

# Department of General Practice Newsletter – Summer 2015

## Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to 2015 Summer Department of General Practice Newsletter. We apologise for the loss of formatting for those accessing this newsletter in 'hard copy'. We have focussed on getting our e-links working in order to save trees!

This is a season of celebrations and I am sure you will join with us here at Western Sydney in celebrating the success of our students, especially those who are graduating as General Practitioners! We have GP graduates now working in the Blue Mountains, Northern Rivers, Western Queensland and also on our doorstep. Jesse Hall and Shilui Lai are currently working at Tharawal Aboriginal Corporation and I met up with Jesse and Tim Senior (GP conjoint and supervisor) at the recent opening of a wonderful new facility at Tharawal!



I continue to hear great stories about our graduates particularly in my Nepean Blue Mountains LHD Board role. Several of our graduates, now JMOs, are leading new initiatives in Health Care Quality and Safety at Nepean and are now regular contributors at the Health Care Quality Committee I chair. One of our interns reported that when on her first day "live" in ED, she mentioned that she was a Western Sydney graduate, the Director said: "Thank goodness – you will know what you are doing!" All credit to their teachers!

Since our last newsletter we have contributed to a number of community events with our students and enjoyed a range of activities with our GP supervisors. Next year we are planning community and GP expos for both community members and for our GPs so stay tuned!

Our most exciting news this year has been our success with Academic Registrars for 2016. We will have three registrars working with us on teaching in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse practices, prevention and management of diabetes in Samoan communities of western Sydney and oral health training for GPs. Look out for our next newsletter when we will introduce Allison, Yasin and Thomas.

Thank you for your support of our Department and of Western Sydney University, especially our GP Supervisors whose commitment contributes enormously to the high quality of our graduates.



We wish you a happy, safe and relaxing break over the festive season.

Warm Regards

Jenny Reath

**Professor Jenny Reath | Peter Brennan Chair of General Practice**

## Update from the Department of General Practice

### Welcomes and Farewells

We have been fortunate to have secured the expert assistance of Ms Vicki Bradley in the Department since Duncan McCulloch's return to his substantive position. Vicki assists Chris Martin to keep our administrative processes on track! Miriam Brooks who has worked with us for a couple of years, has now been appointed to an ongoing half time position. Miriam will continue her work on the Evidence Based Journal Clubs, Mentoring project and provide assistance with both student teaching and GP Supervisor support. In addition we have been pleased to welcome Fiona Macintosh and Steve Helme, both experienced GPs from the Southern Highlands who have been assisting us with some curriculum development work.

We all enjoyed a day away from our desks in November to focus on forward planning. Darling Harbour provided a great back drop and the opportunity for a stroll down to the water after lunch. We particularly appreciated sharing this time with colleagues from the Northern Rivers University Centre for Rural Health, Drs Jane Barker and Jane Burges and hope next year that Dr Kam Wong from Bathurst will also be able to join us. It was lovely to get to know each other a little more. We certainly have an exceptional group of people working in the Department of General Practice!

### 2015 Department of General Practice Retreat



Drs Brooks, Mackintosh, Trankle and Tan take a break at Darling Harbour

### Awards and appointments

**Dr Penny Abbott**, Senior Lecturer, General Practice has recently been appointed a member of the Justice Health & Forensic Mental Health Network (JH&FMHN) Board. She remains a member of the JH&FMHN Clinical Council, the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) Ethics

Committee, the RACGP Faculty of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and the Wentwest PHN Clinical Council.

**Dr Lawrence Tan**, Senior Lecturer, General Practice has been appointed to the Primary Care Advisory Group of the Cancer Institute NSW.

**Dr Penny Burns**, Senior Lecturer, General Practice has just been elected Chair of the World Association of Emergency Medicine Oceania Chapter and awarded a Unit Citation for Service from NSW Ambulance for: "outstanding dedication to duty and service ... in recognition of your tireless efforts during the response to a siege at the Lindt Cafe, Martin Place...".

**Prof Jenny Reath** is a member of the Collaboration for Oral Health Outcomes, Research, Translation and Evaluation (COHORTE) Research Group led by Dr Ajesh George, which won a SWS LHD Quality and Safety Award for their work on oral health with Aboriginal children.

The **Dr Nick Collins Award** has now been established in his memory to enable a fourth or fifth year medical student to attend the annual RACGP Conference. The award in honour of Dr Nick Collins recognises his commitment to General Practice and the work he did in developing a GP Mentoring program for students and fully engaging in student teaching and student research project supervision, several of which culminated in student presentations at the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) annual conference. Vale Nick Collins – your work will continue through those of us who have respected and loved you. The internet address to support the Dr Nick Collins Award Fund is <https://give.westernsydney.edu.au/nickcollins>.

## Research Grants

**Dr Penny Burns** has received a RACGP Family Medical Care Education and Research Grant (FMCER) to investigate *Roles for General Practitioners in Supporting Comprehensive Continuity of Health Care for their Patients and Local Communities through Disasters*.

## GP Supervisor / Practice Manager News

### MiC & Yr 5 PIP Process

Medicare Payment Schedule 2016	
Cut-off dates for submitting claim forms	Quarterly Payment Month
31 January	February
30 April	May
31 July	August
31 October	November

2016 Metro Placement Dates (Semester 1)	
Year 3 MiC Students: Metro	Year 5 GP Students: Metro
MiC 1: 26 <sup>th</sup> January – 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Metro 1: 8 <sup>th</sup> February – 11 <sup>th</sup> March
MiC 2: 29 <sup>th</sup> February – 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Metro 2: 14 <sup>th</sup> March – 15 <sup>th</sup> April
MiC 3: 18 <sup>th</sup> April – 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Metro 3: 18 <sup>th</sup> April – 20 <sup>th</sup> May

To reduce administrative load for our supervising GPs and their staff, all UWS Medical Students are responsible for completing the Medicare PIP Teaching Incentive form online, then printing out for the Practice to authorise. The students must return the PIP to us and we will complete and submit to

Medicare for payment on your behalf. Copies will be faxed to your practice for your records. For those practices who send to a head office for authorisation, we take care of that too!

If you have any queries please contact Chris Martin on 02 4620 3896 or email [chris.martin@uws.edu.au](mailto:chris.martin@uws.edu.au)

### **Evidence Based Journal Clubs**

From April to September this year, the Department of General Practice hosted an Evidence Based Journal Club for GPs from South Western Sydney. Dr Miriam Brooks facilitated the group of 8 enthusiastic GPs who met monthly at the School of Medicine. Each GP brought a relevant clinical question to the group, devised a search strategy, found an article to appraise, then the group discussed how we could apply the findings in our clinical workplace settings. We had stimulating discussions covering a diverse range of topics including safety of antidepressants in pregnancy, peer support programs for Maori and Pacific Islander people with Type 2 diabetes, exercise in the treatment of knee osteoarthritis, review of the safety, risks and benefits of fish oil, menopause management and an Australian systematic review of the use of paracetamol for hip and knee arthritis as well as spinal pain.

We are grateful to South West Sydney GP Link who kindly paid for our dinners. We look forward to the continuation of these invigorating and enjoyable gatherings in 2016.

### **Annual Western Sydney University GP Supervisor Evening**

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2015 a number of GP Supervisors joined us for a sumptuous meal, good conversation, and interesting discussion.

We heard from three community partners working in disability organisations about what the NDIS means for GPs. Carmel Flavell from Community Links, Dennys Martinez from Autism First and Anthony Warner from Northcott have a wealth of experience and take Year 3 students during their "Medicine in Context" term. The introduction of the NDIS brings many changes including more autonomy and choice for clients and their carers, however some may require more assistance from care coordinators and GPs to assist them in making decisions on the packages they choose.

Drs Dena Attalla, Fiona Mackintosh and Lawrence Tan demonstrated a number of techniques for opportunistic teaching during GP consultations. Models for teaching procedures, discussing a case with a student or registrar with the patient present, and for providing student feedback were discussed in more detail.

Finally Dr Dena Attalla and Prof Jenny Reath presented an overview of Motivational Interviewing, illustrated by excerpts from "My Big, Fat, Greek Wedding". It was great to learn in a fun way more about the theory and application of approaches to behavioural change, and to think about how we can teach this important strategy to our students.

Two GP supervisors attended the meeting remotely using Zoom. We hope to offer this option again for supervisors who are unable to attend in person. Please contact Dr Lawrence Tan if you would like more information on the topics presented. Thanks to all who attended and to the presenters, and to Chris Martin who organised the event.

### **Teaching students through role modelling**

Our General Practice Academic Lead at the University Centre for Rural Health (*North Coast*), **Dr Jane Barker**, has kindly shared an article she prepared for **GP speak**.

### *Teaching students through role modelling*

There are many joys in teaching medical students- their enthusiasm is infectious and is a reminder of all that I love in Medicine. Fortunately for us at UCRH, more GPs in our area take medical students into their practices than don't. Many make very significant commitments to teaching, being involved in the longitudinal placements in general practice or taking the more traditional shorter student placements regularly throughout the year. Others do what they are able to do within their own constraints of time and space. Most find this really rewarding. It is vital that all students, whatever their future aspirations, develop a deep understanding of the pivotal role of general practice in community and indeed in all health care. What better place to learn this than our country general practices!

Each week while students are on their general practice rotations, I meet with them and we have time for reflection. They talk about the patients they have seen but they are also acute observers of the GP/patient interaction - if, of course, they have not been left in a corner to nod off! Students learn through observation and imitation, so we should never underestimate the power of role modelling. In fact role modelling has been called our most powerful tool in medical education.

General practice is a wonderful place for students to really understand the value of good communication, the power of empathetic listening and connecting with patients at a level that allows a deeper understanding of who they are and what their needs are. They come to learn of the importance of continuity of care- not only in note keeping and effective referral and discharge summaries, but of the joy many GPs have in their long-term relationships and friendships with their patients. Students inevitably comment on this, sometimes in surprise, because they don't see it in hospital, but often in awe. They love the pictures of Juriaan Beek with the generations of babies he has delivered, Juriaan having brought into the world a good half of Casino! They note the breadth of knowledge GPs need to have. They even get excited about seeing an in growing toe-nail or a case of measles.

More often than not, they find these placements valuable and enjoyable. Sometimes GPs have invited them home or to join them in a run or a cycle. This really makes them feel cared for. Our students are often overwhelmed by all they need to learn, and it is great for them to see that work/life balance is a real possibility, even within a busy working life. We have been hearing a lot about medical student burnout and the development of anxiety or depression. For that reason alone role modelling taking care of ourselves and looking after our own health is really important.

I find it most rewarding when general practice resonates with a student and they feel they have found a future career path, sometimes when they have despaired of ever finding a place they feel they could fit in. One student reported to me-

*"I did not like hospital medicine, or the way I was being taught. When I went into my general practice it was like a family. The doctors all treated the patients as friends and knew all about them. I learned better in that caring environment."*

Of course reports are not always rosy. Sometimes students question when GPs are not following clinical guidelines or evidence base and we discuss issues of patient centred choices, intuition and how GPs may individualise treatment according to their knowledge of a patient's needs. Sometimes they have questioned how the GP has related to a patient. Sometimes, though fortunately rarely, they have been unhappy with their relationship with the GP.

Recently in the media much has been discussed about bullying in Medicine. It appears that in some areas it is alive and well, but at the least now it is being challenged. As with other forms of abuse, it is perhaps generational. There are those that believe that it was the way they learned, and the only way to learn. There are those that believe that it builds resilience. There are those who are not even aware that the student or junior staff member feels bullied, and may be shocked when they realise this is the case. Can bullying really generate competence and confidence? Can we really hope that our future



workforce will be caring and compassionate if bullying through intellectual humiliation is what we choose to role model?

Of course GPs may find the students themselves far from perfect – but which of us was at that stage? How best do we instil professionalism? How best do we teach the art as well as the science of Medicine? How best do we teach “That to care *for* a patient we must first care *about* them”? First and foremost, this has to be demonstrated through our role modelling.

We have a wonderful chance when we welcome medical students into our practices for succession planning and to influence the future of Medicine. “Is this the doctor I want caring for me?” I now ask as I move into middle age. Role modelling is powerful but we should take care what we role model- it could come back to bite us when it is our turn to be the patient!

### **GP Department visit to Bathurst 8-9 September 2015**



Dr Tan and Dr Burns visited Bathurst rural school in September to meet with the rural faculty, GP supervisors and students. The GP supervisor evening at one of the local restaurants included a presentation and role play on teaching students during consultations and some examples of teaching techniques that can be used for opportunistic teaching. Dr Tan and Dr Burns also visited Busby Medical Practice and Ochre Health Medical Centre on this visit.

### **Graduate Certificate in Allergic Diseases**

The rise in allergic disease prevalence over the last three decades has placed significant burden on healthcare systems to provide quality care to allergy sufferers. Currently there is an urgent need for allergy specialisation in primary care to meet the demand in allergy treatment and reduce waiting times.

Offered through Western Sydney University (WSU), the Graduate Certificate in Allergic Diseases is designed for medical practitioners, particularly general practitioners and paediatricians, who want to improve their care of patients with allergic diseases and gain a greater understanding of allergic disease management. Entry is open to registered medical practitioners in Australia and New Zealand.

This 2 year part-time course combines an introduction to the scientific basis of allergic diseases and clinical aspects of allergy. In the first year, students will complete a scientific program consisting of eight online modules delivered in distance mode, requiring approximately 5 hours per week of study. The second year consists of 50 hours of supervised clinical consultation within the setting of a specialist Immunology and Allergy clinic. As part of the course, students attend a full day face-to-face practical training workshop each year, the Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy

(ASCIA) Annual Conference in both years, and the Macarthur Series in Immunology in Year 2. Indicative annual tuition fee for 2016: A\$ 8,290. Payment can be made by semester. The student loan scheme FEE-HELP may be available for Australian citizens, depending on eligibility. Once enrolled students will be notified if this student loan option is available.

Further information is available through Western Sydney University at:

[http://www.uws.edu.au/future-students/postgraduate/postgraduate/postgraduate\\_courses/health\\_science\\_courses/graduate\\_allergic\\_diseases](http://www.uws.edu.au/future-students/postgraduate/postgraduate/postgraduate_courses/health_science_courses/graduate_allergic_diseases)

#### How to Apply:

All domestic applications for entry to WSU postgraduate courses must be made through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC). Step by step instructions are available on the How to Apply pages. To register your interest in this course and receive further course information, please email: [s.sonego@westernsydney.edu.au](mailto:s.sonego@westernsydney.edu.au)

### **A message to GP Supervisors from a graduating Year 5 student**

*On behalf of the final year medical students of Western Sydney University, I would like to thank all the GP supervisors for their support and teaching over the last few years.*

*General practice is an integral part of medicine and the level of teaching we received from our supervisors has been amazing. Being welcomed into the communities of the different general practices was invaluable and greatly appreciated. Learning how to manage the patients as a whole within their community is essential to our development as future doctors, regardless of the field we intend to enter.*

*One of the memorable moments of my GP placement was when I got to ultrasound a pregnant woman's stomach. There was slight concern as the heart beat wasn't able to be located on doppler, so we did an ultrasound to reassure her. It was a tremendous feeling being able to provide comfort for this expecting mother.*

*I have been inspired by my own GP rotations and am heading towards general practice. Thank you for welcoming us into your practices.*

**Kate Sandy**

### **Our communities**

Our students continue to value opportunities to meet with members of our communities and to practice some of their medical skills under the supervision of lecturers from the Department of General Practice. Read about recent events at the Railway Safety Week and the Campbelltown Homeless Hub.

#### **Rail Safety Week**

In August 2015 9 third-year medical students and 4 nursing students worked together, in a community setting to provide health checks to Sydney Metro Transport rail workers in Sydney. These were carried out in Castle Hill, Macquarie Park, Kellyville and Mulgrave. Students from the two disciplines, under the guidance of nursing and GP supervisors, enjoyed collaborating to perform blood sugar testing, BMI calculation, waist circumference measures, diabetes risk assessment and blood pressure checks. Rail workers then had the opportunity to discuss their results with the GP or nursing supervisor. If appropriate, motivational interviewing was used to encourage lifestyle modification. 216

health checks were carried out over the four days and a number of people with possible undiagnosed hypertension and diabetes were identified. Workers with abnormal results were encouraged to see their GP for further assessment. The response from Sydney Metro Transport was overwhelmingly positive and the students reported that they felt this had been a valuable clinical experience for them too. Academics from both School of Medicine and School of Nursing and Midwifery enjoyed the inter-professional collaboration and have discussed a plan for future similar projects.



### Macarthur Homeless Hub

Western Sydney University students assisted this year at the Macarthur Homelessness Hub on 30<sup>th</sup> October in Campbelltown. This one-day event was an opportunity for those facing or experiencing homelessness to connect with local community support services that may be able to assist them. Western Sydney students offered a basic health check to service providers and clients. They were supervised by three GPs and a visiting research academic. Students performed blood sugar testing, BMI calculation, waist circumference measures and blood pressure checks.



When appropriate, a DASS-21 assessment for depression, anxiety and stress was also carried out. The students demonstrated a keen willingness to sit and talk with their patients, carefully discussing their results. There was also an opportunity to briefly discuss concerns regarding other issues such as mental and sexual health, diet and exercise, smoking, alcohol and other drugs.



Contact details were provided for local GPs who were willing to provide bulk billed care and a list of contact numbers for various related services. A total of 39 health checks were carried out over four hours by four 5<sup>th</sup> year medical students. A few people with possible undiagnosed hypertension and diabetes were identified. Almost half of the people checked had a BMI indicating obesity. Those with abnormal results were encouraged to see a GP for further assessment. The feedback from the organisers and patients alike was positive and the students reported that they felt this had been a valuable clinical experience for them.

## Student News

### Mentorship Program

Eight pairs of GPs and students are participating in the 2015-16 GP Mentoring program. They meet monthly to share ideas, listen and give practical advice on topics such as what they love about General Practice, work-life balance, juggling family and medicine, research and career plans. Every student has given very positive feedback so far, finding their GP Mentors to be very inspiring and supportive. Mentoring programs are particularly beneficial for students who are first in their family to do medicine, or who have a strong interest in General Practice. We look forward to hearing more from the students and GPs next year, about the benefits of the mentoring relationship they develop over the 12 months of the program.

### General Practice Student Network News

Larry Lam, president of GPSN in 2015 reports a wide range of successful events aimed at stimulating student interest in General Practice. These include Year 3 revision event, Year 5 conference Week BBQ, O week activities (with the ubiquitous slushie machine), close the Gap event, movie night GP Careers night, Birthing Demonstration, Country Carnival, clinical skills night and a photo-booth planned for the Grad Ball! How do they pass their exams!!



We do appreciate the General Practice advocacy provided by our GPSN and welcome the new leadership team for 2016!

The new GPSN team in 2016 will be:

Chair - Louisa Ling

Vice-Chair - Vinay Murthy

Secretary - Sasha Parameshti



Blacktown Clinical School Officer - Sonia Chan  
Macarthur Clinical School Officer - Zainab Khan  
Media and Publications Officer (continuing) - Megan Foo  
Rural Officer (continuing) - Vanessa Tent  
First Year Representatives (continuing) - Finn Hugh and Thanya Sritharan

Larry Lam has been appointed to the new GPSN National Executive Team as a Local Events Officer (LEO). The LEO is responsible for the oversight and organisation of events that the various GPSN clubs at each university run and also dealing with sponsorship.



## Student Awards

We are very pleased to announce our two GP Prize winning students for 2015.

Cristina Murphy has won the Dr Anna Pham & Wollondilly Shire Council Prize for Academic Excellence in General Practice. In addition to her excellent performance in the academic components of the General Practice placement, Cristina demonstrated a mature and competent attitude in her placement performing highly in her knowledge and understanding of disease mechanisms. She has outstanding communication skills, and demonstrated an ability to deal with complex patients including those with multimorbidity and mental health issues.



Artiene Tatian is the winner of the Primary Health Care Prize for Academic Excellence in General Practice. Arti also scored extremely well in the academic components of the General Practice placement, and in addition showed an ability to provide a comprehensive patient-centred formulation of the patients' health problems, a well-thought out management plan, and a high level of integration into the practice team.

We are also grateful for the sponsorship by the Skin and Cancer Foundation of a dermatology prize for Year 5 students. This year Louise Goodall topped the exam- congratulations Louise!

Please join us in congratulating these outstanding students!

## Research updates

Read about our current research related to GP management of colorectal cancer with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse cancer survivors, our plans to work with South Pacific Islander communities to improve prevention and management of diabetes, student presentations the GP15 conference and our recent publications.

### Getting Behind Bowel Cancer Research



Dr Lawrence Tan has been studying awareness about bowel cancer in various Culturally and Linguistically Diverse groups including the Spanish Cancer network and a Vietnamese/Khmer community group in Cabramatta. He attended the Ingham Institute's 10th Annual Research and Teaching Showcase in November

2015 which featured a dynamic group of PhD students who engaged and dazzled the audience with their 3-minute theses.

He reports "It was a fantastic hearing from Prof. Ken Simpson about how the Medical Emergency team (MET) system was first introduced at Liverpool Hospital 25 years ago, and is now credited with preventing cardiac arrest in thousands of people all over the world". Along with an impressively diverse range of research conducted in Southwest Sydney that was presented, Lawrence gave a report on colorectal cancer shared care in English-speaking and CALD cancer survivors. His study was recently the subject of a poster presentation at the GP15 conference in Melbourne.



### Cancer Screening in Primary Care

Background: NSW is currently one of the poorest-performing states in Australia in cancer screening. The NSW Cancer Institute estimates our current rates for bowel screening at 33%, breast screening at 51% and cervical screening at 57% of the target population. They are designing a strategy to engage and empower more primary care professionals, particularly GPs, to assist their patients in accessing appropriate screening for early detection of bowel, breast and cervical cancer. Our Senior Lecturer, Dr Lawrence Tan attended the first meeting of the Cancer Institute's NSW Primary Care Advisory Group in November and was impressed to see how hard they are working from both consumer and health professional perspectives to raise awareness and make it easier for the population to access the free screening modalities at recommended intervals. Lawrence has since been invited to sit on the Advisory Board.



## Working with South Pacific Islander communities to improve prevention and management of Diabetes

Jenny, Penny Abbott and Lawrence are excited to be working on this new project with Dr Olataga Olofivae-Doorbinnia and her team at the Powell St Family Practice as well as other researchers at Western Sydney University including Professor David Simmonds. We will be engaging with the Samoan communities of western Sydney to identify barriers and facilitators to prevention and management of diabetes and will seek funding in the longer term to trial the strategies identified in this research.



### GP15

At the GP15 conference our students presented findings of their community research project: **General Practitioners management of mild to moderate depression in the rural setting of the Northern Rivers in NSW**

The student group reports: We interviewed ten GPs in the Northern Rivers region about their views on the management of depression in the rural setting. Our results showed that GPs feel there is a need for resources to support management but interestingly also demonstrates the diversity in need between regional areas. The inference is that a homogenous approach across rural areas is likely to be less beneficial than a tailored approach. It was an amazing to be able to present. We were quite nervous before the presentation however it seemed to be quite well received and the audience seemed genuinely interested in what we had to say and what we had learned from our project. This made it a very rewarding experience for us.

Kate Sandy, Anjali Prakash,  
Tamishka De Silva, Sandy  
Yarlagadda, Maryjka Johns





## 2015 Publications:

- Ahn J, Park J, Anthony C, Burke M. Understanding, benefits and difficulties of home medicines review – patients' perspectives. *Australian Family Physician*. 2015;44:249-53.
- Burnham D, Brooker R, Reid A. The effects of absolute pitch ability and musical training on lexical tone perception. *Psychology of Music*. 2015;43(6):881-97.
- Burns PL, Aitken PJ, Raphael B. Where are general practitioners when disaster strikes? *Medical Journal of Australia*. 2015;202(7):356-9.
- Issaka A, Agho K, Page A, Burns P, Stevens G, Dibley M. Factors Associated with Early Introduction of Formula and/or Solid, Semi-Solid or Soft Foods in Seven Francophone West African Countries. *Nutrients*. 2015;7(2):948-69.
- Jamal W, Gown G. Opioid prescribing pitfalls: medicolegal and regulatory issues. *Australian Prescriber*. 2015;38:198-203.
- Lloyd JE, Delaney-Thiele D, Abbott P, Baldry E, McEntyre E, Reath J, et al. The role of primary health care services to better meet the needs of Aboriginal Australians transitioning from prison to the community. *BMC family practice*. 2015;16(1):86.
- Nepean-Blue Mountains Medicare Local. The potential of a primary care unit in delivering interprofessional health student placements within the Nepean-Blue Mountains region. Sydney: NBMML, 2015.
- Raphael B, Burns P. The Sydney siege: courage, compassion and connectedness. *The Medical Journal of Australia*. 2015;202(2):70-1.
- Reath J, Abbott P, Dadich A, Hosseinzadeh H, Hu W, Kang M, et al. Evaluation of a sexually transmissible infections education program: Lessons for General Practice learning. *Australian Family Physician*. 2015 (in press)
- Taylor M, Eustace G, Smith B, Thompson K, Westcott R, Burns P. Experiences of responders in supporting animals and their owners in disasters. *Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC and AFAC Wellington Conference 2014* (2015); Wellington, New Zealand 2015.
- Taylor M, Lynch E, Burns P, Eustace G. The preparedness and evacuation behaviour of pet owners in emergencies and natural disasters. *Australian Journal of Emergency Management*. 2015;30(2):18-23.
- Taylor M, McCarthy M, Burns P, Thompson K, Smith B, Eustace G. The challenges of managing animals and their owners in disasters: perspectives of Australian response organisations and stakeholders. *Australian Journal of Emergency Management*. 2015;30(2):31-7.
- Vaccher S, Kannangara DRW, Baysari MT, Reath J, Zwar N, Williams KM, et al. Barriers to care in gout: From prescriber to patient. *Journal of Rheumatology*. 2016 (in press).
- Watt K, Abbott P, Reath J. Cultural competency training of GP Registrars-exploring the views of GP Supervisors. *International journal for equity in health*. 2015;14(1):89.
- Wong KC, Brown AM, Luscombe GM, Wong SJ, Mendis K. Antibiotic use for *Vibrio* infections: important insights from surveillance data. *BMC Infect Dis*. 2015;15:226.

## GP Conjoints

Thank you to all our GP Conjoints. We greatly value your commitment and contribution to our teaching and research activities here at Western Sydney University.

Dr Adel Saman	Dr Fiona Mackintosh	Dr Kelly Watt.	Dr Ranessa Sebastian
Dr Agatino Ferraro	Dr Frank Keh	Dr Ken McCroary	Dr Raymond Seeto
Dr Alan Huynh	Dr Furio Virant	Dr Kenneth Cho	Dr Rick Aitken
Dr Andrew Knight	Dr Geoffrey Chew	Dr Linda McQueen	Dr Rosemary Isaacs
Dr Angela Hsiao	Dr Georgia Rigas	Dr Ling Yoong	Dr Ross Wilson
Dr Angela Kwok	Dr Glen Au-Yeung	Dr Louise McDonnell	Dr Sangeetha Bobba
Dr Anne Gilroy	Dr Graham Chaffey	Dr Madhu Lal	Dr Sarah Gani
Dr Arif Mirza	Dr Gurdip Manku	Dr Magdy Girgis	Dr Sayeed Khan
Dr Baburam Bastakoti	Dr Hal Rikard-Bell	Dr Mark Lee	Dr Simon Young
Dr Bernadette Droulers	Dr Hamdy Boulis	Dr Matthew Bailey	Dr Soheyl Aran
Dr Bernd Rupprecht	Dr Harry Pope	Dr Matthew Gray	Dr Stephen Hampton
Dr Carina Law	Dr Heather Knox	Dr Mehrulnisa Alam	Dr Steven Wong
Dr Channappa Jayadev	Dr Helen Chriss	Dr Michael Burke	Dr Suresh Badami
Dr Charles Hayes	Dr Helen Parsons	A/Prof Michael Fasher	Dr Suresh Nair
Dr Chee Khoo	Dr Huy Quoc An	Dr Michael Phipps	Dr Sushil Anand
Dr Chee Koh	Dr Ian Thong	Dr Michael Tan	Dr Tan Bui
Dr Clare Donnelly	Dr James Aitken	Dr Michelle Crockett	Dr Tatiana Lakic
Dr Colin Jamieson	Dr Jaspreet Saini	Dr Milan Djukanovic	Dr Thava Seelan
Dr David Ng	Dr Jenny James	Dr Muralikrishnan Thiruvengadam	Dr Thomas Johnston
A/Prof David Peiris	Dr John Sandra	Dr Nicole Leotta	Dr Tuan Lieng
Dr Deepa Garg	Dr Jurriaan Beek	Dr Nigel Hawkins	Dr Upkar Goval
Dr Derek Tang	Dr Kam Cheong Wong	Dr Olataga Alofiva-Doorbinia	Dr Wally Jammal
Dr Diana O'Halloran	Dr Karen Lickiss	Dr Parker Magin	A/Prof Walter Kmet
Dr Emad Hanna	Dr Katerina Lagios	Dr Phillip Law	
Dr Emmanuel Jessa	Dr Katriona Herborn	Dr Ramesh Pillai	
Dr Eshwar Madas	Dr Fiona Mackintosh	Dr Randa Al-Hajali	

**Contact Chris Martin ([chris.martin@uws.edu.au](mailto:chris.martin@uws.edu.au)) if you wish to apply for a Conjoint appointment with Western Sydney University.**

## Contact Details for the Department

### Peter Brennan Chair of General Practice

#### **Prof. Jenny Reath**

☎ (02) 4620 3725

M: 0412 586 135

@ [j.reath@uws.edu.au](mailto:j.reath@uws.edu.au)

### Professional Staff

#### **Chris Martin**

Senior Administrative Officer

☎ (02) 4620 3933

@ [chris.martin@uws.edu.au](mailto:chris.martin@uws.edu.au)

#### **Deborah Blair**

Administrative Officer – WATCH Trial (Tue/Wed)

☎ (02) 4620 3562

@ [d.blair@uws.edu.au](mailto:d.blair@uws.edu.au)

#### **Vicki Bradley**

Placement Support Officer

☎ (02) 4620 3896

@ [v.bradley@uws.edu.au](mailto:v.bradley@uws.edu.au)

### Academic & Research Staff (A-Z)

#### **Dr Penny Abbott**

Senior Lecturer (Tue/Wed)

☎ (02) 4620 3560

@ [p.abbott@uws.edu.au](mailto:p.abbott@uws.edu.au)

#### **Dr Dena Attalla**

Academic Registrar (Tue/Thur/Fri)

☎ (02) 4620 3896

@ [d.attalla@uws.edu.au](mailto:d.attalla@uws.edu.au)

#### **Dr Ron Brooker**

Research Officer

☎ (02) 4620 3894

@ [r.brooker@uws.edu.au](mailto:r.brooker@uws.edu.au)

#### **Dr Miriam Brooks**

Senior Lecturer (Tue/Fri)

☎ (02) 4620 3896

@ [miriam.brooks@uws.edu.au](mailto:miriam.brooks@uws.edu.au)

#### **Dr Penny Burns**

Senior Lecturer (Tue/Wed)

☎ (02) 4620 3561

M: 0400 572 016

@ [p.burns@uws.edu.au](mailto:p.burns@uws.edu.au)

#### **Dr Marlee King**

Research Officer (Tue/Wed/Thur)

☎ (02) 4620 3937

@ [marlee.king@uws.edu.au](mailto:marlee.king@uws.edu.au)

#### **Dr Lawrence Tan**

Senior Lecturer (Tue/Thur/Fri)

☎ (02) 4620 3896

@ [l.tan@uws.edu.au](mailto:l.tan@uws.edu.au)

#### **Dr Steven Trankle**

Senior Research Officer

☎ (02) 4620 3930

@ [s.trankle@uws.edu.au](mailto:s.trankle@uws.edu.au)

#### **Robyn Walsh**

Research Officer

☎ (02) 4620 3486

@ [r.walsh@uws.edu.au](mailto:r.walsh@uws.edu.au)