

Welcome to the 15th edition of the Paediatric Research Newsletter, the first newsletter for 2016. I have to say that I feel a sense of energy and excitement at UNSW following the appointments of our new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ian Jacobs and Dean (Medicine) Professor Rodney Phillips last year.

Following extensive consultation, UNSW released its 2025 Strategy to be in the world's top 50. Recently UNSW Medicine unveiled its 10 year strategic plan and thematic approach to research. The new themes of focus include:

- Neuroscience, Mental Health & Addiction (Mindgardens)
- Infection Disease, Immunity & Inflammation
- Cancer
- Non-communicable Diseases

Additional themes may be added in the future. These themes are supported enabling capabilities:

- Molecular Biology
- Genomics
- Single Cell Science
- Big Data in Health

Women's and Children's Health is recognised as a cross cutting special population.

This is an exciting time for research within UNSW Medicine and we look forward to seeing the implementation of the strategy and overall vision come to fruition in the coming years.

Congratulations to A/Prof Claire Wakefield and A/Prof Nadine Kasparian who have been selected to join the Academic Women in Leadership (AWIL) Program at UNSW. This highly competitive initiative aims to assist participants in responding to issues and opportunities that may arise, in a way that supports a successful academic leadership career. Well done Claire and Nadine.

I'm delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Nusrat Homaira who has been appointed as Lecturer (Paediatric Epidemiology) and will be commencing in April. Kylie-Ann Mallitt, our Biostatistician, has been



awarded an NHMRC ECF. This will be held primarily through the Centre for Big Data Research in Health (CBDRH), however we envisage that she will maintain a collaborative role allowing her to continue her affiliation with our School. We also welcomed Kerri-Anne Vanmunster, who commenced as part time Education Fellow and will be job sharing this position with Penny Uther.

Finally, I'd like to wish Prof Les White AM all the best in his retirement. Les held the position of John Beveridge Professor of Paediatrics with the School of Women's & Children's Health from 2005 – 2010 and has always been an active member of the Discipline and representative of UNSW. Les is an esteemed colleague and we wish him a long, happy and healthy retirement, though as an Honorary Professor with the UNSW I am sure we will continue to call on his expertise.

I look forward to the challenges and opportunities in the coming year present for Paediatric Research and wish you all a successful year ahead.

Enjoy this issue of the newsletter and please remember to send any news or suggestions to [Samantha McFedries](#) for inclusion in future editions.

Best wishes,



Professor Adam Jaffe

John Beveridge Professor of Paediatrics
Head of Discipline of Paediatrics
School of Women's & Children's Health

Associate Director of Research
Sydney Children's Hospital Network
(Randwick)



Women's &
Children's Health
Medicine



Part of the Sydney Children's
Hospitals Network

The Discipline of Paediatrics was proud to support International Women's Day held on 8th March 2016.

The Discipline currently employs 16.7 FTE academics; of these, 60% are occupied women. In addition to this, three of our five highest appointments of Professor and Associate Professor are also women.

In celebration of International Women's Day we introduced our social media followers to our exceptional women faculty and will continue to do so here and in the upcoming newsletters. In this edition we introduce, Professor Maria Craig, and Associate Professors Nadine Kasparian and Claire Wakefield.

[PROFESSOR MARIA CRAIG](#) is an NHMRC Practitioner Fellow within the School of Women's & Children's Health, UNSW Medicine based at St George Hospital, Kogarah and Staff Specialist in paediatric endocrinology at the Children's Hospital at Westmead.

Professor Craig leads research programs in the epidemiology and aetiology of childhood diabetes and its complications, and translation of research into evidence based guidelines in Australia and internationally. She has driven systematic reviews and meta-analyses in diabetes care, complications and management of paediatric endocrine disorders.



Professor Maria Craig

Her major research interest is childhood diabetes, including the association between enteroviruses and type 1 diabetes (in collaboration with the Virology Research Group at Prince of Wales Hospital, headed by Professor Bill Rawlinson) and the epidemiology of childhood diabetes (type 1, type 2, Cystic Fibrosis related diabetes and monogenic diabetes).

Professor Craig is also actively involved in research into diabetes complications (in collaboration with Professor Kim Donaghue at the Children's Hospital at Westmead), and vitamin D deficiency and growth disorders (including Prader Willi Syndrome).

Professor Craig was appointed at UNSW in 2001 and in her career has been affiliated with approximately \$11 million of research funding, either as a chief or associate investigator, and has authored over 147 publications.

She also has an active role in teaching students at UNSW both as a clinician in general paediatrics and paediatric endocrinology and research-based teaching, continuing to supervise a large number of PhD, honours and ILP students. Professor Craig has also led the development of teaching programs in paediatric endocrinology in the Asia Pacific region since 2002.

Professor Craig is a prime example of the hard work and determination needed to balance life demands and being a clinician-researcher with an established international profile and leader in research, evidence based medicine, teaching and advocacy.

[DR NADINE KASPARIAN](#) is one of two Discipline of Paediatrics new Associate Professors, promoted in 2015. A/Prof Kasparian is an emerging international leader in the field of medical psychology and was recently named as one of [UNSW's 20 Rising Stars](#) – who will change the world in their chosen field. She is an NHMRC Senior Research Fellow at UNSW and Head of Psychology at the [Heart Centre for Children](#), the Children's Hospital at Westmead.

In 2010, under the auspices of the Sydney Children's Hospitals Network

and UNSW, A/Prof Kasparian established the Asia Pacific's first integrated psychology research program and clinical service dedicated to childhood heart disease at the Heart Centre for Children.



Associate Professor Nadine Kasparian.

A/Prof Kasparian's research focuses on improving the health and well-being of children, adults and families affected by heart disease or other critical or chronic illnesses.

A/Professor Kasparian's multidisciplinary team of researchers and clinicians lead projects to:

- Discover factors that contribute to risk & resilience in medical settings
- Develop cost-effective interventions to improve health & well-being
- Understand experiences of new technologies
- Build resilient teams in medicine & psychology
- Rapidly translate evidence into practice & policy

A/Prof Kasparian's research program is built on a successful history of work in the field of medical psychology. In five years, she has published or had accepted for publication - 122 journal articles, abstracts and book chapters, and 10 evidence-based interventions. She has a career total of over \$17 million in competitive research funding. Across her career, she has mentored more than 40 staff and students, presented at over 100 conferences, and received numerous national and international research awards.

[DR CLAIRE WAKEFIELD](#) was also promoted to Associate Professor in 2015. A/Prof Wakefield is an NHMRC Career Development Fellow and leads one of Australia's largest psycho-oncology research groups - [The Behavioural Sciences Unit](#) part of the Kids Cancer Centre at Sydney Children's Hospital.

In 2014, A/Prof Wakefield was awarded the Premier's Award for Outstanding Cancer Research – Outstanding Cancer Research Fellow of the Year in recognition of her contribution to the field of psycho-oncology. This is a prestigious award that honours individuals who make significant and fundamental contributions to a field of cancer research in NSW.

A/Prof Wakefield's research is focused on improving mental health and quality of life in families affected by paediatric and adolescent cancer, using:

- Cost-effective interventions
- Novel technologies
- Discovery research to identify at-risk and under-served groups
- Translational work to affect change in clinical practice

She has a particular interest in the psychological implications of cancer genetics in paediatric oncology.

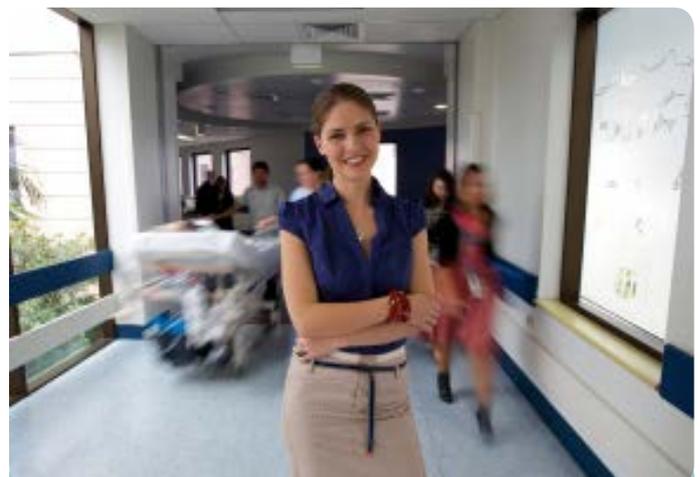
Despite recognition that it is the family, not the child, who should be seen as the unit of care in paediatric oncology, few programs exist worldwide that effectively research, and therefore meet, the needs of the family in the context of child cancer.

This is a serious gap, given the profound impact of paediatric cancer on the family, and the clear impact of the family on the patient's medical outcomes, especially in survivorship. There is also a dearth of research that focuses on prevention of the long-term mental and physical health complications of a cancer diagnosis received during childhood.

A/Prof Wakefield's research aims to improve mental health and quality of life in families affected by paediatric cancer via addressing three overarching themes: 1) Trial of novel behavioural medicine interventions to prevent poor mental and physical health outcomes; 2) Discovery of the psychosocial impact of genetic technologies for young people affected by cancer; and 3) Evaluation of the impact of paediatric cancer on under-researched, but critical, facets of family life. Her work spans the full cancer trajectory, from diagnosis to survivorship or bereavement.

A/Prof Wakefield has published more than 75 journal articles and is named as Chief Investigator on competitive research grants totalling more than \$11 million.

You can read more on A/Prof Wakefield's team at the [Behavioural Sciences Unit](#) and the research they are currently conducting on [page 4](#).



Associate Professor Claire Wakefield

UNSW ACADEMIC WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

The [Academic Women In Leadership \(AWIL\) Program](#) is a gender equity initiative that has been conducted annually at UNSW since 2006. The overarching organisational purpose is to:

- Build a visible cohort of high potential, talented academic women to lead with confidence and competence
- Contribute to an increase in representation and distribution of academic women in senior appointments and on key policy and decision-making bodies
- Support the 2025 UNSW strategies of building a culture that values and rewards staff excellence, and for its provision of pathways for development and progression.

The AWIL Program aims to assist participants to respond to the issues and opportunities that they face, in a way that supports a successful academic leadership career.

Participants from previous AWIL programs at UNSW describe one of the most valuable aspects of the program as the relationships that they forge with colleagues from across the University. Strong relationships form as they explore, develop, and realize their potential in the company of colleagues.

Entry onto the AWIL program is through a competitive application and selection process that is completed in February each year. Invitations are sent via email to eligible women to apply for the Program at the end of the preceding year.

More information on the AWIL Program can be found [online](#) and in Issue 71 of [UNSW's uniken Magazine](#).

We would like to congratulate Associate Professors Nadine Kasparian and Claire Wakefield who have again been recognised for their research achievements and leadership by being appointed to the AWIL Program in 2016.

PRESS ROOM (PAEDS)

JANUARY 2016

- [Largely unknown cytomegalovirus, or CMV, the leading non-genetic cause of disability in newborns](#)
The majority of pregnant women have not heard of a virus that is now the leading non-genetic cause of disability in newborns, according to a number of international studies. [Brendan McMullan](#), a paediatric infectious diseases doctor at Sydney Children's Hospital, said it is a different story for pregnant women. "Many of them will be asymptomatic themselves, but if they contract it for the first time in pregnancy, then there's a risk of transmission to the foetus," he said.
- [ABC News January 7, 2016](#)
- [What's in a milestone? Understanding your child's development](#)
Children come in all shapes and sizes, but not with a manual. Childhood achievements such as walking and talking are often celebrated signs that things are going well in a child's life. However, once these achievements start being compared between children (at the park, on Facebook) they can become the cause of anxiety
Authors: [Dr Chris Elliot](#) & [Dr Con Papadopoulos](#).
- [The Conversation, 7 January 2016](#).
- [Virus most people have never heard of is the leading non-genetic cause of disability in newborns](#)
On the subject of biomedical research, a number of international studies have found that the majority of pregnant women haven't heard of the virus that's now the leading non-genetic cause of disability in newborns. Dr [Brendan McMullan](#) is interviewed.
- [ABC Radio - PM January 7, 2016](#)

BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCES UNIT UPDATE

BSU INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

The Behavioural Sciences Unit (BSU) recently welcomed two new International students. **Ms Janine Vetsch** is a visiting PhD student from the University of Lucerne, in Switzerland. Ms Vetsch has prior studies in Biomedical Sciences and her research in Switzerland with Prof Gisela Michel relates to the outcomes of parents of long-term childhood cancer survivors. She will complete the final year of her PhD with the BSU, investigating the information needs and vocational disruption experienced by parents of childhood cancer survivors.

Mr Antonio do Nascimento recently completed his Bachelor in Psychology at the Newton Paiva University Center, in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. His honours thesis included an examination of behavioural strategies for children with cancer. He is volunteering at the BSU for the next 6 months, and will be involved in a number of research programs including Cascade and Recapture Life, as well as a new study



investigating the experiences of culturally and linguistically diverse families affected by cancer.

Read more on the Behavioural Sciences Unit's [blog](#).

The BSU's Dr Sansom-Daly makes most cited papers

Dr Ursula Sansom-Daly's systematic review on distress and adjustment in adolescents and young adults (AYAs) with cancer was among the most cited papers of the Translational Pediatrics journal in 2015. The review investigates the prevalence and predictors of distress in AYAs with cancer, as well as a summary of current theoretical models relevant to explaining psychological outcomes among AYAs.

Reference: Sansom-Daly, Ursula M., and Claire E. Wakefield. "Distress and adjustment among adolescents and young adults with cancer: An empirical and conceptual review." *Translational Pediatrics* 2.4 (2013): 167-197.

NEW BSU STUDIES

Difficult Discussions study:

The Behavioural Sciences Unit (BSU) has launched a new study, which aims to evaluate the perceived acceptability and utility of the current, best-available, US advanced care planning tool Voicing my CHOICES™ (VMC), for use with Australian adolescents and young adults with cancer. Advance care planning resources provide assistance to healthcare professionals and families looking to initiate difficult end-of-life discussions with young people. Giving young people, families and healthcare professionals an opportunity to evaluate the VMC ensures that the tool appropriately addresses the needs of young people at this time.

Cancer patients and survivors aged 15-25 years during treatment, their parents and/or siblings, bereaved parents and/or siblings of a young person aged 15-25 who did not survive their cancer, and healthcare professionals who cared for a young person aged 15-25 who did not survive their cancer, are eligible to participate. Investigators include Dr Ursula Sansom-Daly, A/Prof Claire Wakefield, Prof Richard Cohn, Dr Lori Wiener, Prof Afaf Girgis, Prof Rob Sanson-Fisher, A/Prof Pandora Patterson, Ms Leigh Donovan, Dr Antoinette Anazodo and Ms Donna Drew.

If you, or someone you know, would like participate please contact Research Officer [Mary Burns](#) for more information.

CAT NAP (Carers at night in paediatrics) study:

The Behavioural Sciences Unit (BSU) has launched a new study aiming to find better ways of supporting parents sleeping overnight on the hospital ward. More specifically, the study assesses the efficacy of the CAT NAP intervention on improving sleep latency (time taken to get to sleep) for parental/caregivers staying overnight on a paediatric hospital ward. Secondary outcomes include sleep efficiency; satisfaction with sleep quality; rumination and anxiety; compliance with sleep hygiene recommendations; and safe driving awareness.

Parents (or caregivers) of a child who was accommodated on a ward at SCH the previous night and plan to stay on the ward over the coming night are eligible to participate. Investigators include Dr Jordana McLoone, A/Prof Claire Wakefield, Dr Ursula Sansom-Daly, Ms Sarah Ellis, Prof Phyllis Butow, Dr Dr Ilona Juraskova, and A/Prof Richard Cohn.

If you, or someone you know, would like participate please contact [Sarah Ellis](#) for more information.

- [Significant Morbidity and Mortality Associated With Enterovirus 71 in Children](#)
Initial presentation of enterovirus (EV) 71 may be suggestive of the disease course and outcomes, reported investigators of a prospective study of the 2013 outbreak of EV71 at the Sydney Children's Hospital Network in Sydney, Australia, in an online edition of *JAMA Neurology*.
[Teoh HL, Mohammad SS, Britton PN, Kandula T, Lorentzos MS, Booy R, Jones CA, Rawlinson W, Ramachandran V, Rodriguez ML, [Andrews PI](#), Dale, RC, [Farrar, MA](#), & Sampaio, H. Clinical Characteristics and Functional Motor Outcomes of Enterovirus 71 Neurological Disease in Children. *JAMA Neurology*, 2016, pp. e1-e8.]
- [Neurology Adviser January 21, 2016](#).

FEBRUARY 2016

- [Doctors risk jail time for speaking out about treatment of children in detention](#)
Doctors who know they could be charged and jailed for speaking out about what they have seen in Australia's detention centres speak to us. Conjoint A/Prof [Karen Zwi](#) is interviewed.
[ABC News February 2, 2016](#).
- [Asthma Australia warns of back to school spike in asthma hospitalisations](#)
A SPIKE in asthma hospitalisations when children return to school has prompted a warning for parents to be prepared. Respiratory paediatrician [Adam Jaffe](#) said it wasn't known why hospitals saw a peak in asthma related admissions at this time, but it could be because of increased exposure to respiratory viruses once children mixed with a larger number of peers.
- [Moonee Valley Leader February 3, 2016](#).
- [Do you want to know how your baby may die? Call for genetic tests for children with cancer](#)
IT'S the modern medical test that could save your sick child, or condemn your entire family to years of torment and fear.

NHMRC APPLICATIONS

NHMRC Project Grant and various Fellowship applications have closed for another year. The Discipline of Paediatrics, Children's Cancer Institute, and Centre for Child Cancer Research submitted a total of 19 applications across the funding schemes.

Project Grants	14
Career Development Fellowships	2
Development Grant	1
Practitioner Fellowship	1
Research Fellowship	1

We would like to wish all applicants the best of luck, we appreciate the immense amount of hard work that goes into writing these applications.

SUCCESSFUL GRANTS

Dr Keith Ooi

- Thrasher Research Fund - Early Career Award
'Probiotics in infants with cystic fibrosis: Effects of early intervention.'

Dr Emma (Elizabeth) Palmer

- NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarship; and
- Sydney Children's Hospital PhD Scholarship (relinquished)
'Application of Next Generation Sequencing for the Diagnosis of Epileptic Encephalopathy: the science, the costings and the impact.'

Dr Tejaswi Kandula

- NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarship;
- RACP NHMRC Awards for Excellence; and
- Sydney Children's Hospital PhD Scholarship (relinquished)
'Chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy in the pediatric population: risk factors, assessment strategies and functional outcomes.'

Dr Michael Coffey

- Sydney Children's Hospital PhD Scholarship
'Probiotics in infants with cystic fibrosis: Early life effects on intestinal bacteria and inflammation.'

Ms Shamshad Jahan

- Jagdish & Lalitha Gupta Scholarship in Neonatal & Paediatric Research
'Educational and cognitive outcomes for Indigenous and non-Indigenous children born in NSW, Australia in 1997-2013: A population study.'

Within a decade, every Australian child with cancer will be getting a genetic test, according to [Associate Professor Claire Wakefield](#) from UNSW's School of Women's & Children's Health. - [Daily Telegraph](#) February 7, 2016.

- [Harmful or helpful? Researchers urge caution on genetic testing for children](#)

Genetic testing for children should only be considered in cases where there are clear medical benefits, say UNSW researchers, who've found the potential harmful effects of testing on children's mental health remains largely unknown. Study co-author [Associate Professor Claire Wakefield](#), from UNSW's School of Women's and Children's Health, said while the review found anxiety and depression was rare and children's wellbeing was fairly stable before and after testing, some children did experience serious difficulties, including discrimination, guilt, regret and family stress.

- [UNSW Newsroom](#) February 8, 2016.

- [Cancer Council dismisses link between talcum powder and ovarian cancer after US case](#)

The Cancer Council of Australia says Australian women should not be alarmed by a US court decision which has drawn a link between talcum powder and ovarian cancer. An advisor to the Cancer Council Australia, [Professor Bernard Stewart](#) from the Medical Faculty at the University of New South Wales, agrees that evidence of a link between ovarian cancer and the use of talc is slim at best.

- [ABC News](#) February 25, 2016.

MARCH 2016

- [Blood pressure drug boosts the effect of chemo](#)

Scientists have discovered that a drug developed to treat high blood pressure has a powerful 'chemo-boosting' effect when combined with certain chemotherapeutic drugs for the treatment of angiosarcoma — a deadly form of cancer that affects

ILP & HONOURS INFORMATION EVENING 2016

The Discipline of Paediatrics held an Information Evening for prospective ILP / Honours students commencing in 2017.

The goal of the evening was to take some of the pressure away from the process for both students and supervisors. We were overwhelmed by the response from supervisors wanting to present and the number of students who came along to hear more about an ILP or Honours in paediatrics.

It was also a delight to host Dr Nicholas Cheng and Dr Lynn Sinclair, who had come from Fairfield and Westmead (respectively) to discuss potential projects at the peripheral hospitals. Dr Cheng is a Conjoint Senior Lecturer with the South Western Sydney Clinical School, and Dr Lynn Sinclair is a Conjoint Senior Lecturer with the Discipline of Paediatrics.

An array of projects were presented from across the paediatric sub-specialities and we would like to thank all for coming along, we hope you had an enjoyable evening.

If you are interested in supervising in 2017 and would like assistance finding a student, or if you are a student that missed the information evening please [email](#) Samantha McFedries, Research Manager.

KEY DATES FOR 2017 ILP / HONS COHORT

March 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project negotiation process commences.• UNSW Medicine ILP Information Session.
20 June 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Due Date for ILP Application Form.• Due Date for Honours Application Form.
16 August 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ILP Student Form will be available on eMed.• Allocated ILP projects will be listed on eMed for students to browse and select.
29 August 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Due Date for ILP Student Form
October 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allocation emails will be sent to students / supervisors
13 February 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ILP / Honours commences

More information can be found on the UNSW Medicine programme [website](#).



NEW ONLINE RESOURCE FOR HDR SUPERVISORS

UNSW has recently launched a new collaborative online resource for supervisors of Higher Degree Research (HDR) students called UNSW Supervising Doctoral Studies (SDS).

This self paced resource (via Moodle) consists of 8 modules to gain and refresh your skills and knowledge in supervising Higher Degree Research candidates. It has been developed by [members](#) from Australian and international institutions.

All staff can access this resource [online](#).

The programme:

- Provides supervisors with UNSW-specific links to resources, policies and procedures;
- Utilises interactive activities, models and scenarios, including video interviews with professional experts and researchers at all levels (including UNSW);
- Allows you to compile a customised portfolio, incorporating practical and in depth reflective self-development activities; and

- Includes a polling feature that enables participants to compare the responses to complex questions with those of their peers.

There are 8 modules in the SDS online resource on Moodle:

1. Introduction: The doctoral context
2. Attracting and selecting doctoral candidates
3. Approaching supervision
4. Setting your candidates on the right course
5. Managing progress
6. Expectations and preparing for examination
7. Issues in supervision
8. Continuing your supervisory development – next steps

In addition to these modules, it is highly recommend in the first instance accessing, the Identify your priorities module contained within Moodle. This tool will help you decide which topics are high, medium or low priority for your own development and will guide you to specific units within each module.

View the Learning Outcomes [here](#).

GOVERNANCE UPDATE

The SCHN Research Governance Office has developed new submission guidelines and submission checklists for site specific applications for research projects to be conducted at any of the SCHN sites.

The submission guidelines provide an up to date guide on how to complete the SSA, LNRSSA, or Access Request forms on the Online Forms website. They also include comprehensive information on what supporting documentation is required to be submitted to the governance office to enable a complete review.

The SSA and LNRSSA checklists provide a summary of what supporting documents are required to enable review and will be required to be submitted along with your application.

The Guidelines and Checklists are available on the [SCHN Intranet](#) and we hope that you find them useful to clarify what information is required to enable a streamlined review process. They will be uploaded to the [SCHN Internet](#) as soon as possible.

The Research Governance Office request all new applications include the appropriate submission checklist and are rolling this out over a two (2) month period as of 1st April 2016. If you have not received an acknowledgement email within 10 days of your submission please contact us via the [Governance Inbox](#).

As of 1st June 2016 any new application submitted without the appropriate checklist will be returned and not registered for review until the checklist is received.

If you have any questions, please phone SCHN Research Governance on 9845 3011 or by [email](#).

the lining of blood vessels and can occur in any part of the body. The effect of the drug, propranolol, was discovered in the Sydney laboratories of the Children's Cancer Institute. "We tested a number of drugs in our laboratory model of angiosarcoma and were excited to discover that the beta-blocker propranolol made a huge difference to the anticancer effects of a chemotherapy drug called vinblastine," said Professor [Maria Kavallaris](#), who worked on the project alongside colleague Dr Eddy Pasquier - [Australian Life Scientist March 10, 2016](#).

- [Little John won't give up the fight](#)

Most babies spend their days feeding and sleeping. As one of Australia's youngest kidney patients, tiny John Dixon is forced to endure 10 hours a day hooked up to a dialysis machine. "John has been lucky enough to not need dialysis until now, but if he needed it from birth, 20 years ago we definitely wouldn't have been able to do that," [Dr Sean Kennedy](#) said.

"We can never have too many resources or funding put into kidney health and research. In order to keep one person alive, like John Dixon, it takes more than a village."

- [Sunday Telegraph March 20, 2016](#).

- [Sydney Children's Hospital Randwick celebrates 1000 cord and marrow transplant program patients](#)

"There is a one in 10 chance that the grafted cells will be rejected, so it is always an anxious wait for staff, patients and families," program director and treating doctor [Conjoint] [A/Professor Tracey O'Brien](#) said.

"We sing to kids to celebrate the first signs of engraftment or the new donor blood cells growing."

- [Sunday Telegraph March 20, 2016](#).

If your story has been missed, please contact - [Samantha McFedries](#)

ETHICS & GOVERNANCE EDUCATION SESSIONS

SCHN Ethics and Research Governance hold regular education sessions at both Sydney Children's Hospital and the Children's Hospital at Westmead.

These sessions are designed to act as an introduction to new researchers as well as a refresher course for more senior researchers. They also act as a forum to discuss policy updates both within SCHN and nationally and a way of communicating submission procedures.

Upcoming Ethics Education Sessions:

Research Ethics & Governance Post-Approval Processes <i>Conference Room 5</i>	11 April 2016 10:30 AM
Programs of Research Bio-Banks and Data Registries <i>Conference Room 5</i>	23 May 2016 11 AM
Consenting <i>Conference Room 5</i>	28 June 2016 10 AM
Research involving the possible return of incidental and significant findings <i>Conference Room 6</i>	11 July 2016 10 AM

Both offices also visit Randwick fortnightly to meet with researchers one-on-one and assist with any queries regarding NEAF or LNR applications (Ethics) and SSA applications (Governance).

The Ethics team visit Sydney Children's Hospital every second Monday between 9:30am and 2:00pm, and accept appointments via [email](#) or phoning 9845 1253.

SCHN Research Governance Officer Eman Nafea will be available for one-on-one meetings on Monday 11th April from 12noon – 2pm in Conference Room 4. This time slot is after the Ethics and Governance information session on Post Approval processes at 10:30 am in Conference Room 5. To make an appointment phone 9845 3011 or email the Governance [inbox](#).

These one-on-one meetings give you the opportunity to discuss any matter relating to your prospective application including clarifying requirements for application forms, required attachments and applicable fees.

All prospective applicants are encouraged to visit the SCHN intranet to gain guidance on [ethics](#) and [governance](#) processes.

EARLY CAREER ACADEMIC NETWORK

The [Early Career Academic Network \(ECAN\)](#) promotes, connects, enables and represents the careers and interests of Early Career Academics at UNSW.

The aims of the ECAN is to:

- Enable ECAs to make strategic and informed decisions about their career trajectory and goals
- Promote and facilitate ECA leadership across the key strategic areas of academic excellence, social engagement and global impact.
- Provide space for ECAs to network and share knowledge at faculty and university level
- Connect the wider UNSW community with a valuable ECA population
- Represent the voice of ECAs at Academic Board

EVENTS

Researcher Training & Development - Workshops

- **6 APRIL 2016 | 9.30 AM-12 PM**
[Supporting HDR students' academic reading & literature review](#)
The aim of this workshop is to provide you with tools to support your HDRs in reading and thinking about literature, so that timely completion (by census) is achieved.
- **7 APRIL 2016 | 9.30 AM-12 PM**
[Starting HDRs off on the right foot](#)
The aim of this workshop is to understand the roles and responsibilities of a supervisor during a period from the HDR accepting offer to the confirmation of candidature, whilst developing expectations that start the relationship off on the right foot.
- **7 APRIL 2016 | 4-5 PM**
[ECAN: Exploring careers outside of academia](#)
Going to the dark side: will you ever be a Jedi again? This seminar will explore careers outside of academia with a panel discussion on strategies to enter into industry from academia and vice versa and the challenges involved.
- **14 APRIL 2016 | 12-2 PM**
[Career Planning: Thoughts & considerations](#)
How do you make a funding What are the facts about pursuing a career in Academe? What do you need to consider? This seminar will explore essential career planning considerations for HDR candidates post Confirmation and ECRs recently awarded their PhDs.
- **28 APRIL 2016 | 9.30-11.30 AM**
[Application principles and strategic considerations:](#)
How do you make a funding application stand out / resonate with a review panel? This workshop analyses the essential requirements and provides advice and tips that support writing a strategic application.

To become a part of the ECAN community, please contact the ECAN Medicine representative [Dr Richard Gray](#) or visit the [ECAN website](#).

You are invited to register for the next ECAN event “*Going to the dark side: will you ever be a Jedi again? Exploring careers outside of academia*” on Thursday 7 April via the [ECAN website](#).

BRAIN SCIENCES UNSW SYMPOSIUM 2016

The annual Brain Sciences UNSW Symposium will be held on 21 April 2016 in Leighton Hall, The John Niland Scientia Building at UNSW

The theme for the 11th Annual Symposium is Minding the Brain: translating research to practice and will include presentations from researchers working with three National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Centres of Research Excellence held at UNSW.

Thursday 21 April 2016 | 8:30 am - 6:00 pm

Leighton Hall, The John Niland Scientia Building, UNSW Kensington Campus
([Map ref G19](#))

Professor Skye McDonald leads the “Centre in traumatic brain injury”, Professor Maree Teesson, heads the “CRE in Mental Health and Substance Use: translating innovative prevention and treatment”, and Professor Helen Christensen leads the “CRE for improving suicide prevention in Australia through better implementation of effective interventions, improved risk identification and evidence informed policy”.

The invitation to attend is open to anyone with an interest in the brain sciences and neuroscience and you are welcome to extend an invitation to others who may be interested e.g. researchers from other organisations; students.

Registration fee for delegates is \$130; registration fee for students (PhD, Masters, Undergraduate) is \$50 (talk to your supervisor). Seating is limited and registrations will close when capacity is reached.

There will be a dedicated poster session for postgraduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

Click for [program details](#), [registration](#) and [poster abstract submission](#).

More information is available [online](#).

- **3 MAY 2016 | 9.30AM-12.30 PM**
[Planning to publish for impact](#)
Have you developed a considered and effective approach to building your research profile for impact? This practical workshop will equip you to sustainably manage your research outputs using selected techniques and resources, using your own device (BYOD).
- **5 MAY 2016 | 9.30AM-12.30 PM**
[Supporting HDR students' thesis writing](#)
Want proven techniques for responding to writer's block in your students? This workshop presented by Professor Sue Starfield provides you with tools to better support your HDRs in writing a research thesis.

To advertise an event, please contact - [Samantha McFedries](#)

PAEDIATRIC UPDATE FOR GPs

The Annual Paediatric Update for General Practitioners is run by Sydney Children's Hospital and provides updates on current best practice in paediatric medicine, to assist GPs in a practical way in their day-to-day practice.

The program consists of a series of presentations and interactive discussions and is intended for GPs and other interested health professionals who are involved in the care of children and adolescents with acute and chronic conditions.

Saturday 7th May 2016 | 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

John Beveridge Lecture Theatre, Level 1, Sydney Children's Hospital

Intended for General Practitioners and other interested health workers who are involved in the care of children and adolescents with acute and chronic conditions, including students.

For enquiries and registrations, please contact Georgina Papaioannou by [email](#) or phoning 9382 1855. Registration fees range from \$90-\$170.

Click for [registration form](#).

More information is available [online](#).

phn
CENTRAL AND EASTERN SYDNEY
An Australian Government Initiative

SYDNEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
The Sydney children's Hospitals Network

2016 Annual Paediatric Update For General Practitioners



Saturday 7th May, 2016

Lecture Theatre, Level 1
Sydney Children's Hospital
High St, Randwick NSW 2031

Application is being made for Category 2 Points with RACGP QI&CPD Program

Registration Enquiries & Bookings
Phone: (02) 9382 1855
Email: georgina.papaioannou@health.nsw.gov.au

FUNDING

The [School of Women's & Children's Health website](#) contains a list of funding opportunities available throughout the year.

Please remember:

- All applications from UNSW staff & students must be submitted via the Grants Management Office (GMO). [Carlie Robinson](#) is the Grants Officer for the Discipline of Paediatrics.
- Non-ACGR scheme applications must comply with UNSW's policy for pricing and indirect costs.
- The internal deadline for submission of grant applications to the GMO is 2 weeks prior to the external deadline. This timeframe allows the GMO to ensure applications comply with UNSW policies and sponsor requirements.
- Many philanthropic Funds and Foundations provide funding for university research. In cases where research grant funding is awarded via an advertised competitive application round, the submission of applications is managed through the GMO, which will also manage the grant once awarded. See 'managing research income from philanthropic funding schemes' for further information.
- All applications that require signature from Head of School - Prof Bill Ledger, need to be submitted to his Personal Assistant ([Jana Stewart](#)), five days prior to the external deadline.

ALL STREAMS

APRIL

Funder	Scheme	Internal Close	External Close
L'Oreal-UNESCO Australia & New Zealand To help finance the Fellow's scientific research, including the costs of equipment, consumables, travel and conferences. Previous Fellows have also used this support to hire a research assistant, cover the cost of childcare or conference & travel costs.	Women in Science Fellowships	30-MAR-16	12-APR-16
American Australian Association To support part of the costs for 1 year of study in the US in the fields of paediatrics or neurology.	Australia to United States	01-APR-16	15-APR-16
National Foundation for Medical Research & Innovation The Foundation supports biomedical, lab-based research projects that will lead to innovations such as drugs, devices, tools, therapeutics, vaccines and diagnostics.	Annual Grant Round	08-APR-16	22-APR-16
ide Group For early stage entrepreneurs with novel product ideas and technologies that have the potential to make a significant difference to people's health, particularly in response to alarming rises in health care costs and a rapidly ageing population. \$25,000	Building Better Futures for Health	15-APR-16	29-APR-16
King's College London (UK) To promote scholarship, intellectual links, and mutual awareness and understanding between the United Kingdom and Australia £4,000	Australian Bicentennial Scholarships & Fellowships	15-APR-16	29-APR-16

MAY

Funder	Scheme	Internal Close	External Close
UNSW UNSW assists postgraduate researchers by providing a wide range of prestigious scholarships. The scholarships provide a range of benefits such as annual stipends, living allowances and coverage of tuition fee costs, as well as funding and supplements for travel. Scholarships are available to support current and new postgraduate research candidates at UNSW.	APA Scholarship - Sem 2, 2016 - Domestic	Internal	20-MAY-16

<p>NHMRC The aim of the Program Grants scheme is to provide support for teams of high calibre researchers to pursue broad based, multi-disciplinary and collaborative research activities. Teams will be expected to contribute to new knowledge at a leading international level in important areas of health and medical research. The scheme is available for all research approaches relevant to better health - biomedical, clinical, public health or health services research and is typically for 5 years.</p>	Program Grants	11-MAY-16	25-MAY-16
<p>NHMRC Provide support for health care professionals (e.g medical specialists, general practitioners, public health practitioners, physiotherapists, nurses, midwives, radiologists, and other allied health providers), health care personnel (health service managers, hospital department leaders, clinical trial managers) health systems personnel, health researchers and health policy makers to translate evidence into health care and public health improvements.</p>	TRIP Fellowships	11-MAY-16	25-MAY-16
<p>European Research Council Open to researchers who have already been awarded an ERC grant. Its purpose is to help ERC grantees explore the innovation potential of their research or support commercialisation of the results of their ERC-funded research. €150,000 18 months</p>	ERC Proof of Concept Grant	13-MAY-16	27-MAY-16
<p>Perpetual Philanthropic Services These Grants are awarded to individuals in universities, public hospitals or institutes for a contribution towards the undertaking of health or medical research with a potential path to clinical application within five years. A Health Investment Grant is intended to provide enabling research support for an autonomous early career investigator who is taking or has recently taken a substantive position.</p>	Ramaciotti Health Investment Grant	04-APR-16	27-MAY-16
<p>Perpetual Philanthropic Services Honours an individual who has made an outstanding discovery in clinical or experimental biomedical research which has had an important impact on biomedical sciences, clinical medicine or the way in which healthcare is delivered.</p>	Ramaciotti Medal for Excellence in Biomedical Research	13-MAY-16	27-MAY-16

JUNE

Funder	Scheme	Internal Close	External Close
<p>The Ian Potter Foundation Enables promising early-career academics and researchers to present their work at international conferences and exchange knowledge with their peers through participation in professional development opportunities.</p>	Travel Grants	24-MAY-16	07-JUN-16
<p>Wellcome Trust Pilot funding to catalyse innovative early-stage applied research and development projects in areas of unmet medical need, has been expanded. It now funds discrete projects from applicants in the UK and Republic of Ireland as well as partnerships between academia and industry based anywhere in the world.</p>	Pathfinder Awards	06-JUN-16	20-JUN-16
<p>NHMRC Will help create partnerships among decision makers, policy makers, managers, clinicians and researchers. This funding scheme provides funding and support to create new opportunities for researchers and policy makers to work together to define research questions, undertake research, interpret the findings and implement the findings into policy and practice. Partnership Projects will answer a specific research question to influence health and well-being through changes in the delivery, organisation, funding and access to health services.</p>	Partnership Projects - Peer Review Cycle (PRC) #1	15-JUN-16	29-JUN-16

<p>NHMRC The NHMRC Postgraduate Scholarships scheme funds successful applicants to attain a research based postgraduate degree (Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or a Masters Degree). It aims to support these outstanding health and medical graduates early in their career so they can be trained to conduct research that is internationally competitive and develop a capacity for original independent research within Australia.</p>	Postgraduate Scholarships	15-JUN-16	29-JUN-16
<p>Universite Paris Saclay For highly qualified foreign scientists the ability to make long stays (from 6 to 12 months) in one of laboratories its perimeter. Scientists from all disciplines and all countries are eligible. The content of the project to develop and the period of the award must be set before the application in conjunction with the host team of Paris-Saclay.</p>	Jean d'Alembert scholarship program (FR)	16-JUN-16	30-JUN-16

CANCER

APRIL

Funder	Scheme	Internal Close	External Close
<p>Cancer Institute NSW Research Equipment Grants are directed to providing substantial funding for key research platforms, core equipment and capacities to enhance the cancer research effort in NSW.</p>	Research Equipment Grant	21-MAR-16	04-APR-16
<p>National Blood Authority Applications must address evidence gaps in either Patient Blood Management or Immunoglobulin product use. Entire, discrete research project proposal. \$30,000-150,000 3 Years</p>	Project Grant	23-MAR-16	08-APR-16
<p>National Blood Authority Seed funding for early stages of innovative new research effort. Generation of preliminary data needed to support future grant application. \$50,000 1 Year</p>	Seed Grant	23-MAR-16	08-APR-16
<p>National Blood Authority Intended to support medical researcher in attainment of PhD or Master's degree or postdoctoral research fellow research. \$25,000-\$30,000 1 Year</p>	Early Career Research Grant	23-MAR-16	08-APR-16
<p>Worldwide Cancer Institute Support research that might in future help reduce the incidence of cancer or improve cancer survival. We award grants to support fundamental or translational research into the causes, mechanisms, diagnosis, treatment or prevention of cancer. £250,000 3 years</p>	Research Grant	15-APR-16	29-APR-16

MAY

Funder	Scheme	Internal Close	External Close
<p>Cancer Institute NSW Provide salary and project support to encourage the very best researchers (up to 5 years post doc) to choose cancer research as their career and to continue independent research that is nationally and internationally competitive. \$200,000 3 Years</p>	Early Career Fellowships	18-APR-16	30-MAY-16
<p>Cancer Institute NSW Provide salary and project support to encourage the very best researchers (up to 10 years post doc) to continue independent cancer research that is nationally and internationally competitive. \$200,000 3 Years</p>	Career Development Fellowships	18-APR-16	30-MAY-16

JUNE

Funder	Scheme	Internal Close	External Close
Cancer Nurses Society of Australia The purpose of the program is to provide financial assistance to nurses to facilitate research in the area of cancer nursing that will contribute to improvements in the care of people with cancer.	Research Grant	16-JUN-16	30-JUN-16

NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

MAY

Funder	Scheme	Internal Close	External Close
Heart Foundation Funding to test the feasibility of innovative concepts in public health and/or health services (including clinical service delivery) that may lead to larger, more rigorous testing in the future. \$75,000	Vanguard Grant	20-APR-16	04-MAY-16
Heart Foundation Funds to leverage significant additional funding from other sources. \$150,000	Partnership Engagement Grant	06-MAY-16	20-MAY-16

POPULATION HEALTH

APRIL

Funder	Scheme	Internal Close	External Close
NHMRC This Programme will support innovative high quality teams to undertake research into the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of tropical disease that translate research findings into outcomes for health in Australia and the region.	Northern Australia Tropical Disease Collaborative Research Programme	21-MAR-16	06-APR-16
The Lowitja Institute - The narrative framing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing: a review . - Reframing discourse and changing the narrative of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing: an analysis - Identifying the core elements of the cultural determinants of health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples: a research project	Research Project Funding	28-MAR-16	11-APR-16
The Ian Potter Foundation Projects that are likely to have the greatest impact on some of society's most complex issues. \$50,000 1 year	Community Well-Being Program	08-APR-16	22-APR-16
Endeavour Foundation The Fund seeks to encourage quality and innovation in the disability services sector. Grants are available for researchers and postgraduate students to undertake research into issues of key importance for the Australian disability sector. \$40,000	Endowment Challenge Fund	08-APR-16	22-APR-16

MAY

Funder	Scheme	Internal Close	External Close
Royal Australian College of General Practitioners To support general practitioners conducting research into primary healthcare and general practice, furthering medical advancements within the community by building the evidence that is necessary to deliver high quality care and health outcomes	Research Grant	30-APR-16	09-MAY-16

<p>Gates Foundation & Partners (US) - Accelerate Development of New Therapies for Childhood Cryptosporidium Infection (Round 17) - Novel Approaches to Characterizing and Tracking the Global Burden of Antimicrobial Resistance (Round 17)</p> <p>Amnesty International Australia Promoting and defending human rights direct access to funding to support new, innovative, creative initiatives.</p>	<p>Grand Challenges Explorations</p> <p>Human Rights Innovation Fund</p>	<p>27-APR-16</p> <p>17-MAY-16</p>	<p>11-MAY-16</p> <p>31-MAY-16</p>
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RARE DISEASES & GENOMICS

APRIL

Funder	Scheme	Internal Close	External Close
<p>Alport Foundation of Australia The Alport Foundation of Australia supports all areas of research relevant to Alport Syndrome and related disorders. \$20,000</p>	<p>Research Award</p>	<p>17-MAY-16</p>	<p>31-MAY-16</p>

PUBLICATIONS

Publications authored by UNSW Paediatrics academics, conjoints, & students from January 2016 or In Press.

If your publication is available online but is missing from these pages, please email [Samantha McFedries](mailto:Samantha.McFedries)

CANCER

Boer, J.M., Van Der Veer, A., Rizopoulos, D., Fiocco, M., Sonneveld, E., De Groot-Kruseman, H.A., Kuiper, R.P., Hoogerbrugge, P., Horstmann, M., Zaliouva, M., Palmi, C., Trka, J., Fronkova, E., Emerenciano, M., Do Socorro Pombo-De-Oliveira, M., Mlynarski, W., Szczepanski, T., Nebral, K., Attarbaschi, A., Venn, N., **Sutton, R.**, Schwab, C.J., Enshaei, A., Vora, A., Stanulla, M., Schrappe, M., Cazzaniga, G., Conter, V., Zimmermann, M., Moorman, A.V., Pieters, R., Den Boer, M.L. Prognostic value of rare IKZF1 deletion in childhood B-cell precursor acute lymphoblastic leukemia: An international collaborative study. *Leukemia*, 2016, 30 (1), pp. 32-38.

☞ Cancer ☞ CCI

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☞ Medical Psychology ☞ Cancer

Dolnikov, A., **Shen, S.**, **Klamer, G.**, Joshi, S., Xu, N., Yang, L., Micklethwaite, K., **O'Brien, T.A.** Antileukemic potency of CD19-specific T cells against chemoresistant pediatric acute lymphoblastic leukemia. *Experimental Hematology*, 2015. Article in Press.

☞ Cancer ☞ KCC

Ercole, F., Mansfeld, F.M., **Kavallaris, M.**, Whittaker, M.R., Quinn, J.F., Halls, M.L., Davis, T.P. Macromolecular Hydrogen Sulfide Donors Trigger Spatiotemporally Confined Changes in Cell Signaling. *Biomacromolecules*, 2016 17 (1), pp. 371-383.

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☞ Behavioural Sciences ☞ Cancer ☞ KCC

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Nieuwenhuysen, E., Lambrechts, S., Vergote, I., Karlan, B., Lester, J., Orsulic, S., Walsh, C., Fasching, P.A., Beckmann, M.W., Ekici, A.B., Hein, A., Matsuo, K., Hosono, S., Pisterer, J., Hillemanns, P., Nakanishi, T., Yatabe, Y., Goodman, M.T., Lurie, G., Matsuno, R.K., Thompson, P.J., Pejovic, T., Bean, Y., Heitz, F., Harter, P., Du Bois, A., Schwaab, I., Hogdall, E., Kjaer, S.K., Jensen, A., Hogdall, C., Lundvall, L., Engelholm, S.A., Brown, B., Flanagan, J.M., Metcalf, M.D., Siddiqui, N., Sellers, T., Fridley, B., Cunningham, J., Schildkraut, J.M., Iversen, E., Weber, R.P., Brennan, D., Berchuck, A., Pharoah, P., Harnett, P., **Norris, M.D.**, **Haber, M.**, Goode, E.L., Lee, J.S., Khanna, K.K., Meyer, K.B., Chenevix-Trench, G., DeFazio, A., Edwards, S.L., MacGregor, S. Germline polymorphisms in an enhancer of PSIP1 are associated with progression-free survival in epithelial ovarian cancer. *Oncotarget*, 2015, 7 (6), pp. 6353-6368.

☞ Cancer ☞ CCI

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☞ Cancer ☞ CCI

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☞ Cancer ☞ CCI

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☞ Behavioural Sciences ☞ Cancer ☞ KCC

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☞ Behavioural Sciences ☞ Cancer ☞ KCC

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☞ Cancer ☞ CCI ☞ KCC

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☞ Behavioural Sciences ☞ Cancer ☞ KCC

HEALTH SYSTEMS RESEARCH

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☞ Rural Medicine

NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

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☞ Respiratory

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☞ Endocrinology

POPULATION HEALTH

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☞ Cancer ☞ Infectious Diseases

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☞ Immunology

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☞ Neurology ☞ Biostatistics

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☞ Respiratory ☞ Virology

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☞ Respiratory ☞ Virology

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☞ Pain

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☞ Dermatology

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