded the Rhodes Scholarship for Queensland in 1989 and attended Magdalen College at Oxford University from where he graduated in 1991 with a Bachelor of Civil Law. He commenced private practice as a barrister in Brisbane in 1992 and continues to practise at the bar as a Queen's Counsel. His field of work is commercial litigation.



Mr Liam Kelly QC

## Director

### Ms Chris Went

**CEO of Greenslopes Private Hospital**

Chris Went was appointed to the position of CEO at Greenslopes Private Hospital on 11 December 2017. Ms Went was previously CEO at St Andrew's Ipswich Private Hospital (also a member of the Ramsay Group). Having completed her nursing training in 1992, Chris has post graduate qualifications in the clinical specialties of cardiology and emergency as well as business administration.

Chris has represented the private sector on the Queensland Clinical Senate for the past six years, was a member of the Department of Health Patient Safety Board for three years and has represented the Australian Private Hospitals Association on the Queensland Clinical Education and Training Council.



Ms Chris Went



# GMRF Board of Directors

## Ms Carmel Monaghan

**B.BusComm, MBA**

Ms Carmel Monaghan is Ramsay Health Care's Chief of Staff, following her appointment to this position in January 2015. In this role she is responsible for planning and directing the administrative, operational and strategic activities of the Office of the Chief Executive Officer. She is also responsible for the Company's global marketing strategy; brand management; public affairs; communications; and corporate social responsibility agenda. Ms Monaghan holds a Bachelor of Business (Communications) from Queensland University of Technology and completed a Master of Business Administration in 2002. In April 2016, Ms Monaghan was appointed as a Director of Générale de Santé, a publicly listed hospital operator in France in which Ramsay Health Care (UK) Limited has an interest.

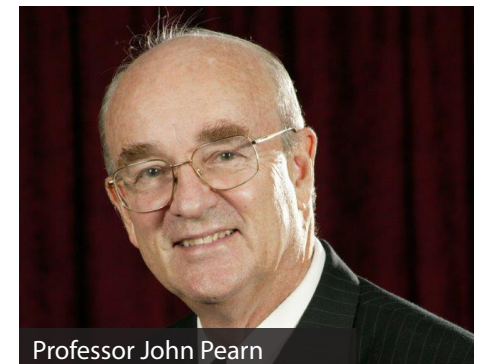


Ms Carmel Monaghan

## Professor John Pearn

**AO RDF MBBS (Hons I), MD (Qld), PhD (Lond), DSc, MPhil, DCH, FRACP, FRCP, FRCPS (Glas), FRACMA, FCollTropMed (Australas), FCollTropMed (USA), FAMA, FADI, FAIM, FLS**

Major General John Pearn has served as one of Australia's most senior doctor-soldiers. As Professor Pearn, he is a Senior Paediatrician at the Lady Cilento Children's Hospital in Brisbane; where, at its predecessor the Royal Children's Hospital, he has been a full-time staff clinician since 1968. His major clinical, research and teaching interests in paediatrics and internal medicine have included medical genetics, clinical toxicology, bioethics and accident prevention. Major General John Pearn also served in a second career in the Australian Defence Force, rising progressively through various senior command and executive positions in the Defence Health Service. In 1998 he was appointed Surgeon General to the Australian Defence Force.



Professor John Pearn

## Mr Stephen Copplin

**FCPA, FAICD**

Stephen is the Executive Chairman of the Marketing Director Centre Pty Ltd. His professional career spans numerous industry sectors, including finance, insurance, investment banking, technology, media and creative industries. Stephen is a Fellow Certified Practising Accountant, A Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and he has recently completed 15 years as an Adjunct Professor in the School of Business and the School of Electrical Engineering at the University of Queensland. As a professional Company Director, he currently holds a number of non-executive board positions with both public and private companies.



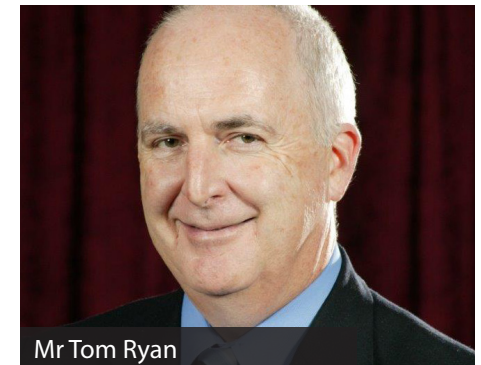
Mr Stephen Copplin

# GMRF Board of Directors

## Mr Tom Ryan

**B Pharm, FACP, FAICD**

Mr Tom Ryan formerly a Director and Chairman of Australian Pharmaceutical Healthcare Systems (APHS). Mr Ryan was a founding partner of the APHS Group. The APHS group provides pharmacy services within private hospitals, as well as providing oncology services to a variety of public and private hospitals and also providing an extensive service to aged care facilities for both prescription supply and clinical consultancies, and community pharmacy services. Mr Ryan owned and operated the pharmacy service at Greenslopes Private Hospital from 1995 until 2010.



Mr Tom Ryan

## Professor Gerald Holtmann

**MD, PhD, MBA, FRACP, FRCP**

Professor Gerald Holtmann is a Clinical Academic with substantial leadership experience in the clinical and academic setting. He is Director of the Department Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane, and serves on the Board of Directors of the West Moreton Hospital and Health Service and is the Associate Dean Clinical at the University of Queensland. His research is focused in the field of Neurogastroenterology is published more than 350 articles and book chapters in leading journals including the NEJM, Lancet and Gastroenterology. Besides his clinical and academic activities, he completed a Master in Business Administration (MBA) at the University of South Australia.



Professor Gerald Holtmann

## Professor Ross Young

**BSc(Hons), MSc, Dip, Clin Psyc, PhD, MAPS**

Professor Ross Young was appointed Executive Dean, Faculty of Health QUT in January 2013 following seven years as Executive Director, Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation (IHBI), QUT. Professor Young is a Clinical Psychologist and his research interests lie in the integration of psychological and biological risk factors in mental illness. His research includes work in substance misuse, schizophrenia, anxiety disorders, mood disorders and more broadly in behavioural medicine. This includes work in pharmacogenomics and the development of personalised medicine via the use of gene chips. Professor Young has over 210 published book chapters and papers in genetic, medical, psychiatric and psychological journals.



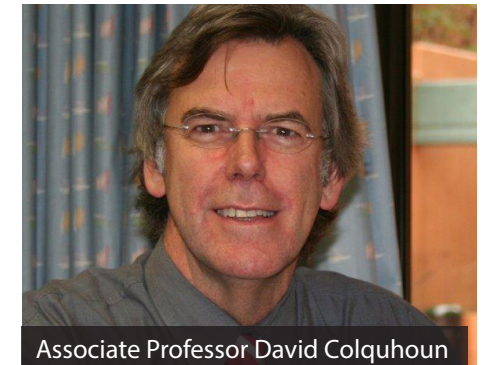
Professor Ross Young

# GMRF Board of Directors

## Associate Professor David Colquhoun

**MBBS, FRACP, FCSANZ**

Associate Professor David Colquhoun is a Cardiologist in private practice. He has been extensively involved in research over the last 35 years involving multi-centre international trials and investigator initiated trials in the area of lipids, nutrition, nutraceuticals, diabetes and obesity. He has been the AMA spokesperson for Cardiology in Queensland. He is a member of the Scientific Committee of National Institute of Complementary Medicine. He was a member of the Queensland Government Smart State Council working group on prevention and early intervention approaches to tackle chronic disease. He is Chair of the Prevention and Clinical Cardiology Council of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand.



## Mr Karl Morris

**BCom, FAICD, MSAFAA, FFSIA**

Karl Morris is Executive Chairman of Ord Minnett Limited with a career spanning over 30 years in financial services and wealth management. He is a Commerce graduate of Griffith University and holds diplomas from the Stockbrokers and Financial Advisers Association of Australia, Institute of Company Directors and FINSIA. Karl is Chairman and a Master Member of the Stockbrokers and Financial Advisers Association of Australia, Chairman of QSuper, Director of the Royal Automobile Club of Queensland (RACQ), Board Member of JP Morgan Australia Advisory Council, Board Member of the Financial Sector Advisory Council, Board Member of Archdiocese of Brisbane Catholic Foundation, Chair of Mary MacKillop Brisbane Catholic School Access Fund, Chair of Griffith University Foundation Board, Governor of the University of Notre Dame Australia and Patron of Bravehearts.



## Dr Michael Harrison

**MBBS(1st Class Honours). FRCPA (General Pathology)**

Dr Michael Harrison is the Chief Executive Officer/ Managing Partner of Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology and is a Consultant Pathologist at the main Taringa Laboratory. Dr Harrison graduated from the University of Queensland in 1977 with an MBBS (1st Class Honours) and in 1984 was awarded FRCPA (General Pathology). Dr Harrison is the President of Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia and Chairman of the Quality Use of Pathology Committee. He has presented at many national and international meetings on the topics of Quality, Laboratory Management and e Health.





# GMRF Patron & Ambassadors

## Patron

### Dame Quentin Bryce

AD CVO

Ms Quentin Bryce has enjoyed a rich and distinguished career as an academic, lawyer, community and human rights advocate, senior public officer, university college principal, and vice-regal representative in Queensland and for Australia.

Her contribution to advancing human rights and equality, the rights of women and children, and the welfare of the family was recognised in her appointment as an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1988 and a Companion of the Order of Australia in 2003. Also in 2003, she was invested as a Dame of Grace of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem. On 5 September 2008 Quentin Bryce was sworn in as Australia's twenty-fifth Governor-General. Her term concluded in March 2014 and Prime Minister Tony Abbott announced on 25 March 2014 that Ms Bryce had become a Dame in the Order of Australia.



Dame Quentin Bryce

### Mrs Jean Pockett

Mrs Jean Pockett, a member of the War Widows Guild since 1970, is a long standing State Council member and is a past Vice President of the Guild, a position she held on four occasions. She has attended numerous national Conferences and been the Guild's delegate for the ex- Service Organisations. Mrs Pockett has served on the Executive Council and has been a member of the social committee. She is a member of the Greenslopes Private Hospital Ex Service Organisation (ESO) Committee where she represents the whole of Queensland. She is very familiar with the campus at Greenslopes Private Hospital where she has volunteered as a hospital visitor for more than forty years. Her volunteer work was recognised in 2012 when she was presented with a 40 year Voluntary Service Certificate by the hospital executive. She was an inaugural board member of the Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation.

We were deeply saddened by Jean's death on the 20th October 2018. Jane passed away peacefully in her sleep aged 96. The GMRF team will fondly remember Jean for her tireless community involvement, her dedication to our work, and her dry sense of humour.



Mrs Jean Pockett

# GMRF Committees

## Executive Committee

### Members

Mr Liam Kelly Chairman  
Ms Christine Went GPH Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Miriam Dwyer Chief Executive Officer  
Ms Carmel Monaghan Company Secretary  
Professor Darrell Crawford Director of Research  
Ms Suzanne Elliott Clinical Trial Manager  
Ms Jane O'Brien Finance Manager

## Scientific Advisory Committee

### Members

Professor Ross Young (Chair)  
Associate Professor David Colquhoun  
Professor Darrell Crawford  
Dr Michael Harrison  
Professor Ken Donald  
Professor Gerald Holtmann

## Veteran Health Research Strategic Oversight Committee

### Members

Professor Gerald Holtmann (Chair)  
Professor Darrell Crawford  
Mr Bill O'Chee RSL Queensland Representative  
Dr Andrew Khoo  
Dr Ian Gardener

## Finance and Audit Subcommittee

### Members

Mr Stephen Copplin (Chair)  
Ms Christine Went  
Mr Tom Ryan  
Mr Liam Kelly  
Mr Karl Morris

# Acknowledgment

## Discovery Partners

We gratefully acknowledge the long term support and investment in our medical research by all of our supporters. Our Discovery Partners come from a vast range of backgrounds but they are unified by a strong commitment to advancing research to restore lives. The Discovery Partner Honour Board is found in the heart of Greenslopes Private Hospital and acknowledges individuals and organisations that have made a significant contribution to our research



RETURNED & SERVICES  
LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA  
QUEENSLAND BRANCH

**Greenslopes  
Private Hospital**  
Part of Ramsay Health Care



**medibank**  
For Better Health

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Macartney** 125  
1900-2025

**Sullivan  
Nicolaidis**  
PATHOLOGY  
Quality is in our DNA

People caring for people

 **THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND**  
AUSTRALIA  
CREATE CHANGE

 **CIMVHR**  
Canadian Institute for Military  
and Veteran Health Research  
 **ICRS MV**  
L'Institut canadien de recherche sur  
la santé des militaires et des vétérans

 **QueenslandXRay**

**7 NEWS**

## Corporate

### **Emeritus (\$1 million +)**

RSL Queensland

### **Mastery (\$500,000 +)**

Greenslopes Private Hospital

Ramsay Health Care

The University of Queensland Faculty of  
Health Sciences – School of Medicine

### **Visionary (\$250,000 +)**

Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology

Medinet

### **Innovator (\$50,000 +)**

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Queensland University of Technology,

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Biomedical Innovation (HBI)

Queensland X-Ray

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Stryker Australia

Thynne + Macartney Lawyers

## Community

### **Emeritus (\$250,000)**

Diggers Dozen Volunteers

### **Mastery (\$100,000 +)**

War Widows Guild of Australia (QLD)

### **Visionary (\$50,000 +)**

Kedron-Wavell Sub Branch RSL &

Kedron Wavell Services Club Inc.

Qld ex-Prisoner of War Association Inc.

Gill's Old Bastards

### **Innovator (\$10,000 +)**

Alma Williams & Friends

City of Brisbane Consistory No 1

A & AS Rite of Freemasonry

Coorparoo & Districts RSL Sub Branch

Greenbank RSL Services Club Inc

Greenbank RSL Sub-Branch

Greenbank RSL Sub-Branch Women's

Auxiliary

Redlands RSL

Sherwood-Indooroopilly RSL Sub Branch

Sherwood Services Club Inc.

Stephens RSL Sub Branch

Walking on Sunshine

Wynnum RSL Services Memorial Club



# Acknowledgment

## Individual

### Emeritus (\$100,000 +)

Mrs Norma Jean Bracken  
John & Elaine Feddersen  
Mr & Mrs John & Wendy Thorsen  
Blair & Joy Smith  
Joanne Usher

### Mastery (\$50,000 +)

The Barnett Family  
Prof Darrell Crawford  
Mr & Mrs Brett & Zahra Godfrey  
Pearl Logan, Lyn Unsworth &  
The Logan Family Foundation  
Dr Rowland Noakes  
Marjorie Trundle

### Visionary (\$25,000 +)

Jeffrey Boyling  
Mrs Betty Buising  
Dr Christopher & Simone Layton  
Mr & Mrs Bob and Bernadette Ney  
Miria, Mike, Rewiti & Tua Ross  
Roger & Marjorie Trundle

### Innovator (\$5,000 +)

The Airey Family  
Mr Rolf Albrecht  
The Broderick Family

Dr L Barrett  
Mr Leslie A Batros  
Mr & Mrs Bernard and June Berry  
Dr A Bofinger  
Dr R Bach & Dr C Boothroyd  
Mrs Mary & Mr Wally Boydel  
Mrs Margaret Brodie  
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Mr Vivian Byatt  
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Rick and Sue Chisholm  
Assoc Prof David Colquhoun  
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Mr Cyril Gilbert OAM POW Changi  
Mr David McDougall POW Changi  
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AO  
Mr Keith & Mrs Olive Gore  
Mr G. M. Grant  
Dr Trevor Gray  
Mr & Mrs Lloyd & Sharon Grundy  
Dr Ross Gurgo  
Dr Bruce Hall  
Mr Robin Harvey  
Steve & Julie Hearn  
Mrs Patricia Hemsley  
Dr P Iocavella  
Dr Eileen Heyne & Dr Imre Kalas  
Mr & Mrs Norma and Robert  
James  
Dr R Kennedy  
Dr N Kewal  
Mr A Kinkade  
Mr T Kinnane  
Dr P Kortlucke  
The Irving/Legerton Families  
Bruce & Wendy Levien  
Keong Lim  
Dr A Majumdar

Freda Mangano  
Dr Glenda McLaren  
Mr James McNeil  
Petra Milaudi  
Dr B Moore  
Mr & Mrs Ken Naramura  
Assoc Prof A Nicol  
Assoc Prof D Nicol  
Professor Andreas Obermair  
George O'Kane  
Kevin & Miriam O'Shea  
W.G. Patrick  
EK & JO Pearson  
Kevin & Barbara Petersen  
Mrs J Pockett  
Dr G Powell  
Dr J Preston  
Dr Kirsten & Dr Chris Price  
Dr S Rahman  
Dr J Reddrop  
Mr Edward Rigden  
Dr D Rosengren  
Roy Ryan  
Henry & Judi Scheuber  
Dr P Sharwood OAM RFD  
Mrs Betty Smith  
Ms Sheila B Smith  
Dr Lynda Spelman

Mrs Anne Stanton  
Assoc Prof C Steadman  
Professor Michael Stowasser  
Assoc Prof Christopher Strakosch  
Dr Katherine Stuart  
Mr Nichalos (Pepper) &  
Mrs Maria Taifalous  
Mrs Jean Thompson  
Anne & Brian Thornton  
Mrs Gwendoline C Trimble and  
WOFF J. "Bushy" Trimble A33761  
Mrs Joye Trundle  
Mr & Mrs Nicholas and Eugenia  
Valianos  
Dr G Wagner  
Dr P Waterhouse  
Dr Noela Whitby AM &  
Prof Michael Whitby  
Dr P Whiting  
Mrs Alma Williams  
Mr & Mrs John & Leone Wilson  
Dr Glen & Mrs Susan Wood

# Acknowledgment

## Foundations, Trusts & Estates

### Foundations

Paul Ramsay Foundation  
Cory Charitable Foundation  
Goldman Sachs JBWere Foundation  
James N Kirby Foundation  
State Trustees Australia Foundation  
The Honda Foundation

### Estates

Estate of Christina Ann Alexander  
Estate of Mr Victor John Bahr  
Mrs Norma June Bracken  
Estate of Mr Jeremiah Coffey  
Estate of Mrs Marjorie H Eastman  
Estate of Mrs Josie Clare Grinsell  
The Family of Dick and Elsie Hagerty  
Estate of Mrs Mary Lamond Hinkley  
Estate of Elizabeth Hughes  
Estate of Mr Mark Kelly  
Estate of Jean Linz  
Estate of Eugenie J MacLennan  
Mr G.D (Doug) Murray  
Estate of Shirelle Nahow  
Estate of Adele C Radke  
Estate of Mrs Nancy Rauchle  
Estate of John & Joan Smith  
Estate of Mrs Joyce Smith

Estate of Mrs Lucie Spatz

### In Memoriam

Nulma Ball  
Keith and Marjorie Boyling  
Brian John Brandenburg  
Delia Helen Cameron  
Olga Clarke  
Mrs Gert Francis  
Mr John Leslie Harrison  
Mr Lou Jurasko  
Henry James Elly Kinder (AE2, ex POW)  
(Buick) Ross Kinder (8th Division, ex POW)  
Cecil Gordon Lansdown  
Lynda Laughton  
Rhonda Linsdell  
The Miers Family  
Mrs Gemma Minto  
Lance & Eileen Ninnies  
Mr Jack Oliphant  
Gilbert Stanley Rider  
David Shepherdson  
Col Shields  
Mr Leslie Francis Smith (ex P.O.W)  
Peter H Solomon  
Mr Michael Storah  
Darryl Sugars  
Wayne George Thomas  
Mrs May Young

## Cyril Gilbert Testimonial Fund

The Cyril Gilbert Testimonial Fund was established to fight the impact of cancer. The following donors have united to bring the fund to a level where it makes a truly impactful difference in cancer care:

### Diamond (\$100,000)+

Mark Kelly

### Platinum 50K +

Greenslopes Private Hospital  
Mr Paul Ramsay AO  
The QLD Ex Prisoner of War Association  
Mr & Mrs Blair & Joy Smith & Mrs Joanne Usher  
Assoc. Prof Victoria Atkinson

### Gold 20K +

RSL Queensland  
Mrs Colleen Makhecha

## GPH Cancer Wellness Program

### Founding Supporters

Blair Smith & Joanne Usher

Marjorie & Keith Boyling

### Silver 10K +

Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology  
Diggers Dozen Greenslopes Private Hospital  
Mr Robert Peter Kemp  
Peta-Jane & Bruce Kemp  
Dr Pretoria Bliniski  
Janet Hooper & Louise Sanderson

### Bronze 5K +

Mr Cyril Gilbert OAM  
Associate Prof. Andrew Nicol  
Mr Richard Lizzio  
Ms Carmel Monaghan  
Redlands RSL  
Mr Pat Welsh  
Anne Marie & Paul Wright  
The Irving Legerton Families  
Helen Parker & Betty Croft  
Margaret McNickle  
Neil Mackay Barker

### Champions (\$5,000+)

Les Batros  
Peta-Jane Kemp  
Premier Fire Ptd Limited

# GMRF Partners

## Volunteers

Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation (GMRF) greatly values the time and efforts of the men and women who volunteer support our research and fundraising activities. We are ever grateful to all the volunteers at Greenslopes Private Hospital. Your spirit and energy inspire us every day.

We are also particularly grateful for the volunteers who assisted GMRF with the planning and promotion of the Red Run and other events.

## Clinical trial and research participants

GMRF would like to thank those who have directly contributed to medical research in the past 12 months through participation in a trials or studies.

Our PTSD and Veteran Mental Health Initiatives would simply not be possible without the involvement of veterans and their families who volunteered to participate in these studies.

The GMRF Clinical Trials Unit would also like to thank all patients for their time and participation in clinical trials across oncology, liver, and respiratory illnesses. It is thanks to these participants that we can conduct trials which will contribute to the general public having access to life-changing new treatments in the future.





# GMRF in the Community



Hundreds of runners turned out for the Red Run on November 5th 2017 to support GMRF's medical research and run, walk or jog for remembrance.



Alma (far right) has used her garden to raise funds as part of the Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers Garden Competition in September 2018.



The Right Note, a social group from the Keith Payne Unit at Greenslopes Private Hospital, raised funds through plant sales and a collaborative cook book.



The Womens Interest Group (WIGS) continued their fundraising efforts, contributing a generous \$2,500 donation to GMRF's research.



The Diggers' Dozen volunteers at Greenslopes Private Hospital held a number of fundraising activities including a bake sale and book fest.



Singer-songwriter Ken McDonald raised funds for medical research by donating the proceeds of album sales as he travels to remote regions across the country.

# Financial Highlights 2017/2018

## Jane O'Brien

### OPERATIONS MANAGER

The financial result for 2017/18 exceeded expectations with increases in all revenue categories. Total Revenue grew to \$4.808M led by growth in clinical trials and fundraising. The Foundation was fortunate to receive a large bequest during the year which further contributed to this increase.

The Foundation strives to allocate as much as possible to its research activities and this is reflected in the expenditure breakdown with just over 80% spent directly on research and clinical trial activities.

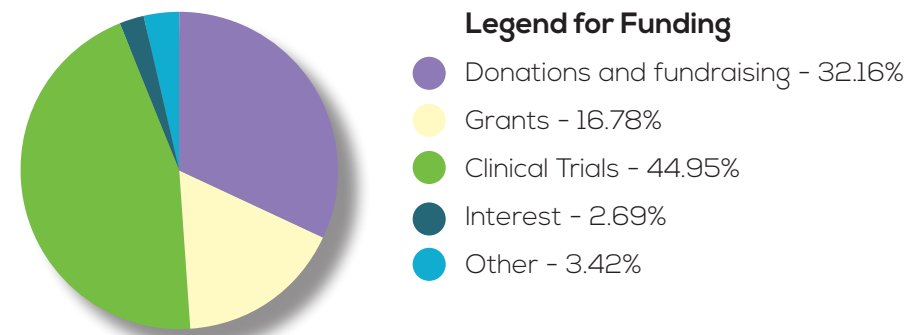
The Foundation signed a new lease with Greenslopes Private Hospital (GPH) during the year which allows us to

continue to occupy our premises with a full rent abatement. In addition, a new service level agreement was also signed with the Hospital providing us with a number of key services and utilities at no cost. This significant contribution from GPH allows us to keep our general operating and administrative costs very low and less than 5% of total expenditure. The Clinical Trials Unit was again able to generate sufficient surplus to cover these overheads so that we continue to be able to allocate 100% of all fundraising and donations directly to research.

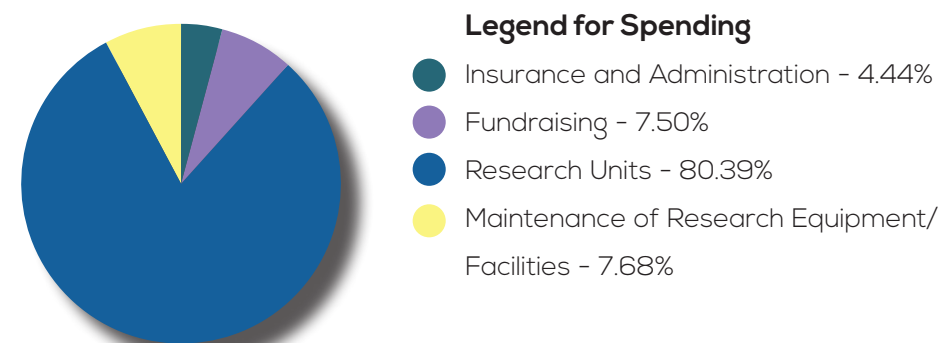
Cash balances and retained earnings remain strong ensuring a strong financial base and financial stability in the longer term.

"We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of our supporters who have contributed to our growth over the last 12 months. It is inspiring to see the trust placed in our researchers by donors from all walks of life. We can only continue this work because of them."

## GMRF funding



## GMRF spending



0

That's the percentage of your donation spent on fundraising and administration. These costs are covered by the income of our Clinical Trials Unit and the in-kind support of Greenslopes Private Hospital.

# Appendix 2017/2018



**Veteran Mental Health Initiative**  
Research to restore lives

## VETERAN MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

### PUBLICATIONS

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Gilmour, J., & Romaniuk, M. Confirmatory factor analysis and psychometric properties of the Clinician Administered Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Scale (CAPS-5) within an Australian Vietnam Veteran Sample.



**Manuscripts**

**11**



**Abstracts / Posters**

**5**



**Invited Presentations**

**5**



# Appendix 2017/2018



## PTSD INITIATIVE PUBLICATIONS

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4. Bruenig D, Mehta D, Morris CP, Lawford B, Harvey W, Young RM, Voisey J. Correlation between interferon  $\gamma$  and interleukin 6 with PTSD and resilience. *Psychiatry Research*. 2018;260:193-198.
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**Manuscripts**

**11**



**Abstracts / Posters**

**10**



**Invited  
Presentations  
5**



**Students**

**2**

# Appendix 2017/2018



**GMRF Liver Research Unit**  
Research to restore lives

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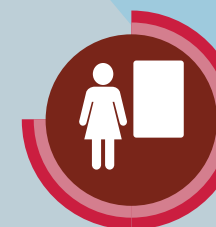
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**Manuscripts**

**12**



**Abstracts / Posters**

**3**



**Invited Presentations**

**2**



**Students**

**2**

# Appendix 2017/2018

## LIVER RESEARCH UNIT CONTINUED

Britton LJ, Bridle K, Jaskowski LA, He J, Ng C, Ruelcke JE, Mohamed A, Reiling J, Santrampurwala N, Hill MM, Whitehead JP, Subramaniam VN, Crawford DHG. Iron blocks the secretion of apolipoprotein E in cultured human adipocytes (In Press, Cellular and Molecular Gastroenterology and Hepatology).

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**GMRF Liver Cancer Unit**  
Research to restore lives

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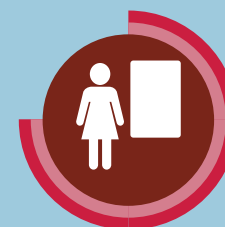
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## Manuscripts



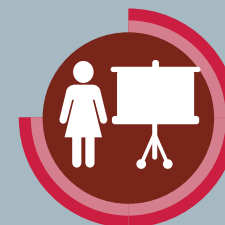
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## Abstracts / Posters



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## Invited Presentations



5

## Students



2



# Appendix 2017/2018



## RESPIRATORY RESEARCH UNIT PUBLICATIONS

Lutzky V, Ratnatunga C, Smith D, Kupz A, Doolan D, Reid D, et al. Anomalies in T cell function are associated with individuals at risk of

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**Manuscripts**

**8**



**Abstracts / Posters**

**4**



**Invited  
Presentations**

**9**



**Students**

**6**

# How you can help

## Donate

If you would like to donate to our work please contact the Foundation Office using the details listed on this page. Donations can be made by cash, cheque, or credit card. You can also donate online via our website [www.gallipoliresearch.com.au](http://www.gallipoliresearch.com.au).

## Become a Regular Giver

Regular donations are essential for us to plan ahead for future initiatives, secure in the knowledge of regular financial support. GMRF Regular Givers receive an itemised tax receipt for all donations each year, allowing you to easily process your tax return.

## Become a Discovery Partner

Our Discovery Partners are committed and generous supporters who enable us to reach for even bigger goals in our quest for new treatments and breakthroughs. We are proud to display donations of over \$5,000 on the GMRF Discovery Partners honour board, located in the heart of Greenslopes Private Hospital. If you would like information on the Discovery Partner program please contact Sharon Wood (GMRF Development and Bequests) on 07 3394 7105 or [WoodSharon@ramsayhealth.com.au](mailto:WoodSharon@ramsayhealth.com.au).

## Memorial Gifts

Memorial donations can be made to the GMRF in lieu of floral tributes. Memorial gift envelopes are available from the Foundation Office or can be requested via your funeral director.

## Community Fundraising

GMRF relies on the amazing efforts of local groups to raise funds in their community. If you are interested in finding out more about how to do this, please contact Andrew Cramb (GMRF Communications Coordinator) on 07 3394 6776 or [CrambA@ramsayhealth.com.au](mailto:CrambA@ramsayhealth.com.au).

## Bequests

Leaving a bequest in your Will is one of the most significant ways you can assist our work and leave a lasting legacy for future generations. After considering family and

friends, you might consider making a provision in your Will to assist GMRF. If you would like a copy of our Information Pack to help you in planning your Bequest, please contact Sharon Wood on 07 3394 7105 or [WoodSharon@ramsayhealth.com.au](mailto:WoodSharon@ramsayhealth.com.au).

## Stay in touch

Hear the latest research news and spread the word about the important work happening at GMRF. Tribute is the research newsletter of GMRF, produced twice a year. Contact us by email or telephone to receive your personal copy.



## 100% of your donation goes to medical research.

Our administration costs are covered by the generous inkind support of Greenslopes Private Hospital and the income from our Clinical Trials Unit.



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Private Hospital**

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