



Fully online postgraduate programs in Reproductive Medicine and Women's Health Medicine 2016

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Medicine

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courses

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Mission statement

Innovative
education &
research
translated into
excellence in
clinical care
for women

UNSW School of Women's
and Children's Health

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Welcome from the Head of School



Professor
William Ledger

Welcome to this prospectus which outlines the courses available to you if you wish to apply to UNSW Australia for Graduate Diploma, Certificate or Masters in Reproductive Medicine and Women's Health Medicine.

Our Reproductive Medicine course was established over a decade ago and has an excellent track record in providing post graduate level education in the various subjects that fall beneath the reproductive medicine banner.

The candidates for this course include clinicians, fertility nurses, embryologists, researchers and complementary medicine practitioners, along with representatives from pharmaceutical industry and other healthcare associated disciplines. We receive excellent feedback concerning

the course content and teaching methods, in particular the practical relevance contained within the course for those wishing to pursue a career in reproductive medicine related areas. The Postgraduate Board of the School of Women's & Children's Health at UNSW Australia supervises a process of constant updating and refreshing of the various modules, in keeping with the rapid pace of change in our field. As the uptake of ART around the world continues to increase, with over 6 million births and probably over 20 million cycles of IVF having now been completed, the applicability of this course to clinical and allied practice is obvious.

The courses in Women's Health Medicine are a more recent venture which has already proven popular amongst a number of disciplines. The broader range of content reflects the breadth of knowledge required for expertise in Women's Health, with areas covering all aspects of the field from problems with conception to menopause and post-menopausal life. We have added a number of new modules to this course over the last year, whilst maintaining the core curriculum and feel it is appropriate for a wide range of clinicians and others interested in improving their skill and knowledge of women's health issues.

The team of clinical and laboratory based academics, teachers and researchers who have written and teach these modules are drawn from the staff of the School of Women's & Children's Health at UNSW Australia, along with colleagues from allied disciplines. The publication record of these individuals demonstrates the quality and skill mix of our team. We hope you find something interesting and stimulating in our prospectus and would be happy to discuss your plans further with you.

Professor William Ledger
Head of School, School of Women's
and Children's Health

Welcome from the Dean



Dean Rodney Phillips

Photograph by Miles Standish © 2015

It is my pleasure to introduce you to Medicine at UNSW Australia (The University of New South Wales).

UNSW Medicine is one of the world's top 50 medical faculties and attracts brilliant young people from around the world. Our students learn alongside world-leading researchers and clinicians. They also are an intrinsic part of the Faculty's close affiliation with the nation's finest hospitals, research institutes and health care organisations.

UNSW Medicine recognises that its students must be alive to rapid innovation so as to meet the formidable global, national and local challenges that human disease continues to impose on society. To improve patient care, UNSW Medicine is changing the way medicine is taught and practised; it is also questioning traditional forms of healthcare delivery. If we are to capitalise on new technologies we must be able to understand their potential and their limitations. Our graduates will be equipped with expertise to cope with these advances and with new patterns of health and disease as well as changing community expectations.

At the School of Women's and Children's Health, UNSW Medicine welcomes you to our global community where as alumni of this University you will contribute to the effective, efficient and equitable delivery of care to women and children.

We are committed to helping you develop the knowledge, skills and values necessary to further your career and welcome you most warmly.

Professor Rodney Phillips
Dean, UNSW Medicine

UNSW at a glance

The UNSW Australia is one of Australia's leading research and teaching universities. Established in 1949, it is ranked among the top 50 universities in the world, renowned for the quality of its graduates and its world class research.

UNSW is a founding member of the Group of Eight, a coalition of Australia's leading research-intensive universities, and of the prestigious international network Universitas 21. With more than 50,000 students from over 120 countries, it is one of Australia's most cosmopolitan universities. We offer an extensive range of flexible undergraduate, postgraduate and research programs along with state-of-the-art learning facilities, providing our students with a world-class education.

To help our students reach their full potential we offer more than 1,500 scholarships annually and a full suite of support services. Innovative research and teaching together with strong international and industry links give our graduates a competitive edge – enjoying top starting salaries and employment rates. To help ensure our research makes a practical impact, we work closely with industry.

UNSW is a vibrant research university committed to making a difference through pioneering research and preparing the next generation of talented global citizens for career success.

As a leading Australian research university we focus on areas critical to the future – from climate change and renewable energies to lifesaving medical treatments and breakthrough technologies. Our green and contemporary campus provides more on-site accommodation than any other university in NSW as well as high-quality sporting and recreational facilities.

The main UNSW campus is located on a 38-hectare site at Kensington, seven kilometres from the centre of Sydney. Other major campuses are the UNSW Art & Design in the Sydney suburb of Paddington and UNSW Canberra at the Australian Defence Force Academy.

In addition to UNSW Canberra at ADFA, UNSW has eight faculties – Arts and Social Sciences; Built Environment; Engineering; Law; Medicine; Science; the Business School; and the Art & Design – which offer an extensive range of undergraduate, postgraduate and research programs.

See UNSW at a glance:

unsw.edu.au/about-us/unsw-glance

Program/student snapshot

Reproductive Medicine started at UNSW in 2006

Women's Health Medicine started in 2013

Previous undergraduate degrees of our students:

Acupuncture, Allied Health, Applied Science, Biotechnology, Embryology, Engineering, Health Admin, Health Science, International Health, Naturopathy, Nursing, Medical Science, Medicine, Science, Physiology, Public Health.

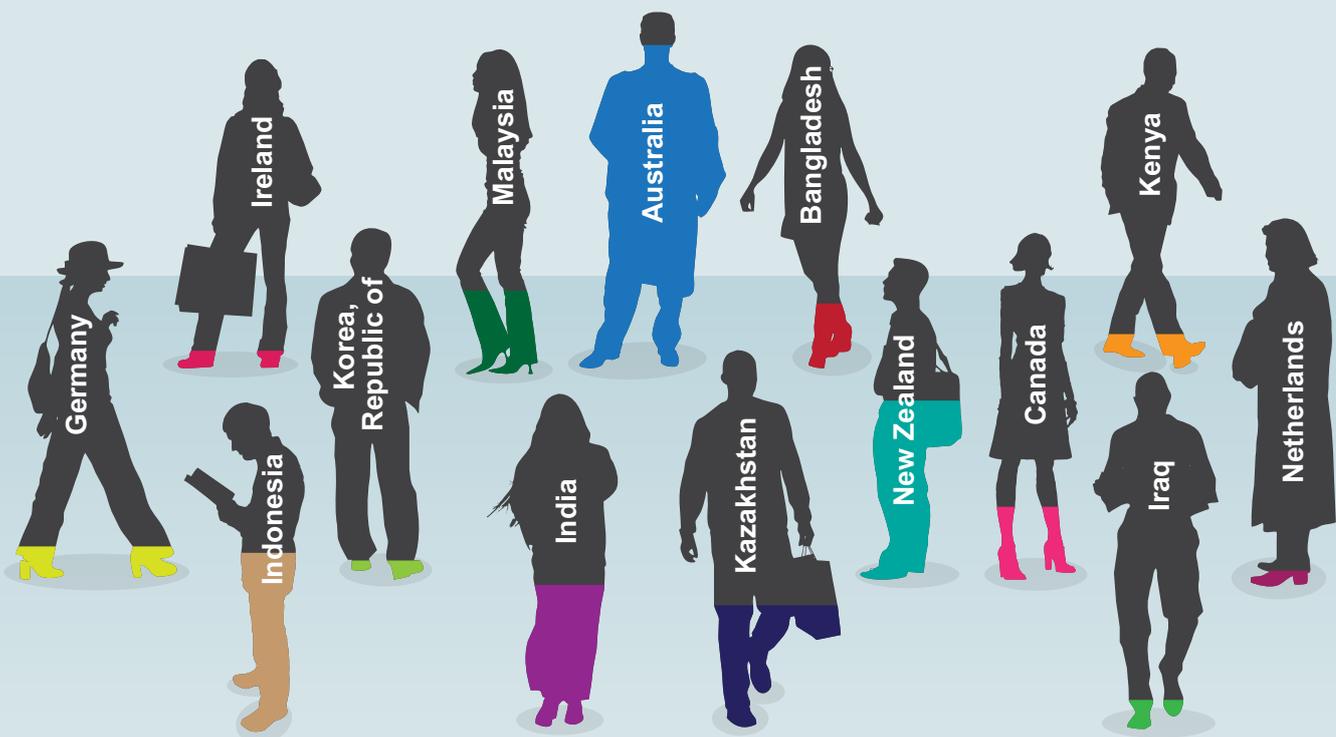
Age at commencement

Age Range 21-70

Duration of study

Average years taken to complete the program 9065: 2.5 years

Citizenship of students



A photograph of two women. The woman on the right is pregnant and smiling broadly, showing her teeth. She has blonde, wavy hair and is wearing a light-colored top under a pink cardigan. The woman on the left has reddish-brown hair tied back and is looking towards the pregnant woman. She is wearing a pink top. The background is a soft, light blue. A dark teal overlay covers the bottom half of the image, containing text.

Reproductive Medicine program

Graduate certificate, graduate diploma
or master in reproductive medicine



Professor
Geoffrey Driscoll

Reproductive medicine is at the forefront of emerging medico-scientific technology, offering hope to many needy couples, and career opportunities to those with demonstrable skills and knowledge.

This is not a gynaecology course; it is an opportunity for those with a special interest to study in a very flexible environment. The list of course options available appears in this Prospectus and you will see that there are opportunities to round out one's postgraduate education with innovative elective courses including Psychosocial Aspects, or Ethics and Law, in Reproductive Medicine.

in 2016 we are offering twelve courses and, consistent with the delivery mode, assessment is done on-line with electronically-marked Multiple Choice Questions, on-line discussion forums and scheduled assignments. For each course students should allow 6-10 hours per week over the 13-week semester for reading, research, on-line discussions, assessments and assignments.

All you need is the desire, the time and access to a computer.

**Professor Geoffrey Driscoll (Conjoint)
Program Director**

Reproductive Medicine program

Program	Total number of courses	Program duration	Course selection
Graduate certificate in Reproductive Medicine (7379)	4 courses (24UOC)	Normally 1 year of part-time study or 6 months full-time	Electives: 4 courses (24UOC)
Graduate diploma in Reproductive Medicine(5508)	6 courses (36UOC)	Normally 18 months of part-time study or 12 months full-time	<p>If studying SWCH9003, 9004, 9005: Prerequisite course: SWCH9001: 1 course (6UOC) + Elective: 5 courses (30UOC)</p> <p>or</p> <p>Elective: 6 courses (36UOC)</p>
Masters in Reproductive Medicine (9065)	8 courses (48UOC)	Normally 2 years of part-time study or 12 months full-time	Prerequisite course: SWCH9001: 1 course (6UOC) + Elective: 7 courses (42UOC)

Minimum entry requirements

The entry requirement for the programs above is an undergraduate degree in medicine, nursing, health or medical science and:

- an honours, graduate certificate, graduate diploma or higher qualification in medicine, nursing or health or medical science; or
- commencement of a recognised postgraduate medical specialist training program (e.g. general practice, obstetrics & gynaecology); or
- 1 year full-time equivalent of postgraduate professional experience in medicine, nursing, health or medical science.

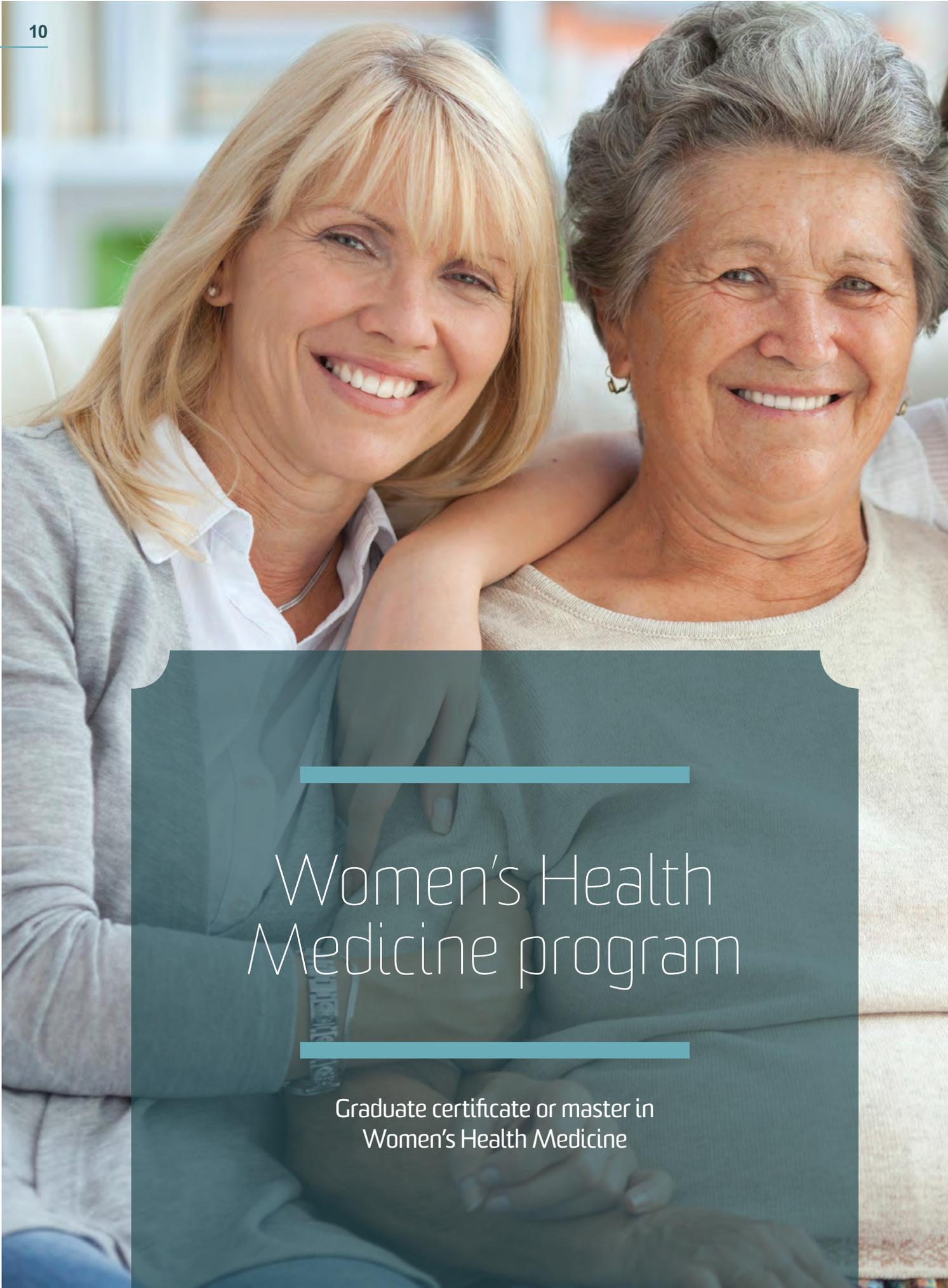
Articulation

Credit for courses completed as part of the GradCert and the GradDip can be transferred to the MRMed program, in accordance with the UNSW policy on credit transfer.

Reproductive Medicine courses

Course	Code	Semester offered	Course type	Prerequisite
Basic Reproductive Physiology	SWCH9001	1,2	Prerequisite*	
Clinical Reproductive Endocrinology	SWCH9003	2	Elective	SWCH9001
Clinical Reproductive Medicine 1	SWCH9004	2	Elective	SWCH9001
Clinical Reproductive Medicine 2	SWCH9005	1	Elective	SWCH9001
Contraception	SWCH9002	1	Elective	
Ethics & Law in Reproductive Medicine	SWCH9009	1	Elective	
Laboratory Aspects of Assisted Reproductive Technology	SWCH9006	1	Elective	
Menopause	SWCH9007	2	Elective	
Psychosocial Aspects in Reproductive Health	SWCH9008	2	Elective	
Reproductive & Perinatal Epidemiology & Biostatistics	SWCH9011	1,2	Elective	
Research Project in Reproductive Medicine	SWCH9019	1,2	Elective	SWCH9011
The Impact of Infections on Reproductive Health	SWCH9012	1	Elective	

*Prerequisite only for SWCH9003, SWCH9004, SWCH9005



Women's Health Medicine program

Graduate certificate or master in
Women's Health Medicine



Dr Terri Foran

A woman's health is her capital...

Harriet Beecher Stowe- Household Papers and Stories (1864)

Introduced in 2013, we hope that this new program provides an opportunity for those with a general interest in Women's Health to expand their knowledge within a very flexible study environment. It is anticipated that such a program may be particularly useful to family physicians, but that it will also have some appeal to other professionals such as Women's Health nurses, midwives and medical scientists.

All courses in this program are delivered in a distance-learning format. It is difficult to give an exact estimate of the time commitment required but generally participants should allow 6-10 hours per week over the 13-week semester for reading, research, on-line discussions, assessments and assignments. There are two semesters each year and a range of different courses will be offered in each semester.

**Dr Terri Foran, Sexual Health Physician
Director of Master in Women's
Health Medicine**

Women's health medicine program

Program	Total number of courses	Program duration	Course selection
Graduate certificate in Women's Health Medicine (7014)	4 courses (24UOC)	Normally 1 year of part-time study or 6 months full-time	Electives: 4 courses (24UOC)
Masters in Women's Health Medicine (9014)	8 courses (48UOC)	Normally 2 years of part-time study or 12 months full-time	Core course: SWCH9011 & SWCH9017: 2 courses (12UOC) + Elective: 6 courses (36UOC)

Minimum entry requirements

The entry requirement for the programs above is an undergraduate degree in medicine, nursing, health or medical science and:

- an honours, graduate certificate, graduate diploma or higher qualification in medicine, nursing or health or medical science; or
- commencement of a recognised postgraduate medical specialist training program (e.g. general practice, obstetrics & gynaecology); or
- 1 year full-time equivalent of postgraduate professional experience in medicine, nursing, health or medical science.

Articulation

Credit for courses completed as part of the GradCert can be transferred to the M WomHMed program, in accordance with the UNSW policy on credit transfer.

Women's health medicine courses

Course	Code	Semester offered	Course type	Prerequisite
Antenatal Care	SWCH9014	2	Elective	
Applied Reproductive Anatomy & Physiology	SWCH9017	1,2	Core	
Basic Reproductive Physiology	SWCH9001	1,2	Prerequisite*	
Cancer in Women	SWCH9016	1	Elective	
Children's & Adolescent Gynaecology	SWCH9015	2	Elective	
Clinical Reproductive Endocrinology	SWCH9003	2	Elective	SWCH9001
Clinical Reproductive Medicine 1	SWCH9004	2	Elective	SWCH9001
Clinical Reproductive Medicine 2	SWCH9005	1	Elective	SWCH9001
Common Gynaecological & Urogynaecological Conditions	SWCH9013	2	Elective	
Contraception	SWCH9002	1	Elective	
Menopause	SWCH9007	2	Elective	
Perinatal Psychology	SWCH9032	2	Elective	
Postnatal Care of the Mother and Her Baby	SWCH9031	1	Elective	
Reproductive & Perinatal Epidemiology & Biostatistics	SWCH9011	1,2	Core	
Research Project in Women's Health Medicine	SWCH9019	1,2	Elective	SWCH9011
The Impact of Infections on Reproductive Health	SWCH9012	1	Elective	

*Prerequisite only for SWCH9003, SWCH9004, SWCH9005



Research programs

Master of Science, Doctor of Medical
Science, Doctor of Philosophy



Professor
Michael Chapman

The School of Women and Children's Health at the UNSW Australia offers prospective students a Ph.D., M.D. or a Master degree by research.

This may be undertaken in all aspects of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. The Department has very experienced staff able to provide supervision covering reproductive medicine, feto-maternal medicine, gynaecology, gynaecological surgery, urogynaecology as well as oncology.

Research may also be undertaken at the National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit (NPESU). The NPESU is a collaborating unit of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) aihw.gov.au and it aims to provide information and statistics in reproductive and perinatal health.

Professor Michael Chapman
Postgraduate Research Coordinator
MBBS MD FRCOG FRANZCOG CREI

Research programs

2830

Master of Science

(Research)

This is the main master level research program for postgraduate students in the Faculty of Medicine. Candidates must demonstrate ability to undertake research by the submission of a thesis embodying the results of an original investigation. The degree of Master of Science by research may be awarded by the Council on the recommendation of the Higher Degree Committee of the appropriate faculty (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) to a candidate who has demonstrated ability to undertake research by the submission of a thesis embodying the results of an original investigation.

For further details on this program please refer to:

www.handbook.unsw.edu.au/research/programs/current/2830.html

0380

Doctor of Medical Science

(Research)

This degree requires an original and significant contribution to knowledge in an approved area. The degree requires the preparation of a published work.

For further details on this program please refer to:

www.handbook.unsw.edu.au/research/programs/current/0380.html

1820

Doctor of Philosophy

(Research)

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program is recognition of successful research experience. This degree requires an original and significant contribution to knowledge in an approved area. The degree requires a minimum of 3 years full-time study and preparation of a thesis.

For further details on this program please refer to:

www.handbook.unsw.edu.au/research/programs/current/1820.html

Program and course fees

Fees are payable on a per semester/course basis. The fees are an estimate only based on the total units of credit of the program. The fees stated here are only for 2016 and are subject to change on an annual basis.

Postgraduate coursework programs	Duration (Full-time)	Domestic		International	
		Course fee (AUD\$)	Program fee	Course fee (AUD\$)	Program fee
Graduate certificate in Reproductive Medicine	0.5 year	\$3,180	\$12,720	\$4,890	\$19,560
Graduate diploma in Reproductive Medicine	1 year	\$3,180	\$19,080	\$4,890	\$29,340
Master in Reproductive Medicine	1 year	\$3,180	\$25,440	\$4,890	\$39,120
Graduate certificate in Women's Health Medicine	0.5 year	\$3,180	\$12,720	\$4,890	\$19,560
Master in Women's Health Medicine	1 year	\$3,180	\$25,440	\$4,890	\$39,120

Postgraduate research programs	Duration (Full-time)	International	
		Total cost per year for 2016	Total cost of program in 2016
Master of Science (research)	2 years	\$41,280	\$82,560
Doctor of Philosophy (research)	3 years	\$41,280	\$123,840

FEE HELP

FEE-HELP is an Australian Government loan to assist full-fee-paying students to help pay part of all of the tuition fees. FEE-HELP is available to students who are Australian citizens or Australian permanent resident with a humanitarian visa. For more information on FEE-HELP, visit studyassist.gov.au. For advice about whether you're eligible for a FEE-HELP loan, please contact the FEE-HELP enquiry line on **1800 020 108**.

How to apply

1 Check entry requirements

2 Apply online

3 Track application

4 Accept your offer

5 Enrol in courses online



UNSW School of Women's
and Children's Health

1 CHECK ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry into our programs is based on the following criteria:

An undergraduate degree in medicine, nursing, health or medical science and:

- An honours, graduate certificate, graduate diploma or higher qualification in medicine, nursing or health or medical science; or
- commencement of a recognised postgraduate medical specialist training program (e.g. general practice, obstetrics & gynaecology); or
- 1 year full-time equivalent of postgraduate professional experience in medicine, nursing, health or medical science.

2 APPLY

Applications can be made online at apply.unsw.edu.au.

Shortly after you've lodged an application, you'll receive a letter of acknowledge by email detailing your student ID number, and instructions on how to submit the supporting documentation to us.

The following information should be attached to the application form:

- **Your Curriculum Vitae**
- **Employer-provided statements of service**
- **Originals or certified copies of your academic record and proof of completion of previous degree**

English Language requirements

If English is not your first language, or if you did not complete an assessable qualification of at least one year of duration at a university or other post-secondary educational institution within the last two years where the medium of instruction is in English, you'll need to provide evidence to show that you meet the University's English Language requirement.

for more information visit:

unsw.edu.au/english-requirements-policy

Closing date for applications:

- End of January for start of Semester 1 at the beginning of March
- End of May for start of Semester 2 at the end of July
- Late applications will be considered

3 TRACK

You may track the progress of your application online at my.unsw.edu.au.

4 ACCEPT

Successful applicants will receive a letter of offer by email. Read and follow the instructions contained in your letter to accept your offer and commence your studies with us.

5 ENROL

After you accept your offer, you are able to enrol in your course. Please refer to course selection table under each program.

Postgraduate research applications

If you're thinking of applying to our postgraduate research programs, you'll need to submit an expression of interest to a potential supervisor for your research

Supervisors list is on page 34-35

for further information regarding our research programs application process please visit:

research.unsw.edu.au/how-apply-postgraduate-research-study-program

School contacts

GENERAL AND STUDENT SERVICES ENQUIRIES

School of Women's and Children's Health

Level 1, Royal Hospital for Women
Barker Street (Locked Bag 2000)
Randwick NSW 2031

Tel: +61 (2) 9382 6730

Fax: +61 (2) 9382 6444

Email: postgrad-OG@unsw.edu.au

Web: wch.med.unsw.edu.au

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Professor Geoffrey Driscoll (Conjoint)

Reproductive Medicine program

Email: g.driscoll@unsw.edu.au

Dr Terri Foran

Women's Health Medicine program

Email: t.foran@unsw.edu.au

Professor Michael Chapman

Postgraduate Research Coordinator

Email: m.chapman@unsw.edu.au

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Professor William Ledger

Email: w.ledger@unsw.edu.au

Key dates for 2016

Semester 1 2016 (T1):

29 Feb - 27 Jun 2016

- Mid semester break 25 Mar - 3 April
- Semester 1 fee payment deadline End of Week 1
- Semester 1 census date - discontinuation without failure/financial penalty: 31 March

Semester 2 2016 (T2):

25 Jul-22 Nov 2016

- Mid semester break 24 Sep-2 Oct
- Semester 2 fee payment deadline End of Week 2
- Semester 2 census date - discontinuation without failure/financial penalty: 31 August

Course descriptions

Basic Reproductive Physiology 6UOC

SWCH9001

This course begins in the areas of genetics and molecular biology, then explores the reproductive, and other related hormonal systems, and their effect on reproduction. The male reproduction function and spermatogenesis are also reviewed. The mechanism of sexual determination, differentiation and development towards reproductive competence are examined.

Please note it is a pre-requisite for 9003, 9004 and 9005.

Contraception 6UOC

SWCH9002

This course deals with the social, epidemiological and ethical aspects of family planning. It explores the various methods of contraception, sterilisation and pregnancy termination, enabling students to better understand possible future developments in family planning.

Clinical Reproductive Endocrinology 6UOC

SWCH9003

(Pre-requisite: Completion of SWCH9001 Basic Reproductive Physiology)

This course explores a whole range of endocrine disorders associated with menstrual irregularities and infertility beginning with laboratory assay methodology and covering topics such as premature ovarian failure, obesity, hyperandrogenaemia, the polycystic ovarian syndrome, anovulation and hyperprolactinaemia and hypothalamic disorders including anorexia nervosa.

*"I am a **fertility specialist** and undertook the Master Reproductive Medicine program during my subspecialty training. The program addressed some areas which were **complementary to my subspecialty training**... the **online learning** made it possible to schedule my study around full-time work."*

Juliette Koch
Fertility Specialist

Clinical Reproductive Medicine 1 6UOC

SWCH9004

(Pre-requisite: Completion of SWCH9001 Basic Reproductive Physiology)

This course is predominantly an introduction to infertility with areas of study including epidemiology, preliminary and advanced investigation and diagnostic techniques for both female and male factors. Although not focusing on technique the role of ultrasound, endoscopic and radiological procedures will be explored.

Clinical Reproductive Medicine 2 6UOC

SWCH9005

(Pre-requisite: Completion of SWCH9001 Basic Reproductive Physiology)

This course extends the work done in Clinical Reproductive Medicine 1 including studies on endometriosis and ectopic pregnancies and the principles of surgical techniques in infertility. The complex areas of recurrent miscarriages and immunological factors are also studied and we have modules on genetics expanding and putting into clinical context work done in Basic Reproductive Physiology. Simpler forms of assisted conception are introduced.

Laboratory Aspects of Assisted Reproductive Technology 6UOC

SWCH9006

This course deals solely with the laboratory aspects of Assisted Reproductive Treatment, from oocyte collection, gamete preparation and embryo culture up to and including methods of presenting results. It introduces the use of Quality Systems and risk management in human embryo culture, and the rationales for choosing various laboratory techniques and their potential complications. This Module will provide a better understanding of the complexities of the laboratory and culture technique requirements currently in use.

*"... On the completion of the Master, you would expect a **clearer understanding** of the science, ethics and clinical application surrounding Reproductive Medicine. Personally I found this course to be a **pertinent platform** in my career thus far. I would **highly recommend** this course to my newly **graduate medical colleagues** and other junior (and not-so-junior) doctors."*

Dave Listijono
Senior Resident Medical Officer

Menopause 6UOC

SWCH9007

This course explores the historical and epidemiological aspects of the menopause. It seeks to develop an improved understanding of the physiology and pathophysiology of menopause thereby better enabling the student to provide competent advice on the overall management of menopausal signs, symptomatology, treatment and sequelae.

Psychosocial Issues in Reproductive Health 6UOC

SWCH9008

This course examines psychological and social influences that affect peoples' thinking and decisions about reproduction. Effective counselling and communication requires adopting a position of "otherness" which is never singular and always complex. The course is presented in a modular format in which different models of parenthood and health are analysed within the context of the contemporary political environment and current ethical issues.

Ethics and Law in Reproductive Medicine 6UOC

SWCH9009

The focus of this course is primarily upon ethical, social and legal aspects of reproductive medicine, with particular reference to new reproductive technologies. The first part of the course focuses mainly upon ethical issues, relating to embryos and conceptuses, genetic engineering, pre-natal testing, genetic discrimination and commercialisation. The second part of the course looks at the legal issues associated with the regulation of reproductive technologies, with particular reference to access to assisted reproductive services, the use and disposal of gametes, surrogacy and posthumous reproduction.

*"I thoroughly enjoyed studying the Masters of Reproductive Medicine **online** at UNSW ... a **wide variety** of subjects are offered and I found the subjects **relevant to my work as a GP...** the course was **easy to navigate on-line...** I am happy to say that I have been **impressed** by this course and UNSW."*

Rimona Burke
General Practitioner

Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology and Biostatistics 6UOC

SWCH9011

This course aims to provide an understanding of statistics methodology and clinical appraisal for students undertaking study in a reproductive-health related Program. This course is a core subject for 9014- Master of Women's Health Medicine program. This course aims to introduce students to research methodology and statistical analysis. Using examples drawn specifically from the field of reproductive medicine this course will also develop in students the ability to critically analyse/appraise literature pertinent to that area.

The Impact of Infections on Reproductive Health 6UOC

SWCH9012

This course aims to examine the epidemiology, symptoms and management of a variety of infectious diseases from the perspective of their potential impact on reproductive health outcomes for both males and females.

Common Gynaecological and Urogynaecological Condition 6UOC

SWCH9013

This course aims to examine the epidemiology, symptoms and management of a variety of common gynaecological and urogynaecological conditions from the perspective of their potential impact on reproductive health outcomes.

Antenatal Care 6UOC

SWCH9014

This course aims to examine the issues involved in delivering a high standard of clinical care to the pregnant woman with a particular emphasis on critical evidence-based analysis of current care systems and standards of care. The overall impact of pregnancy on a woman's life course, including our evolving understanding of maternal origins of disease, will also be examined.

*"...being online it provides the **flexibility** to learn around the demands being a mother to three young children and full-time work **commitments** ... the structure of the course has enabled me to **integrate learning** around times that suit me."*

Miranda Hickey
Key Account Manager – Pharmaceuticals industry

Children's and Adolescent Gynaecology 6UOC

SWCH9015

This course covers normal development of the female reproductive tract, pubertal development, and gynaecological conditions in the child and adolescent.

Cancer in Women 6UOC

SWCH9016

This course covers not only the diagnosis of gynaecological and breast cancers but also their particular psychosexual impact on the woman diagnosed with such cancers.

Applied Reproductive Anatomy and Physiology 6UOC

SWCH9017

This course aims to provide an in-depth understanding of the anatomy and physiology of the Reproductive system of both males and females. This is a core subject in 9014, the Master of Women's Health Medicine program and has as its focus the practical application of reproductive anatomy and physiology to common clinical situations.

Postnatal Care of the Mother and Her Baby 6UOC

SWCH9031

This course covers postnatal care of mother and her baby, newborn assessment, breastfeeding, maternal substance abuse and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

Perinatal Psychology 6UOC

SWCH9032

This course covers perinatal psychology with a significant focus on mood disorders in the perinatal period, including postnatal depression.

Technology requirements

Our courses utilise web-based teaching. UNSW Moodle is the online university learning management system that supports distance learning.

Information about web-based teaching and login to web-based courses is available at telt.unsw.edu.au

Courses are taught on the assumption that all students meet the 'IT Requirements for UNSW Students Policy' which is viewable online at it.unsw.edu.au/students/policies/index.html#ITRequirementsforStudents

Information regarding Moodle System Requirements can be found on student.unsw.edu.au/moodle-system-requirements

Teaching staff

Associate Professor Jason Abbott

B Med (Hons) FRANZCOG FRCOG PhD
Associate Professor, School of Women's & Children's Health

Dr Jason Abbott is Associate Professor having completed his PhD on the surgical treatment of endometriosis. He is an AGES board member, Contributing Editor of the Journal of Minimally Invasive Gynaecology, director of the RHW Foundation and the practice committee of the AAGL. Jason has written an undergraduate medical textbook in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and is widely published in the area of gynaecological research.



Ms Cay Camden

B.Social Work (USyd) MAASW (Acc)
Lecturer, School of Women's & Children's Health

Cay is currently employed at Oakhill College, Castle Hill, a large secondary school in NSW as a Senior Social Worker, Student Counsellor. Cay has over 25 years experience as a counsellor. This started in the obstetrics and neonatal fields including the area of infertility, paediatric palliative care, bereavement counselling and progressed for some 10 years in academia teaching at UNSW, University of Sydney and UWS in psychology, sociology, group communication and aspects of infertility. For the past 6 years she has enjoyed student counselling in both primary and secondary colleges and developed her expertise in resilience training for staff, students and parents. Cay is soon to complete an additional Graduate Diploma in Psychology at Charles Sturt University Bathurst.



Professor Michael Chapman

MB BS MD FRCOG FRANZCOG CREI
Professor, School of Women's and Children's Health
Postgraduate Research Coordinator

Professor Michael Chapman is Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. He had previously been Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in the University of London at Guys Hospital and His wealth of experience has been built on posts across the world that he has held. He worked initially in Adelaide and moved to London where he worked at Queen Charlottes Maternity Hospital – then seen as one of the leading maternity services in the United Kingdom. During that time he developed a specialised interest in reproductive endocrinology publishing papers in the area of androgens in the female and infertility. He has been involved in setting up of IVF services in London, Naples, Jeddah and Sydney and he has published widely in this area. Professor Chapman lectures regularly at national and international meetings, has over eighty scientific publications and many book chapters. His particular interests in addition to IVF are polycystic ovarian syndrome, recurrent miscarriage and the menopause.



Dr Simon Cooke

BSc Agr, PhD

Conjoint Senior Lecturer, School of Women's & Children's Health

Dr Simon Cooke qualified with a Degree in Agriculture from the University of Sydney, and then later a PhD in the Faculty of Medicine at UNSW. He has worked in, designed, set-up, and run IVF Embryology and Andrology laboratories, for the last 20 years, and is currently responsible for all NSW laboratory operations, as the Scientific Director for IVF Australia. He is a conjoint lecturer for UNSW and is a previous Secretary of the national IVF Scientists group Scientists in Reproductive Technology (SIRT). He has published in areas of culture media, media pH, in vitro culture techniques and the spindle and polarity of human oocytes and embryos, and has co-edited the SIRT textbook. He has interests in High Magnification sperm injection as a method of overcoming specific male sperm defects, Polarised light imaging of oocytes and sperm, and on improving the development and outcome of laboratory derived embryos.



Dr Michael Costello

MBBS MMed (RH&HG) FRANZCOG, CREI

Senior Lecturer, School of Women's & Children's Health

Dr Costello is a Senior Lecturer in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Gynaecologist with subspecialty certification in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (CREI) at the Royal Hospital for Women in Sydney. He is also a clinical consultant with IVFAustralia and an editor for the Cochrane Menstrual Disorders & Subfertility Group. He is a foundation member of the PCOS Australian Alliance (PCOSAA), member of the PCOSAA Strategic Advisory Group and chaired the Therapy for Infertility Guideline Development Group for the first ever evidenced based guideline on PCOS titled "Evidence-based guideline for the assessment and management of Polycystic Ovary Syndrome" which was approved by the Australian Government National Health and Medical Research Council (MHMRC) and published in 2011. He has been invited to speak at numerous local, state, national and international scientific conferences and has published widely including scientific journal papers and book chapters. His main research interests include Polycystic Ovary Syndrome, Assisted Reproductive Treatments and Evidence-Based Medicine.



Dr Rebecca Deans

**MB BS, MMed (Reproductive sciences and human genetics),
FRANZCOG, CREI**

Lecturer, School of Women's and Children's Health

Rebecca trained in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney. She then moved to the Royal Hospital for Women for her fellowship in Paediatric and Adolescent gynaecology, and sub-speciality training in reproductive endocrinology and infertility. After completing training in Australia, Rebecca went to the UK to work with Professor Sarah Creighton in Paediatric and Adolescent gynaecology at University College London Hospital and Great Ormond Street Hospital (2009-2011). She then went onto France for 6 months to further her training in reproductive surgery and infertility (2011). Rebecca now works as a Paediatric and Adolescent gynaecologist at the Royal Hospital for Women, Sydney Children's Hospital, Prince of Wales Private Hospital, and is a lecturer at the UNSW.



Ms Sandra K. Dill AM

**BComm MLS
PhD Candidate**

In 1996, Sandra Dill AM was appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia for community service in the area of infertility and in 2003, as a Life Member of the Fertility Society of Australia for her contribution to the Society and her understanding and contribution of the management of infertility in Australia. She is CEO of AccessAustralia, Chair of three international consumer led organisations and has been a past-director of the International Alliance of Patients' Organisations and a temporary advisor to the World Health Organisation. She has been invited to speak on behalf of consumers, about the psychosocial, ethical and legal perspectives of infertility to the United Nations, the World Health Organisation, the Asia Pacific Initiative on Reproduction and the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology and scientific meetings in 14 countries. Sandra has represented consumers on federal and state government working parties, which have informed developing public policy and legislative issues.



Professor Geoffrey Driscoll

**MB BS, FRCOG, FRCSEd, FRANZCOG
Conjoint Professor, School of Women's & Children's Health**

Professor Driscoll, a Sydney graduate who completed his postgraduate training in Oxford, was the original developer and driving force in the establishment of the Masters of Reproductive Medicine Program. He has published widely and has been Chairman of the Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility Committee of the RANZCOG, and the IVF Directors Group of the Fertility Society of Australia, and was the founding Medical Director of IVF Australia.



Dr Terri Foran

**MB BS (Syd), MClInEd, FACHSHM
Lecturer, School of Women's & Children's Health**

Dr Terri Foran is a Sexual Health Physician and has a special interest in contraception, menopause issues and the management of sexually transmitted infections. She was for six years until 2004, the Medical Director of Family Planning New South Wales and is now in private practice in Darlinghurst in inner Sydney. She has a long standing commitment to medical education and research and currently holds the position of Lecturer at the UNSW where she coordinates a component of the undergraduate medical program in Women's Health. She holds a Visiting Medical Officer, appointment at the Royal Hospital for Women in Sydney and also works as an investigator for the Research Unit at that institution. Dr Foran has a keen interest in medical journalism and is currently the monthly Women's Health columnist for Australian Doctor Magazine as well as being a regular contributor to both professional and popular publications on sexual health issues.



Dr Katie Harris

**BSc (Mathematics and Statistics),
PhD Research Fellow in Biostatistics,
School of Women's and Children's Health**

Dr Katie Harris is a Research Fellow in Biostatistics in the National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit (NPESU), School of Women's and Children's Health, Faculty of Medicine, UNSW.

Dr Harris has extensive experience as a Biostatistician and Epidemiologist, specialising in statistical techniques such as multilevel modelling, longitudinal data analysis, functional data analysis and relative survival analysis.

Prior to her appointment in NPESU Dr Harris's research focus was in the field of cancer epidemiology where she gained postdoctoral experience as a Research Fellow (July 2010 – December 2013) in the Cancer Epidemiology Group, University of Leeds, UK.

In 2010 Dr Harris successfully completed her PhD, entitled 'Assessment of Control and Performance of Biomedical Systems', in the Division of Biostatistics, University of Leeds, UK. The statistical techniques of multilevel modelling and functional data analysis were novelly applied to repeated measures data from the clinical domains of Nephrology and Stroke. Prior to undertaking her PhD Dr Harris obtained a BSc in Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Leeds, UK, in 2006.



Dr Amanda Henry

**B.Med. Sci. B.Med. MPH FRANZCOG
Lecturer, School of Women's and Children's Health**

Dr Henry is a Lecturer in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and an Obstetrician at St George Public Hospital and the Royal Hospital for Women, Sydney. She has a wide-ranging interest in pregnancy care, including high-risk pregnancy, translation of obstetric ultrasound research tools into clinical practice, and performance and evaluation of clinical trials to drive evidence-based care in obstetrics. Her current research focus and PhD candidature is on ultrasound evaluation of fetal cardiovascular function in high-risk pregnancy, including twin pregnancy and the growth-restricted fetus.



Dr Nadine Kasparian

**BA (Psychology, Hons I), PhD (Medical Psychology), MAPS
Senior Research Fellow, School of Women's and Children's Health**

Dr Nadine Kasparian is a Senior Research Fellow in Paediatrics at the University of NSW. She is also Head of Psychological Research and Clinical Services at the Heart Centre for Children, The Sydney Children's Hospitals Network (Westmead and Randwick). Nadine leads Australia's first integrated psychological research program and clinical service dedicated to childhood heart disease. Her work centres on developing a rich and in-depth understanding of the experiences and needs of infants, children, young people and families at all stages of medical care, from diagnosis through to treatment, hospitalisation, important life transitions, and bereavement. Her multidisciplinary team is currently coordinating a range of programs to support psychological adjustment and resilience in medical settings across the developmental spectrum, including the perinatal period. Nadine's work has been recognised nationally and internationally, including receipt of the International Psycho-Oncology Society New Investigator Award (2011) for outstanding contributions to research, and a Career Development Fellowship from the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia (2013). She regularly lectures and provides workshops for a range of organisations, including UNSW Medicine and the NSW Institute of Psychiatry.



Dr Sean Kennedy

MBBS PhD FRACP

Lecturer, School of Women's and Children's Health

Dr Sean Kennedy is Director of Education in the Discipline of Paediatrics and Head of Nephrology at Sydney Children's Hospital. Dr Kennedy has an ongoing commitment to medical education at undergraduate and postgraduate level, teaching in general paediatrics, adolescent health and nephrology. He is active in several professional bodies including as a member of the Scientific Programme and Education Committee of the Australian & New Zealand Society of Nephrology and is the manager of the Paediatric Working Group of the Australian and New Zealand Dialysis and Transplant Registry. Dr Kennedy was awarded his PhD for research into experimental renal ischaemia. His current research interests span both basic science and clinical research and include acute kidney injury, kidney transplantation in children and adolescents, urinary tract infection, congenital anomalies of the kidney and tuberous sclerosis complex.



Professor William Ledger

MA, DPhil (Oxon), MB, ChB, FRCOG, FRANZCOG, CREI

Head of School of Women's and Children's Health

Professor William Ledger is the Head of School based at the Royal Hospital for Women. He is a senior fertility specialist, obstetrician and gynaecologist and was the Chair and Head of the Academic Unit for Reproductive and Developmental Medicine at the University of Sheffield, UK until 2011. He was a Member of the UK Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (2006 - 11) and Chair of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Examinations and Assessment Committee (2006 - 10) and a Member of Council of the RCOG (2008 - 11). Professor Ledger focuses on research in human reproductive biology and medicine, involving the study of fertilisation and implantation of the embryo using IVF as a model. He is interested in the molecular basis of early embryonic programming and genomic activation, and also failed implantation and early pregnancy problems such as miscarriage and ectopic pregnancy and also studies wider aspects of reproductive medicine, from endometriosis and polycystic ovary syndrome to early ovarian failure and health economic aspects of assisted reproduction. He has long been interested in methods of training and assessment in surgical specialities and is now involved in developing simulations of obstetric and gynaecological procedures for teaching purposes.



Dr Michelle McElduff

B Psychology (Hons I), Doctor of Clinical Psychology,

Master of Science

Conjoint Associate Lecturer,

School of Women's and Children's Health

Michelle is a clinical and research psychologist at the Heart Centre for Children, The Children's Hospitals Network (Westmead and Randwick). She also holds a Conjoint Appointment in the School of Women's and Children's Health at The University of NSW. In her role at the Heart Centre for Children, Michelle provides consultation, assessment and psychological intervention for infants, children and young people with heart disease, and their families. Michelle is also involved in a number of research studies at the Heart Centre for Children, which focus on building our understanding of the psychological experiences of children and families affected by heart disease, and developing targeted interventions to promote emotional well-being. Michelle has a keen interest in perinatal psychology, including the impact of medical illness and trauma in the perinatal period on the psychological well-being of parents and their infants.



Professor Kate Moore

MBBS MD FRCOG FRANZCOG CU

Professor, School of Women's and Children's Health

Professor Kate H Moore is a urogynaecologist and Director of the Pelvic Floor Unit at St George Hospital, UNSW, a regional referral unit which serves all of NSW and ACT. Her main research interests include the aetiology of detrusor overactivity (detrusor muscle contractility), and the economic implications of incontinence. She has authored over 100 peer-reviewed publications/book chapters.



Dr Archana Rao

BSc(Med), MBBS (Hons), MMed (Clin Epi), FRANZCOG

Lecturer, School of Women's and Children's Health

Dr Archana Rao obtained her medical degree from UNSW. She completed specialty training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, before undertaking subspecialty training in Gynecological Oncology. She has completed additional clinical training in minimally invasive surgery, as well as extended cytoreductive surgical procedures. As well as an interest in women's cancers, she has interests in research and epidemiology, and holds a Masters' degree in Clinical Epidemiology. She is a Staff Specialist in Gynaecological Oncology at the Royal Hospital for Women, Randwick.



Associate Professor Gavin Sacks

MA BM BCh PhD MRCOG FRANZCOG

Conjoint Associate Professor, School of Women's & Children's Health

Dr Sacks is a highly respected fertility specialist and obstetrician, investigating and managing all aspects of male and female infertility. He is internationally renowned for leading research on the role of the immune system (Natural Killer Cells) in recurrent implantation failure and miscarriage in IVF. He has developed innovative treatments for immune disorders related to infertility and recurrent miscarriage and is frequently sought out for second opinion. Dr Sacks studied medicine at the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford in the UK. He was awarded a PhD in reproductive immunology from the University of Oxford and completed his training in reproductive medicine in Sydney and London (obtaining the UK equivalent of CREI) before settling permanently in Sydney in 2005. He is Co-Director of the IVF Australia Miscarriage Program, Staff Specialist at St George Hospital and a Conjoint Associate Professor at UNSW. Dr Sacks is particularly interested in the management of unexplained infertility and repeated IVF failure and the use of new technologies and approaches to treatment. These include Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis, immune therapy and acupuncture. He takes great care to assess the individual needs of his patients and takes account of all medical, cultural and religious factors in managing their treatment.



Dr Stephen Steigrad

MB BS, FRCSEd, FRCOG, FRANZCOG
Emeritus Consultant RHW & Hon. Senior Lecturer
School of Women's and Children's Health, UNSW

Dr Steigrad obtained his MB BS Degree from The University of Sydney in 1964. He commenced Obstetrics and Gynaecological training at the Royal Hospital for Women in 1966 and then undertook post-graduate studies in the United Kingdom where he gained his membership of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. He was awarded the Hallett prize of the Royal College of Surgeons of England and then gained the fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. Returning to Australia Dr Steigrad was appointed lecturer in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the UNSW and then Deputy General Medical Superintendent at the Royal Hospital for Women, a position he held for 15 years. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Fertility Society of Australia and was treasurer, vice president and president and spent 11 years serving on its council. He established a donor insemination clinic at the hospital 25 years ago. His special interests include donor gametes, the treatment of infertility in disabled couples and pre-implantation genetic diagnosis.



Dr. Christos Venetis

MD, MSc (Res), MSc (HCM), PhD
Conjoint Senior Lecturer, School of Women's
& Children's Health, UNSW

Christos Venetis obtained his degree in Medicine (2003) from the Medical School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (A.U.TH), Greece. Subsequently, he attended the post-graduate studies program of the same School, from which he obtained his Master of Science in "Medical Research Methodology" (2006) and his PhD in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (2014) with the Highest Distinction. In 2013 he also obtained a Master of Science in Healthcare Management from the Hellenic Open University. He completed his training in OB/Gyn (2012) and his Subspecialty training in Reproductive Medicine (2014) at the 1st Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology of the Medical School of A.U.TH. He has recently moved to Australia and he is currently a Fellow in Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility at St George Hospital (NSW) and a Conjoint Senior Lecturer at the University of New South Wales. Dr. Venetis is an author of more than 45 publications in international scientific journals and several chapters in books (Total IF: 220, h-index:17) and has been an invited speaker in many international scientific meetings. He is a past Associate-Editor (2008-2011) and a current member of the Statistical Advisory Board of the journal "Human Reproduction" and has also been serving as a regular reviewer for most journals in the field of Reproductive Medicine. His research interests include ovarian stimulation, reproductive endocrinology and endometrial receptivity.



Professor Alec Welsh

MBBS MSc PhD FRCOG(MFM) FRANZCOG CMFM DDU
Professor of Maternal Fetal Medicine, School
of Women's & Children's Health

Professor of Maternal-Fetal Medicine and Head of Department Maternal Fetal Medicine (Royal Hospital for Women). Professor Welsh's clinical interests encompass the full spectrum of maternity care. They range from running the New South Wales Fetal Therapy Centre (performing the state's laser therapy for twin-twin transfusion syndrome as well as all other high-end invasive procedures) to collaborating closely with midwifery group practices. He currently supervises PhD, Masters, Honours, Postgraduate and Undergraduate students in: Fetal Imaging; laboratory research; clinical obstetric studies. Professor Welsh is the inaugural Director of the Australian Centre for Perinatal Science, a multidisciplinary research collaboration of UNSW.



Academic research interests

Associate Professor Jason Abbott

B Med (Hons) FRANZCOG FRCOG PhD

Menstrual disorders, myomas, pelvic pain, endometriosis, hysterectomy, the pelvic floor in relation to pain, intrauterine adhesions, evidence based clinical guidelines

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Dr Georgina Chambers PhD, MBA, BAppSci(MLS), Grad Dip(Comp)

Health economics; health services research; health policy evaluation; epidemiology

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Professor Michael Chapman MBBS MD FRCOG FRANZCOG CREI

IVF, polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS), recurrent miscarriage and menstrual problems

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Dr Simon Cooke BSc Agr, PhD

High Magnification Sperm Injection, Polarised light imaging of oocytes and sperm, and on Improving the development and outcome of laboratory derived embryos

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Dr Michael Costello

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Infertility, Polycystic Ovary Syndrome

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Associate Professor Robert Bruce Gilchrist

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D.Sc.Agr.(Gott), FSRB**

Obstetrics and Gynaecology,
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Professor Neville F Hacker (Conjoint)

**MB BS (Hons I) (Qld), MD (UNSW),
FRANZCOG, FRCOG, FACOG, FACS, CGO**

Ovarian cancer, endometrial cancer, vulvar cancer, cervical cancer, surgery for gynaecological cancer

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Dr Katie Harris

BSc (Mathematics and Statistics), PhD

Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Fertility, Public Health and Health Services, Reproduction, IVF

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Dr Amanda Henry

Master Public Health, FRANZCOG, B.Med. (Hons), B.Med.Sci. (Hons), Diploma of Diagnostic Ultrasound (O&G)

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Dr Leo Leader

MB ChB CapeT, MD UNSW, FRANZCOG, FRCOG, FCOG(SA), DA RCP&S Lond

Fetal behaviour, fetal vibroacoustic stimulation and fetal habituation, the effects of maternal stress and anxiety on fetal behaviour and infant outcome and development, gender differences in fetal outcomes, outcomes in couples undergoing donor insemination, placental vascular function

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Professor William Ledger

MA, DPhil (Oxon), MB, ChB, FRCOG, FRANZCOG, CREI

Assisted reproduction, particularly 'Mild' IVF, and gynaecological disorders including endometriosis, polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) and premature menopause

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Professor Kate Moore

MBBS MD FRCOG FRANZCOG CU

Urinary Incontinence, Prolapse, Detrusor Muscle Pharmacology, Urothelial cell culture, Bacterial Cystitis in women

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Associate Professor

Gavin Sacks

MA BM BCh PhD MRCOG FRANZCOG

Repeated IVF failure and miscarriage, and Reproductive Immunology

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Professor Alec Welsh

MBBS MSc PhD FRCOG(MFM) FRANZCOG CMFM DDU

Fetal Imaging particularly Doppler evaluation, laboratory research, clinical obstetric studies

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*"... The modules I undertook provided me with a **comprehensive understanding** of those issues and so much more, my plans include Nurse Practitioner or Midwifery Consultant... also being able to pay per course made the program **affordable**... the **online discussion** were very **valuable** providing a cross section of clinicians engaged in critical discussions..."*

Louise Harper

Registered Nurse and Midwife

Research groups

Barbara Gross Research Unit

The BGRU was established in 1997 to improve women's quality of life through pioneering health research. The BGRU has particular research strengths in the areas of menopause, osteoporosis, reproductive health and ageing, as well as facilitating the development of innovative surgical techniques for use in clinical practice. The unit provides leadership in the development, enhancement and promotion of women's health research with a special focus on interdisciplinary and collaborative research.

The BGRU facilitates multi-disciplinary research in women's health by:

- Developing and sustaining a successful women's health research program;
- Assisting in the development of innovative research for major pharmaceutical companies and newer pioneering companies involved in the manufacture of drugs/devices/complementary medicines for women's health;
- Fostering collaborations locally, nationally and internationally in projects with other research organisations and across other disciplines;
- Co-ordinating multi-disciplinary initiatives in promoting women's health.

Gynaecological Research and Clinical Evaluation group (GRACE)

Researchers at GRACE work collaboratively between the UNSW, Royal Hospital for Women and the private sector to study and evaluate clinical procedures, write clinical guidelines and undertake large-scale original studies in gynaecology. Our work includes diverse areas of women's health such as menstrual disorders, pelvic pain and the evaluation of surgical procedures and devices. Current PhD students are undertaking projects in the ultrasound assessment of the pelvic floor, the diagnosis and management of intrauterine adhesions and fertility and menstrual outcomes for women with PCOS. Our group is the premier research group in Australia for benign gynaecological surgical conditions with experience in all types of research methodology and substantial academic output.

Gynaecological Cancer Centre

The Gynaecological Cancer Centre at the Royal Hospital for Women is a leading Centre for clinical research. Particular areas of interest include surgical aspects of ovarian, cervical and vulvar cancer. The Centre also participates actively in national and international studies through the Australian and New Zealand Gynaecological Oncology Group (ANZCOG), the Gynaecologic Cancer Intergroup (GCIG), and the Australian Ovarian Cancer Study. In addition the Centre has active collaborations with basic researchers at the Garvan Medical Research Institute and the Lowy Cancer Institute. The major focus at both Centres is on the development of a screening test for ovarian cancer. The Garvan project is based on a genomic approach and the Lowy project is based on a glycomic approach.

Maternal Fetal Medicine Research Unit

Research in Maternal Fetal Medicine is based at the Royal Hospital for Women and is proud to be a leader in the field of women's health and perinatal research in Australia. A multidisciplinary team of clinicians, midwives and basic scientists collaborate in clinical practice and clinical and translational research projects with the aim of improving outcomes for mothers and babies.

National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit (NPESU)

The NPESU is a collaborating unit of the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW). Along with managing and reporting on a number of national/binational data collections on assisted reproductive technology, pregnancy, childbirth, maternal morbidity and mortality and neonatal outcomes it undertakes world-class research in areas of clinical and public health importance. NPESU brings together a wide range of professionals with medical, midwifery, public health, epidemiological, biostatistical, health economic, qualitative, health information and health services expertise. NPESU has expertise in: quantitative methods (data linkage, observational epidemiology, econometrics, surveillance and population based research); qualitative methods and a mixed methods approach to research. It has an active Higher Degree and Post-doctoral Research Program supported by a range of competitive research grants and other supporters and stakeholders.

Oocyte Biology Research Unit

The Oocyte Biology Research Unit is a newly established group at UNSW, the objectives of which are to conduct world-leading fundamental research in ovarian and oocyte biology and to use this knowledge to make transformational changes in modern reproductive medicine. The group is a laboratory based research unit located in the heart of UNSW's biomedical precinct on level 4 of the Wallace Wurth Building. The research unit is also fully incorporated within the Royal Hospital for Women's Division of Gynaecological Services and the Centre for Reproductive Medicine, providing access to clinical services and clinical research material. The head of the unit is Associate Professor Robert Gilchrist who is an NHMRC Senior Research Fellow. He is a translational research scientist, specialising in oocyte and reproductive biology and is an international leader in oocyte-somatic cell communication, with prominent clinical and commercial activities.

The Pelvic Floor Unit (PFU)

The Pelvic Floor Unit in the Department of Urogynaecology at St George Hospital is the largest Centre in the southern hemisphere for the diagnosis and management of both urinary and faecal incontinence. The multidisciplinary team (comprising 2 Urogynaecologists and UG Fellow, Colorectal surgeon and Fellow, with 2 subspeciality physiotherapists, 6 Nurse Continence Advisors and collaborating Urogologist) conducts over 5000 patient visits per annum, publishes approximately 5-8 peer reviewed manuscripts per annum and is the major centre for undergraduate teaching about Urogynaecology at the UNSW.

Whilst a main research focus of the Department is the aetiology of Detrusor Overactivity (urge incontinence) which involves studies of pig and human bladder by a variety laboratory techniques, other interests include the natural history of Detrusor overactivity, novel treatments for overactive bladder and randomised controlled trials in the treatment of stress incontinence and prolapse. Our research abstracts are presented annually at the key global scientific meetings; International Continence Society and International Urogynaecology Association. Research funding is provided by NHMRC, Australian Commonwealth Government, St George Medical Research Foundation. For further details see our website www.pelvicfloorunit.com.au, click on Health Professionals – Research and Publications.

Reproductive Medicine

Our research profile is highly translational, with major interests in molecular oocyte biology and oocyte-follicle interaction leading on to clinical studies on embryo implantation and ectopic pregnancy, treatment of infertility and disorders of ovulation such as polycystic ovary syndrome and premature ovarian failure. We are also interested in natural ovarian ageing and the decline in fertility seen with advancing female age. In addition, there are major programmes of research into gynaecological surgery for benign disorders and, in collaboration with Sydney Children's Hospital, into improving methods for fertility preservation for young people with cancer.

The group comprises a mix of basic and clinical researchers with a major teaching role for clinical and bio-science students at undergraduate and postgraduate level. We run an active Masters and PhD programme and have funding from NHMRC, ARC and charitable sources.

