



Burnet Institute
Medical Research. Practical Action.

ANNUAL REPORT 08

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Director: Brendan Crabb, BSc(Hons) PhD

Deputy Directors: P Mark Hogarth, PhD; David Anderson, BSc(Hons), PhD

Company Secretary: Peter Spiller, BBus, CPA

Cover: A live *Plasmodium falciparum* parasite (green), the cause of human malaria, inside a human red blood cell. Image taken at the 2008 Burnet Institute DeltaVision RT High Resolution Microscope Workshop with thanks to Dr Tom Hope, Dr Candida da Fonseca Pereira, Dr Jenny Anderson and Dr Gilda Tachedjian. Parasites provided by Dr Paul Gilson and Tana Taechalertpaisarn.

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Our Vision and Mission

The unifying vision of all health, medical research and development undertaken at the Burnet Institute is the linking of laboratory and field research with practical public health programs; with an emphasis on addressing the health needs of disadvantaged populations.

To achieve this vision, Burnet's mission is to create a healthier world by utilising our unique skills in infectious diseases, immunology and public health to produce health outcomes such as vaccines for infectious diseases and cancer, better strategies for the treatment and prevention of infection, and innovative public health programs both in Australia and throughout the world, especially in our region.

Burnet's broad mission embraces all facets of its research and development work – from basic laboratory research and discovery through to clinical trials, public health, treatment and prevention, advocacy and policy development – and allows the Institute to develop unique cross-disciplinary programs to respond to the major global health problems of our time. The broad mission allows Burnet to be proactive in leading Australia's and our region's preparedness and responsiveness to the threat of emerging diseases, such as avian and swine influenza, while continuing to address long-term health priorities. These include: developing hepatitis C, HIV and cancer vaccines; novel treatment strategies and diagnostics for HIV, hepatitis, tuberculosis and malaria; understanding the pathogenesis of infectious diseases; and undertaking advocacy, capacity building and policy development in the international health arena.

Our Values

We are passionate in our commitment to working and growing together to create a healthier world. We value excellence, innovation and social justice, and share a desire to extend the boundaries of knowledge and understanding.

I am sure many of you reading this report are very well aware that the Burnet Institute takes its name from one of Australia's greatest scientists, Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet. His legacy to us is a name that identifies the activities of the Burnet Institute – addressing issues of infectious disease and immunity for the benefit of the world's most disadvantaged people.

The great scientist who lent us his name once expressed a belief that, with the advent of modern vaccines, infectious diseases could be beaten for all mankind. Of course this proved true for some diseases; however for others, elimination remains a distant hope.

As I write, the world is gripped by two crises – the much-written-about financial crisis but more recently a dramatic new outbreak of influenza. It is too early to say that what is clearly an epidemic in Mexico is a worldwide pandemic. However, it appears that swine flu is a new strain of influenza which has the capacity for human-to-human infection. Nothing demonstrates more clearly the need for Australia to have, in the Burnet Institute, an organisation with a capacity to tackle infections in our region. In 2009, notwithstanding the continual medical progress made by research organisations globally, including Burnet, the world is still confronted with a variety of new infectious diseases (for example, HIV affects 33 million worldwide, and hepatitis C affects 200 million, and have both arisen in the last 25 years), and perennial killers such as malaria, tuberculosis and cholera.

I am delighted to present this Annual Report to you, which highlights the outstanding achievements of the Burnet Institute over the past 12 months. I am also pleased to present a new look for the Institute in the form of a new logo. The Institute's new look has been designed to highlight our mission to improve global health, combining world-class laboratory research with practical frontline health programs across our region. It is also the final step in the merger of the former Austin Research Institute with the Burnet Institute reflecting the unification of two outstanding organisations. The launch of the new logo in May 2009 will coincide with the relocation of the Austin campus staff to join their colleagues at the Alfred Medical Research and Education Precinct (AMREP) in Prahran, Melbourne.

Burnet is well positioned despite the current financial crisis. However we are not totally immune from the impact of the global downturn. Like many other organisations, Burnet has noted a reduced level of funding available from some granting bodies and private philanthropic sources; and fluctuating exchange rates have also impacted on the value of grants received from

international funders. Burnet has improved its financial position through increased infrastructure funding from the Victorian State Government through the Department of Industry Innovation and Regional Development, and research funding through the Federal Government's National Health and Medical Research Council, for which we are most grateful. This increased level of funding is a strong indicator of Burnet's innovative and translational approach to laboratory research and public health activity. In addition, as an accredited non-government organisation, the Institute receives substantial funding for our international health programs through AusAID.

I would like to congratulate Professor Brendan Crabb on his first year as Director and CEO of the Institute. Brendan has demonstrated strong leadership over this period, beginning with a reorganisation of Burnet's scientific and public health programs into four centres of excellence: Virology; Immunology; Population Health; and International Health. This reorganisation represents Burnet's key areas of research and public health strength, and is led by the Institute's most experienced and highly credentialed staff. In addition, four cross-functional units have been formed which work across these centres and focus on Infectious Diseases; Vaccines, Diagnostics and Therapeutics; Disease Prevention and Education; and Capacity Building. This reorganisation will enable the Institute to further progress its global mission of reducing the impact of infectious diseases and cancer.

I am delighted to report that the development of Burnet's new building, currently under construction above the Alfred Centre, is on track for completion in 2010. This \$90 million project represents an outstanding achievement for the Institute and is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of a remarkable team from Burnet and its AMREP partners. This is a significant financial commitment and is currently being offset by a major fundraising campaign. This new development will enhance the Institute's ability to progress its laboratory-based research and public health programs to a much greater capacity.

Burnet's international presence continues to expand and we have recently opened regional offices in Bangkok and Suva, increasing the Institute's ability to support our country offices and build stronger relationships with other NGOs and funding bodies operating within the South East Asia and Pacific regions. I must also congratulate the staff of the Centre for International Health for the outstanding role they played, and continue to play, in Myanmar post Cyclone Nargis. Burnet's long-term presence in

Chairman's Report

Myanmar and the networks that our staff have developed have enabled the Institute to establish a Resource Centre for local community groups to source funding in response to this disaster.

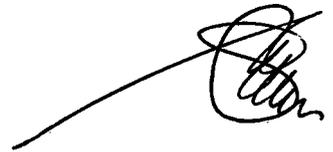
One of the major advantages of being located at AMREP is the ability to foster close working relationships with the other AMREP partners. Not only do these relationships result in collaborative research programs, they also reduce operating costs through the sharing of facilities and resources. Over the past year Burnet has strengthened its ties with The Alfred hospital, Baker IDI and Monash University through the joint animal house facility and shared imaging service. Now in association with Baker IDI, Burnet is collaborating internationally in Fiji and Alice Springs on joint public health initiatives.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the members of the Board who over the past year have made a significant contribution to the Institute both in time spent attending meetings and serving on various board committees. I sincerely thank them for their guidance and advice. The financing and design development of the new building has been an exhausting task and Board members have given up many weekends and late nights for committee meetings and teleconferences. Thank you!

There were a number of changes to the Board in 2008. I would like to thank Dr Tracey Batten and Mr Ian Wightwick for their support and outstanding contributions to the Board. Tracey served as a valuable member of the Intellectual Property and Commercialisation Committee providing significant counsel and advice. As Chair of the former Austin Research Institute Board, Ian was instrumental in ensuring the success of the merger with the Burnet Institute in 2006. He also made a substantial contribution as a member of the Intellectual Property and Commercialisation Committee. To Tracey and Ian, thank you. I also take this opportunity to welcome to the Board Dr Alan Finkel AO, Chancellor of Monash University, Mr Henry Lanzer, Managing Partner of Arnold Bloch Leibler and Ms Natasha Stott Despoja, former Senator for South Australia.

Critical to the Institute's success are the donors and in-kind supporters who provide the much-needed funds and services that ensure that we can continue to improve the quality of the health of millions of people around the world. It enables us to provide innovative solutions to major health challenges faced by many of the disadvantaged and marginalised communities with whom we work. I know I speak for the Board and all staff at the Institute in thanking you for your continued support.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognise the enormous and lasting contribution to Burnet made by the late Richard Pratt. Mr Pratt donated the funds needed to establish the Institute 22 years ago. Without his generosity, Burnet would not exist and the Institute honours his memory. Finally, I must congratulate and thank the staff of the Burnet Institute for a most successful year of research and public health endeavour. I do not know of an organisation that has such a talented and dedicated group of scientists, public health professionals and support staff. I look forward to the coming year with enthusiasm, confident that with their continued dedication and confidence our contribution to humanity will grow and develop even further.



Alastair Lucas
Chair



It is with great pleasure that I write this report, my first as Director. What a remarkable year of transformation for the Institute. In reading the pages ahead, it might appear as though we are becoming a new and different Institute to the one you may have known over the past 22 years. To a degree this is true, as we have suddenly grown into a diverse organisation comprising nearly 400 staff and students. However, while some things are changing, others remain the same. The most important of which is that in 2008 the Burnet's core mission of addressing the health needs of Australia and the world's most disadvantaged populations through a combination of research and public health programs, has been reinforced. This mission, and the culture of excellence, compassion, community involvement and public good that underpins it, defines our organisation.

Perhaps the most momentous achievement of the past year is the commencement of our new building at the AMREP campus. This project, a very significant mark in the history of the Burnet Institute, completes the 2006 merger with the Austin Research Institute – allowing staff from our Austin campus to join those in Prahran, working together in the one precinct.

Another major event this year was the restructure of the Institute's operations into four Centres of Excellence. These Centres consolidated our major areas of activity and provided a strong leadership framework to better realise synergies and ways to build capacity. This new structure is designed to provide an environment that promotes bigger and better research programs and allows our staff to flourish. I am very grateful for the support, leadership and commitment of the newly-appointed Centre Heads; Suzanne Crowe (Virology), Mark Hogarth (Immunology), Margaret Hellard and John Reeder (Population Health) and Mike Toole (International Health).

An important part of the restructure was the recognition of four major themes that cut across the specific disciplines of the Centres. Like the Centres, these themes of Infectious Disease, Disease Prevention, Business Development (Vaccines, Diagnostics and Immuno-therapeutics), Education and Capacity Building also define what we do as an Institute. I have appointed senior staff David Anderson, Robert Power, Steve Gerondakis and Marion Brown, as spokespeople for these themes and, more importantly, to drive significant new Institute-wide initiatives. It is from here that we can expect new areas of activity and emphasis to emerge.

The next phase of Institute development will involve changes to our Corporate and Support Services arm. This is underway with the appointment of the Institute's first Chief Operating Officer, Geoff Drenkhahn. Geoff is well known to staff from his former position as the Deputy Director of the Institute's Centre for International Health (CIH). His varied role influences much of the Institute's operations and he has already made a significant contribution, most notably overseeing much of the work on the new building.

It was a fabulous year for our research and public health programs. Burnet's international health programs continue to expand and prosper, for example in China with the ongoing success of the Burnet Institute managed China-Australia Health and HIV/AIDS Facility (CAHHF). This \$31.8 million program aims to strengthen China's health systems, protect its population against emerging infectious diseases and halt and reverse the spread of HIV in this vast country. In response to Cyclone Nargis our program in Myanmar has dramatically expanded in both scale and scope. Our work to improve health in resource poor countries, particularly Papua New Guinea (PNG), Indonesia, Lao PDR and Mozambique, is also progressing well. The Institute's Centre for International Health (CIH) is now one of the nation's largest global health centres with approximately 180 staff, 130 of whom are employed overseas. In 2008, CIH incorporated our Centre for Harm Reduction, a move aimed at incorporating the principles of harm reduction into our wider public health activities, particularly our HIV prevention programs.

Much was also achieved in research in 2008. It was a stellar year for publications, where both quality and quantity reached record levels. The Institute published 118 peer-reviewed papers including publications in some of the world's best scientific journals such as *Nature*, *The New England Journal of Medicine* and *The Lancet*. It was also a record year for the awarding of competitive grants and fellowships, especially from the NHMRC. In a remarkable achievement, Burnet was successful in five fellowship applications doubling the number of prestigious NHMRC Fellows at the Institute.

Our epidemiologists work on a range of health issues, with tuberculosis (TB), hepatitis C transmission, sexually-transmitted infections and alcohol research being particularly prominent. I would like to emphasise the high-profile work of Helen Cox and her colleagues on the investigation of the emergence of

Director's Report

drug resistance in the bacteria responsible for TB. These studies are hugely significant as they form part of an emerging global story about how one of the most significant human pathogens in history is adapting to evade the few available therapies. Few people realise that TB is rivalled only by HIV and malaria as the world's most important single-cause infectious disease. These studies underscore the fact that we are a long way from solving the worsening global TB catastrophe.

Investigation into hepatitis C virus transmission in Australia was also very significant and demonstrated a great strength of Burnet – the integration of field studies with high technology laboratory capacity. In work published in 2008, Margaret Hellard and Campbell Aitken from the Institute's Centre for Population Health, teamed with molecular virologist Heidi Drummer and other colleagues, to complete a major study in understanding infection and re-infection amongst injecting drug users. Hepatitis C is a major global health problem amongst many groups of people. It has become a very important, cross-cutting theme of the Institute and we will see a great deal more emerge in this area, especially in vaccine development. Progress was also made in HIV research with Suzanne Crowe and David Anderson continuing to develop a radical, inexpensive point-of-care diagnostic test to measure CD4 T-cell levels in HIV infected individuals. Such a procedure is central to the prospect of effective widespread antiviral therapy throughout the developing world.

It was a big year for events and awards. Professor Mike Toole was awarded the highest honour in the Institute, the Fenner Award, and in his lecture to mark the occasion Mike told us of the broader and innovative vision that underpinned his team's HIV control efforts around the world. Paul Gorry was named a Victorian Young Tall Poppy by the Australian Institute of Policy and Science.

All Burnet achievements are owed to its staff. I did not have to be here long to recognise the special and deep culture that permeates the people who work here, an egalitarian culture that prizes excellence, innovation and compassion. Thank you to all staff, especially to the Institute's Deputy Directors, Mark Hogarth and David Anderson; the Administrative and Corporate Affairs team led by Geoff Drenkhahn, Peter Spiller and Paul Rathbone, who lead teams that have so ably managed the Institute's affairs; the Centre Heads and Principals, and my personal assistant, Valerie Skahill.

The Institute is fortunate to be governed by a Board of immensely talented individuals who give a lot of time and energy to serve the Institute. I speak on behalf of all staff in expressing my gratitude to our Chairman Alastair Lucas and all Directors.

Finally, the Burnet Institute does all its work through funds generated by competitive grants, generally from Governments, and through donations by philanthropic individuals and groups. We are enormously grateful to those who donate these funds and I can guarantee that this treasured support is managed wisely and stretched as far as possible to maximise its impact in the communities it is intended to serve.



Brendan Crabb
Director and CEO





Board of Directors (L-R) Back: Mr John Dowling, Associate Professor David Anderson, Mr Henry Lanzer, Professor James McCluskey, Mr Ross E Cooke, Professor Mark Hogarth. Front: Ms Denise Allen, Mr Alastair Lucas, Professor Brendan Crabb, Professor the Hon Barry O Jones AO, Mr Neil Edwards. Absent: Professor Peter Doherty AC, Dr Tracey Batten, Mrs Bronwyn Constance, Dr Alan Finkel AM, Mr Garry Hounsell, Mr Robert Milne, Mrs Maria Myers AO, Natasha Stott Despoja, Mr Ian Wightwick.

The Directors of the Burnet Institute, all of whom act in an honorary capacity, along with the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Directors, who receive remuneration as paid members of staff and who held office at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Mr Alastair Lucas, BCom, FCPA

Director since 1998; Chair, Burnet Institute Board of Directors; Member, Investment Committee, Grant Committee, Fundraising Committee, ACS2 Project Committee, Burnet Institute; Vice Chair and Managing Director, Goldman Sachs JBWere; Member, Takeovers Panel; Member, Monash Dean’s Advisory Board

Professor Peter Doherty, AC, FAA, FRS

Director since 2002; Member, Research Advisory Committee, Burnet Institute; Nobel Laureate, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne

Professor Brendan Crabb, PhD

Executive Director and CEO, Burnet Institute since March 2008; Member, Research Advisory Committee, and ACS2 Project Committee, Burnet Institute; Adjunct Professor, University of Melbourne; Adjunct Professor, La Trobe University; Editor-in-Chief, International Journal for Parasitology

Ms Denise Allen

Director since 2006; Chair, Investment Committee, Burnet Institute; Director, Medical Research Commercialisation Fund (MRCF); Former Chair and Managing Director, Legg Mason Asset Management Australia Ltd; Director, Utilities of Australia; Director, AvSuper

Associate Professor David Anderson, PhD

Director since 2006; Deputy Executive Director, Burnet Institute NHMRC Senior Research Fellow; Member, IP and Commercialisation Committee, Burnet Institute; Chief Scientific Officer, Select Vaccines Ltd; Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; Director, Hepitope Limited

Dr Tracey Batten, MBBS, MHA, FRACMA, FAICD, MBA

Director since 2004 and resigned 9 December 2008; Member, IP and Commercialisation Committee, Burnet Institute; CEO, Eastern Health

Mrs Bronwyn Constance, FCPA, FAICD, FCIS

Director since 2006 and resigned 15 April 2008; Member, Audit, Finance and Risk Committee, Burnet Institute; Director and Chair, Audit Committee for the Cooperative Research Centre for Advanced Automotive Technology; Director and Chair, Audit Committee, Plantic Technologies Ltd; Director and Member, Audit Committee, Melbourne Markets Authority

Mr Ross E Cooke, BCom, ACA

Director since 1998; Chair, Audit, Finance and Risk Committee, and Member, ACS2 Project Committee and Grant Committee, Burnet Institute; Director, Paxton Partners; Director and President, Wintringham; Director and President, Wintringham Housing Ltd

Mr John K Dowling, FREI, FAPI

Director since 2000; Member, Research Advisory Committee, Burnet Institute; Managing Partner, K L Dowling & Co

Board of Directors

Mr Neil Edwards, BEcon (Hons), FAICD, FIPAA

Director since 2006; Member, Audit, Finance and Risk Committee, ACS2 Project Committee, Burnet Institute; CEO, Chifley Business School; CEO, ETM Search and Selection Chairman, Regional Channels Authority

Dr Alan Finkel, AM, PhD, FTSE, BE(Hons)

Director since 2008; Chancellor, Monash University; Director, Florey Neuroscience Institute; Chair, Child Abuse Research Australia Centre

Professor P Mark Hogarth, PhD

Director since 2006; Acting Executive Director, Burnet Institute – September 2007 to March 2008; Deputy Executive Director, Burnet Institute; NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow; Former Executive Director, Austin Research Institute; Adjunct Professor, University of Melbourne; Adjunct Professor, Monash University; Director, IgAvax Pty Ltd; Member, IP and Commercialisation Committee, Member ACS2 Project Committee, Burnet Institute

Mr Garry Hounsell, BBus, CPA

Director since 2005; Chair, Fundraising Committee, Burnet Institute; Director, Qantas Airways Ltd and Chair, Qantas Audit Committee and Member, Qantas Nominations Committee; Director, Orica Ltd; Director, Nufarm Ltd; Deputy Chair, Mitchell Communications Group; Former Senior Partner, Ernst & Young; CEO, Arthur Andersen

Professor, the Hon Barry O Jones,

AO, FAA, FAHA, FTSE, FASSA, FRSA, FRSV, FAIM

Director since 2000; Chair, Vision 2020 Australia; Chair, Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority; Professorial Fellow, University of Melbourne; Former Vice Chancellor's Fellow, University of Melbourne; Former Commonwealth Minister for Science; Former Chair, Victorian Schools Innovation Commission

Mr Henry Lanzer, BCom, LLB

Director since 2008; Member, Development Committee, Burnet Institute; Managing Partner, Arnold Block Leibler; Director, Premier Investments; Director, The Just Group; President, Mount Scopus Memorial College Foundation; Director, Tarrawarra Museum of Art

Professor James McCluskey,

BMedSc, MBBS, MD, FRACP, FRCPA

Director since 1998; Chair, Research Advisory Committee, Burnet Institute; Professor and Associate Dean (Research) Faculty of Medicine Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne

Mr Robert L Milne, BEng (Civ), FIE (Aust), CP Eng

Director since 2000; Member, IP and Commercialisation Committee, Chair, ACS2 Project Committee, Burnet Institute; Chair, Hooker Cockram; Director, Great Connections

Mrs Maria Myers, AO, BA, BSW, LLB

Director since 2004; Member, Fundraising Committee, Burnet Institute

Ms Natasha Stott Despoja, BA

Director since 2008; Former Senator for South Australia; Former Leader, Australian Democrats; Director, Beyond Blue; Honorary Research Fellow, University of Adelaide; Member, Advertising Standards Board

Mr Ian Wightwick, ASTC (App Chem), BEcon, MAdmin, MAICD

Director since 2006 and resigned 9 December 2008; Member, IP and Commercialisation Committee, Burnet Institute; Former Chair, Austin Research Institute; Former Managing Director, PaperlinX; Chair and Director, Plantic Technologies Ltd

Patrons

PATRON-IN-CHIEF

Governor of Victoria, Professor David de Kretser, AC

PATRONS

Professor Gordon Ada, AO, Australian National University

Hon Steve Bracks, MP, Former Premier of Victoria

Mr Nobby Clark, AO, Former Chief Executive Officer, National Australia Bank

Dr John Connell, AM, Founder, John Connell and Associates

Mr Bryce Courtenay, AM, Author

Rt Hon Sir Zelman Cowen, AK, Former Governor General of Australia

Professor Allan Fels, AO, Former Chairman of ACCC and Dean of the Australian & New Zealand School of Government

Rt Hon Malcolm Fraser, AC, Former Prime Minister, Australia

Professor David Ho, Director, The Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Centre, New York

Hon Michael Kirby, AC, CMG, Member of the International Bioethics Committee of UNESCO and Member of the UNAIDS Global Panel on Human Rights

Professor Sir Peter Morris, AC, Royal College of Surgeons, London

Mr John So, Former Lord Mayor of Melbourne

Burnet Institute's new building

Report by Chief Operating Officer, Geoff Drenkhahn

April 28 2008 will prove to be a date of significance in the history of the Burnet Institute. That date represents the 'contract close' for the Alfred Centre Stage 2 project (ACS2), with the signing of the raft of legal and financial contracts and agreements governing the construction and subsequent occupation of Burnet's new building at the AMREP campus.

The Burnet team, led by Board Members Alastair Lucas and Rob Milne and senior staff, Mark Hogarth and Janet Cameron and their staff are to be congratulated for their vision, planning and persistence in bringing to fruition a complex arrangement involving Federal and State governments; project co-sponsor The

Alfred hospital; key partners the ANZ Bank and Baulderstone, and tenants including Monash University, La Trobe University and the Baker IDI.

The 'new' building is in fact a horizontal and vertical extension of the existing Alfred Centre, with the four new floors delivering an additional 14,200sqm of space. Burnet will lease out three of the four new floors in ACS2 and occupy the seventh floor which is being fitted out for laboratories, including a PC3 security level laboratory. This initiative has been developed to allow for the future growth of the Institute as well as securing our financial future via leasing arrangements.



The Burnet Institute's Level 7 offices and laboratories, the upper floor with windows yet to be installed.

The construction of the building has proceeded very smoothly and to date is on time and on budget. The building remains scheduled for completion and occupancy in April 2010. As the accompanying photos show it is taking shape as an impressive new facility.

I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the project, both in the planning and construction stages, in particular Janet Cameron who co-ordinated the pre-contract close negotiations and arrangements and Bruce Loveland who has project-managed the construction phase of the project for Burnet. I would also like to thank our legal advisors Blake Dawson, our project co-sponsor Alfred Health and our building contractor Baulderstone who have all contributed to making this exciting project a reality.



Associate Professor
Bruce Loveland.



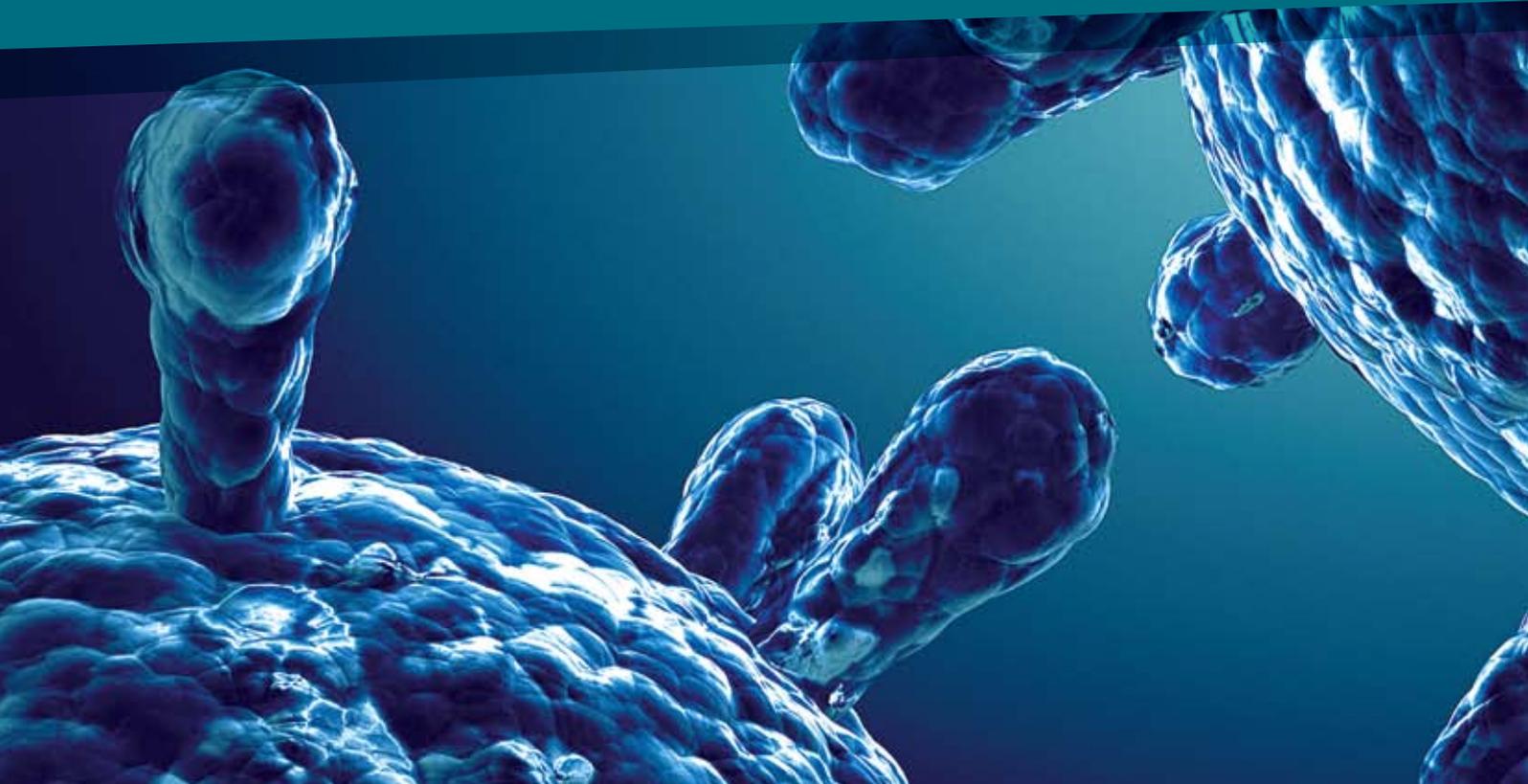
Workmen completing the Level 6 slab in March 2009. The Burnet Institute's existing building is to the left.



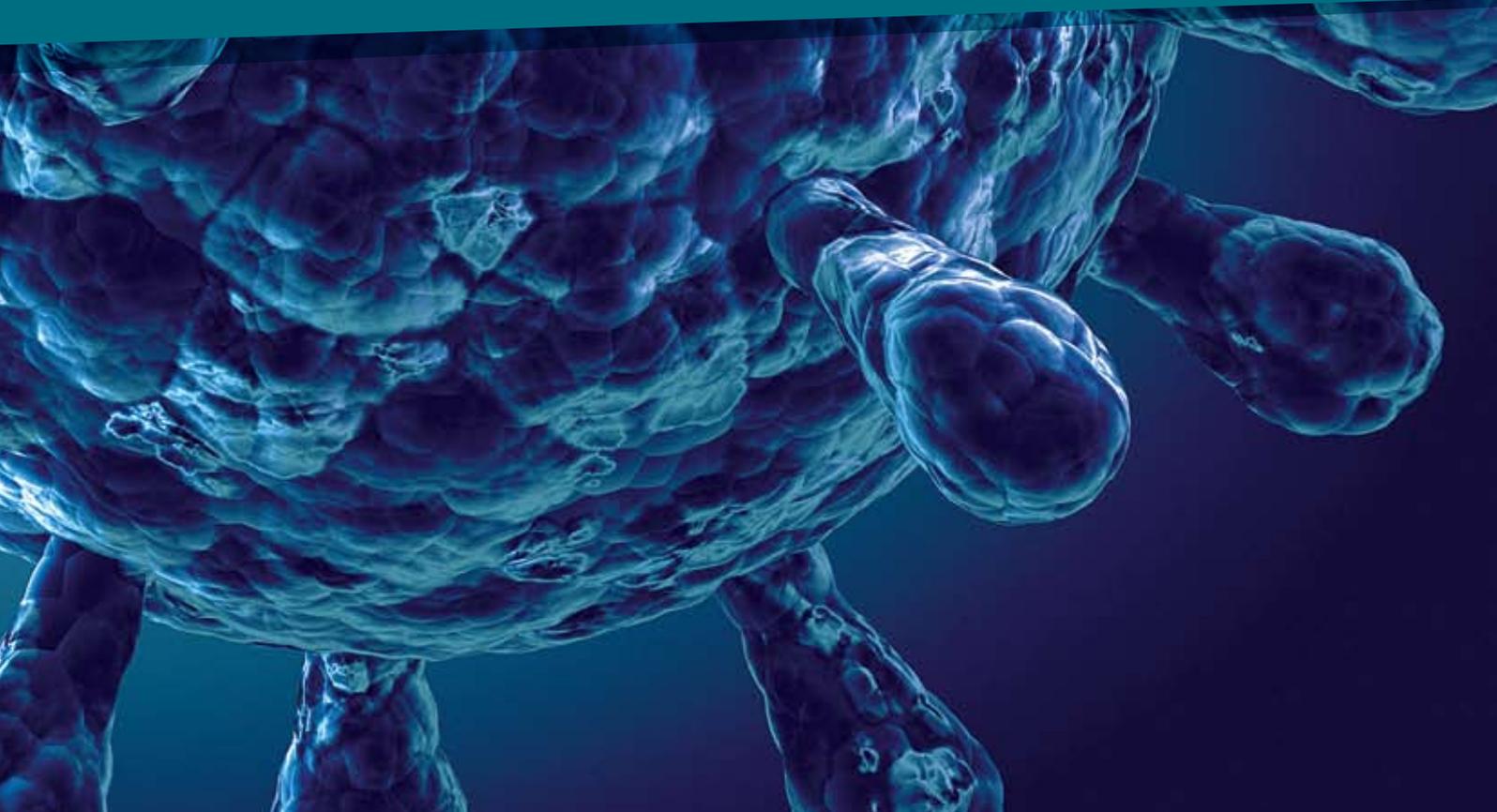
The fitout of mechanical and electrical services to the new floors commencing.

CENTRE VIRO

The mission of the Centre for Virology is to achieve innovative solutions for viral diseases of global importance. Basic research underpins most major scientific discoveries. Within the Centre for Virology strong emphasis is placed on understanding how viruses manipulate their host cells in order to infect them. Burnet's research in this area is vital in understanding how viruses infect cells causing disease and in developing strategies to block infection.



FOR LOGY



Overview



It has been a productive year for the Centre for Virology (CV) in furthering our goal to achieve innovative solutions for viral diseases. To crystallise our mission statement and to develop strategic milestones, the Centre held its first retreat in November 2008, which was attended by laboratory heads. On the hepatitis C virus (HCV) front, the Drummer/Poumbourios laboratory have produced a new HCV vaccine candidate that elicits a more effective immune response compared to other candidates, while the Anderson/Crowe laboratories were awarded funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation CD4 Initiative to develop a rapid point-of-care CD4+ T-cell test for use in remote settings. Underscoring our research excellence, the Tachedjian lab was awarded the Nick Crofts Award, for the top-rated publication from the Burnet Institute, for a study published in *PloS Medicine* on the identification of a mutation that confers dual class HIV-1 reverse transcriptase inhibitor resistance.

Our NHMRC project grant successes continue. In 2008 the Centre was awarded four project grants (\$2.5 million) and an NHMRC Principal Research Fellowship to Professor Suzanne Crowe. We achieved a 44% success rate for NHMRC Project Grants (\$3.2 million) starting in 2009. In addition, Associate Professor Gilda Tachedjian and Professor Eric Gowans were awarded NHMRC Senior Research Fellowships, Associate Professor Paul Gorry and Dr Kate Cherry were successful in obtaining the highly competitive NHMRC Career Development Awards and Dr Hilary Hoare was awarded an NHMRC Postdoctoral Fellowship. Our strength in translational research is exemplified by funding of an NHMRC Development grant (Anderson/Crowe Laboratory) and nine grants (\$1.4 million) from the Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research.

In November 2008, Jenny Anderson and Gilda Tachedjian convened the 'High Resolution Fluorescence Imaging Workshop featuring DeltaVision Deconvolution Microscopy' at the Burnet Institute. Professor Tom Hope from Northwestern University Chicago, shared his expertise in visualising fluorescently labelled viral particles in cells to 55 participants during the one-day seminar and to eight individuals in the practical component of the three-day course.

We welcome several new recruits to our Centre. Dr Jenny Anderson from Northwestern University Chicago, who undertook her postdoctoral training with Professor Tom Hope, and was awarded an NHMRC Project grant to determine how host cell restriction factors block HIV-1 infection. Mr Gregor Lichtfuss from the Robert Koch-Institut Berlin, is undertaking his PhD studies to delineate the impact of HIV infection on signalling processes in human blood cells. CV also hosted international students who completed part of their studies in the Mak Laboratory: Margarida Rodriguez, from University of Lisbon, Portugal and Vera van Hoeven, a Masters student from Utrecht University in The Netherlands. Professor Roland Marquet from the University of Strasberg, an expert on RNA biochemistry, completed an eight-month sabbatical at Burnet.

In 2008 we farewell Professor Eric Gowans, who is now the Executive Director of the Women's & Children's Health Research Institute in Adelaide. We are pleased that Eric remains part of CV as a co-laboratory head. Others who have left the Centre include Dr Nicole Webster (Crowe Laboratory) who is currently a Research Officer at the University of Melbourne and Lisa Morris, a Senior Scientist in the Clinical Research Laboratory who is now taking care of her new-born baby.

We congratulate Edwin Leeansyah and Clare Westhorpe who both successfully completed their PhD studies at Burnet.

Laboratory Heads (Above L-R): Dr Gilda Tachedjian, Dr Melissa Churchill, Professor Suzanne Crowe (Head), Dr Catherine (Kate) Cherry, Dr Heidi Drummer, Dr Anthony Jaworowski, Associate Professor Johnson Mak, Dr Pantelis Poumbourios. Absent: Associate Professor David Anderson, Dr Elizabeth Grgacic, Associate Professor Paul Gorry, Professor Eric Gowans.

Highlights

Centre for Virology investigator wins Victorian Young Tall Poppy Science Award | GORRY LABORATORY

Associate Professor Paul Gorry was a recipient of the Victorian Young Tall Poppy Science Award for 2008, in recognition of excellence in academic achievement in medical research and promotion of science.

Paul heads the HIV Molecular Pathogenesis Laboratory and has a number of research interests in the field of HIV-1 pathogenesis.

In one study by PhD candidate Jasminka Sterjovski, the three-dimensional structures of functionally diverse HIV-1 gp120 proteins were elucidated by homology modelling. The results revealed novel structural changes that enhance the interaction between the virus and the cell (Figure 1).

In a study by Postdoctoral Fellow Dr Martin Jakobsen and Research Assistant Anne Ellett, is characterising adaptive changes in the clade C HIV-1 gp120 region that occur during disease progression. These studies will be critical for development of targeted vaccines and drug therapies for clade C HIV-1, which predominates in Africa and Asia and is the most common HIV-1 subtype worldwide.

PhD candidate Michael Roche is characterising mechanisms involved in HIV-1 resistance to Maraviroc, a new HIV-1 drug, which acts by preventing HIV-1 binding to cells. This work will be important for development of new laboratory tests for HIV resistance to Maraviroc.

Another study by PhD candidate Lachlan Gray characterises mechanisms involved in HIV-1 neurotropism, which is a collaborative effort with Dr Melissa Churchill's HIV Neuropathogenesis Laboratory. Here, we showed that brain-derived HIV-1 strains undergo adaptive changes to increase the efficiency in the way they use CCR5 for entry into cells, which may increase their ability to replicate in brain microglial cells.

A low-cost, point-of-care CD4 assay developed at Burnet's Centre for Virology | ANDERSON/CROWE LABORATORY

Antiviral drugs are becoming increasingly available in resource constrained countries for the treatment of those HIV-infected individuals having a low number of CD4+ T-cells in blood, indicating a failing immune system. However, access to drugs is limited by the need for sophisticated laboratory testing for CD4+ T-cells, typically by flow cytometry.

The Burnet Institute was awarded a grant by The CD4 Initiative (funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation) for the development of a rapid point-of-care CD4+ T-cell test, specifically designed for field use in remote settings. This continues a longstanding collaboration with Alan Landay (Rush University Medical Centre, Chicago) and Tom Denny (Duke University, North Carolina).

At Burnet, Suzanne Crowe, David Anderson and senior scientist Mary Garcia lead a team with expertise in diagnostic test development. The proof-of-concept studies for a novel detection method for CD4+ T-cells, and the subsequent conversion of the technology into a prototype field test for point-of-care use, have now been successfully completed.

The CD4 rapid test is simple and takes 30 minutes, using a small volume of blood from a finger prick to give a visual readout without the need for instrumentation. The test result indicates whether the patient should commence treatment.

Prototype test manufacture is scheduled for 2009 along with further validation and clinical studies to ensure the assay offers reliable and reproducible results. The CD4 test is an example of translational research with the potential to deliver major benefits for the global community.

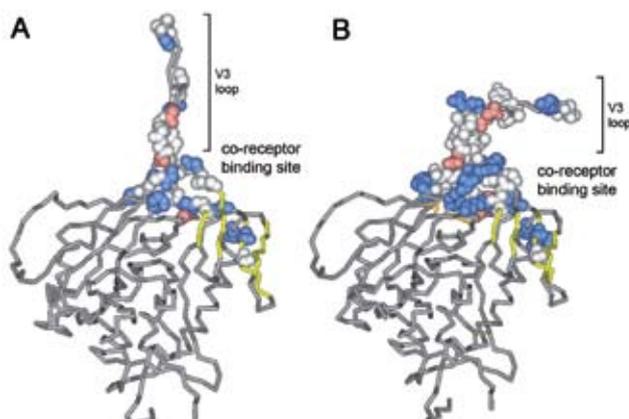


Figure 1: Structural variations in the V3 gp120 region affecting gp120 function.



The rapid CD4 test requires only 40µL of blood obtained by a fingerprick and is designed for field use in remote settings.

Snapshots

Crowe/Jaworowski Laboratory (HIV Pathogenesis)

Gregor Lichtfuss joined the Crowe/Jaworowski Laboratory as a PhD student in 2008, coming from the Robert Koch-Institut, Berlin. Co-supervised by Suzanne Crowe, Anthony Jaworowski and Sharon Lewin, Gregor has started work on an exciting project investigating mechanisms underlying the intense immune activation that is characteristic of HIV infection. His research focuses on the impact of HIV infection on signaling processes in human blood cells. This signaling, a way of communication between the immune cells in blood, is crucial for coordinating the body's defense against pathogens. HIV infection interferes with this function. Gregor's research links with other projects in the lab which focus on immune cell function, immune ageing, and the risk of cardiovascular disease in HIV-infected individuals.

Drummer/Poumbourios Laboratory (Viral Fusion)

High viral mutation rates challenge the development of HCV and HIV vaccines and antivirals. Studies of the HCV and HIV glycoproteins have revealed important sequences that are not subject to rapid change. The Drummer/Poumbourios Laboratory has produced a new HCV vaccine candidate based on a conserved component of glycoprotein E2. Together with CSL, it is demonstrated that this vaccine elicits a more effective antiviral immune response in comparison to previously available vaccines. For HIV, a new target in the fusion glycoprotein gp41 has been identified, with funding obtained from ACH2 and NHMRC to exploit this target in the development of antivirals.

Gowans Laboratory (Hepatitis C – Molecular Biology)

Eric Gowans was a Senior Principal Research Fellow at the Burnet Institute from 2002–2009, during which time he established a productive hepatitis C virus (HCV) research laboratory. Interests of the Gowan's Laboratory include studies of HCV replication and approaches to develop novel antiviral agents (in collaboration with colleagues at Avexa Ltd), studies into the mechanism of HCV persistence with particular emphasis on regulatory T cells (with Dr Shuo Li) and HCV immunotherapy and vaccine development (with Associate Professor Loveland).

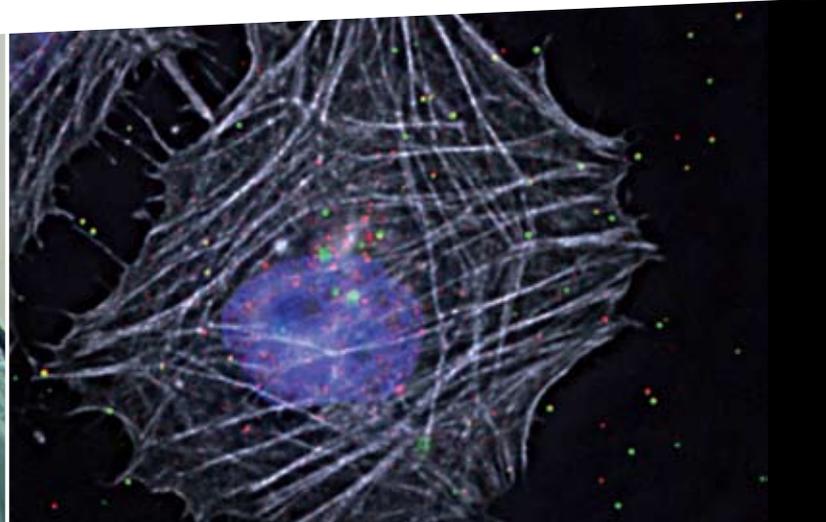
Tachedjian Laboratory (Molecular Interactions)

The aim of the Tachedjian Laboratory is to understand how HIV reproduces in the cell, including the role of host cell factors in HIV-1 replication, and to study drug resistance mutations in HIV. The lab is also involved in the preclinical development of microbicides to prevent the sexual transmission of HIV. In 2008, Dr Jenny Anderson was recruited from the United States to continue her studies in understanding how APOBEC3G, a host cell protein, blocks HIV replication. Jenny has received NHMRC funding for this project, and will be using Deconvolution Microscopy to visualize whether APOBEC3G confers defects in virus trafficking to the cell nucleus.

Fluorescent microscopy examining the impact of human APOBEC3G protein on HIV (green) trafficking towards the nucleus (blue) after entry into human cells. HIV is labeled green by fusing the HIV Vpr protein to green fluorescent protein. The HIV capsid protein (red) and cell actin filaments (purple) are also stained.



Gregor Lichtfuss utilises Fluorescence Activated Cell Sorting.



Mak Laboratory (HIV Assembly)

Proteins are often thought to be the prime regulator of biological systems, but it is now appreciated that RNA has a much greater role in the regulation of biological processes than previously thought. It is generally accepted that stable RNA structures can be an important determinant in biological activity. Using HIV as a probe, the Mak Laboratory has provided direct evidence that structurally-poor RNA domains are also utilised by viruses to regulate biological process. This study provides paradigm shift evidence, to reveal the broad spectrum of mechanisms used by biological systems to govern the dynamic RNA based regulation network in cells.

Churchill/Wesselingh Laboratory (HIV Neuropathogenesis)

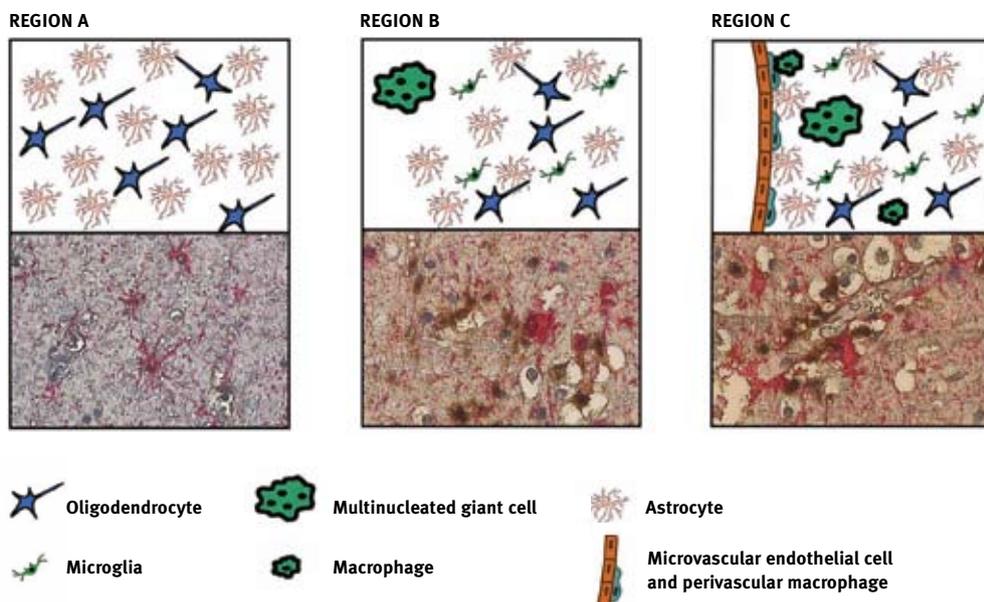
Dr Melissa Churchill Heads the HIV Neuropathogenesis Laboratory. One of her major research interests is understanding the importance of astrocytes in the development of HIV-associated dementia, a devastating complication of AIDS. Until now, astrocytes were thought to be rarely infected with HIV-1. In a study recently accepted for publication in the prestigious journal *Annals of Neurology*, Melissa developed highly sensitive new techniques to show that astrocytes in brain tissue can be extensively infected with HIV, and that astrocyte infection has an important role in the development of brain disease (Figure). Melissa's studies will alter current models and provide a paradigm shift in understanding HIV-1 neuropathogenesis.

Cherry Laboratory (HIV Neuropathy and Toxicity)

The Cherry Laboratory aims to find ways of predicting HIV treatment toxicities, before patients develop irreversible problems like neuropathy. The lab has developed a ligation-mediated PCR assay, to quantify apoptosis (programmed cell death), and shown that patients with toxicity have higher results in blood than those without. With ACH2 funding, David Hooker is working to merge ligation-mediated with real-time PCR to provide a rapid-throughput assay more suitable for clinical use. The Cherry Laboratory also plans a prospective study of Australian HIV patients using modern therapies to confirm the assay's utility for predicting side effects and hope this work will contribute to improved future safety of HIV treatments.

Crowe Laboratory (Clinical Research Laboratory, World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional HIV Drug Resistance Laboratory)

The development of resistance to anti-HIV drugs poses a serious threat to effective HIV treatment. The WHO Regional HIV Drug Resistance Laboratory for the Asia and Pacific regions, supervised by Dr Anna Hearn, is responsible for providing technical and logistical support for resistance testing within the region. As part of this role, the laboratory has developed a low-cost resistance test and optimised its use with dried blood spots to enable resistance testing to be performed within remote areas of resource-constrained countries. Staff from this laboratory assist in the assessment and WHO accreditation of laboratories within the Asia and Pacific regions, and regularly attend meetings to establish international guidelines for drug resistance testing.



Centre for Virology: our staff and students

ANDERSON/CROWE

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Karen O'Keefe

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Gregor Lichtfuss, (Monash International Postgraduate Scholarship) Monash University
Medini Reddy Luthmoodoo, Honours Student. Department Microbiology Monash University.

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Hamed Gouklani

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Omer Gilan, BSc(Hons)

Chin Long Wong, BSc(Hons)

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Sanne Pfeifer, BSc

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Wilson Chong

Personal Assistant to Professor

Lewin

Sandy West

NHMRC Fellows

NHMRC Principal Research Fellow

Professor Suzanne Crowe

NHMRC Senior Research Fellow

Associate Professor

David Anderson

Professor Eric Gowans

NHMRC Career

Development Award

Associate Professor

Gilda Tachedjian

Associate Professor Paul Gorry

Dr Heidi Drummer

NHMRC Peter Doherty Fellow

Dr Hilary Hoare, BSc(Hons), PhD

OTHER FELLOWSHIPS

Pfizer Foundation Fellow

Associate Professor

Johnson Mak

The Netherlands Rubicon

Fellowship

Dr Marcel Hijnen

CONSULTANT

Emeritus Professor

Gregory A Tannock

(Royal Melbourne Institute
of Technology)

CENTRE IMMUN

The newly formed Centre for Immunology has brought together outstanding research groups with a wide spectrum of skills applicable to the understanding of the immune system and manipulation of this to treat disease. Key questions for our Centre are: why does the immune system attack normal cells which it should ignore, for example in diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis and lupus, but in cancer, ignores the cancerous cells it should eliminate? How is it that infectious agents avoid immune destruction? Answering these questions will lead to a greater understanding of the immune system and the development of new treatments for major diseases.



FOR OLOGY



Overview



2008 has been a year of consolidation, bringing together the various groups into the new Centre for Immunology. We have a unique combination of researchers in Australian immunology: structural biologists and protein chemists; bio-organic chemists; cellular immunologists and molecular biologists. This allows us to build multi-disciplinary teams both within the Centre for Immunology and with other Burnet Centres and in collaborations around the world to focus on major health problems.

Centre laboratories have outstanding track records in translating basic research into new treatments which will be enhanced by the development of new technologies and the recruitment of outstanding researchers. We will expand our well recognised monoclonal antibody, bio-organic chemistry and protein chemistry capabilities and develop gene array and proteomics facilities.

The cancer laboratories of Geoff Pietersz and Vasso Apostolopoulos have advanced vaccine design to improve the potency of white blood cells destined to kill tumour cells. Geoff Pietersz continues to develop novel immune stimulants and demonstrated superior immunogenicity of carbohydrate modified dendrimers which eradicates tumours in mice. Pei-xiang Xing has shown that an antibody which inhibits tumour cell growth binds to a molecule normally found inside the cell, but in prostate cancer cells, is found outside the cell on the cell membrane.

Our studies in the immunology of infection have also made substantial progress. The Pietersz Laboratory successfully adapted the mannan adjuvant technology, used in our cancer immunotherapies, for use in a unique intranasal vaccine for the respiratory viruses, influenza and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).

The French Laboratory has participated in the most comprehensive study of immune responses to hepatitis C, the results of which have shown clear indications of how that disease may be treated more effectively to prevent re-infection.

Immunity to infection is a battle between the microbe and the immune system and our studies have provided some exciting results. The Gerondakis Laboratory has discovered the basis by which B-cells, a major immune cell, resists killing by microbes. This has broad implications in the development of strategies to improve resistance to infection. Also the Jackson Laboratory has identified a new role for a major adhesion molecule that surprisingly makes animals more susceptible to salmonella infection. Bruce Wines and Paul Ramsland have further defined how 'golden staph' attempts to evade the immune system.

The studies of aberrant immune responses in autoimmune diseases continue in the Hogarth Laboratory where 18 unique genes involved in destructive arthritis have been identified, one in particular appears to regulate immune function and surprisingly, resistance to infections.

The commercialisation in the Centre continues with pre-clinical development of a new intranasal vaccine for respiratory viruses and an injectable cancer vaccine. Discussions with a number of companies for collaborative research are in progress.

We are delighted to have recruited Dr Meredith O'Keeffe from Bavarian Nordic into our Centre. She brings a wealth of experience in immune resistance to viral infection, having completed her postdoctoral studies in Germany. The Centre will come together at the AMREP Campus during 2009 in temporary accommodation, prior to occupying our purpose-built state-of-the-art facilities in 2010.

Laboratory Heads (Above L-R): Back: Associate Professor Bruce Loveland, Professor Geoffrey Pietersz, Dr Pat Mottram, Associate Professor Rosemary Ffrench, Associate Professor Denise Jackson, Professor Mark Hogarth (Head), Professor Vasso Apostolopoulos, Dr Bruce Wines. Front: Professor David Power, Dr Paul A Ramsland, Professor Steve Gerondakis. Absent: Professor Pei Xiang Xing.

Highlights

Establishment of Burnet's Immunological Monitoring Facility

The Burnet Institute has a long track record of achievement in the translation of research into potential therapeutics – a number of vaccines, antibodies and immunotherapies for cancer or infectious diseases are in different phases of development. In a major initiative, Associate Professor Rosemary Ffrench and Associate Professor Bruce Loveland have established a central Immunological Monitoring Facility (IMF) which will produce high quality data to Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) standard on the immunogenicity (stimulating ability) of these therapies and which will provide the essential support for applications to regulatory authorities. This is a novel approach to expedite the research and to develop some of the more sophisticated assays.

The IMF Facility will support the future development of our vaccines in influenza, RSV, cancer, as well as our therapeutic monoclonal antibody programs and our involvement in the Cooperative Research Centre for Biomarker Translation (CRC). The facility has been carefully developed during the past year, with highly-skilled staff, validated immunoassay protocols and dedicated equipment to undertake tests which assess the immune responses in small animal studies and early Phase human clinical trials. The facility is available to the broader Research and Development Community in collaborative partnerships and 2008 saw the completion of our first Phase I clinical trial. Conducted in association with clinical trial organisation, Nucleus Network Ltd, it was very successful, with the immunoassay data showing a significant difference in immune responses between test and placebo arms of the trial. We are currently undertaking a second vaccine clinical trial, and are in the process of expanding the range of assays we can perform to GLP standard and are being evaluated for National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) accreditation.

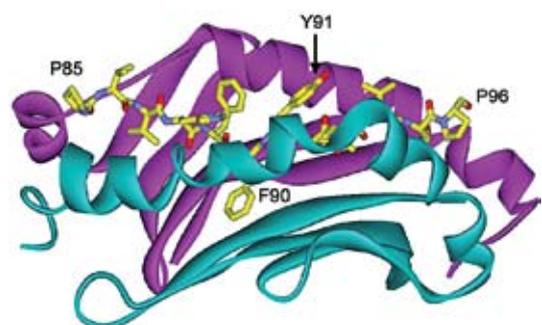
New vaccine strategies for cancer therapy

Geoff Pietersz and Vasso Apostolopoulos have had a long standing interest in the treatment of disease by manipulating the immune system. This is especially true in the development of new treatments for cancer which around the globe have focused in the last decade on the manipulation of the immune system to direct killer cells or antibodies to cancers to kill them. Immunotherapies to stimulate the immune system to attack cancers is showing great promise in clinical testing. This year we have successfully demonstrated the superior immunogenicity of an immune stimulant based on a carbohydrate modification of a breast cancer target.

Our studies on the development of a breast cancer vaccine have been in progress for many years and the selective stimulation of immune cells using a clever trick of chemistry to modify a sugar which is then attached to the cancer specific molecule, MUC1, has been shown to be effective in clinical testing on ovarian cancer patients. In a new development this year, we have successfully modified the cancer antigen and improved its capacity to stimulate immune cells and show superior immunogenicity in preclinical studies. Further validation of the improved vaccine in human cells will make way towards a clinical trial in the near future in concert with our new GLP Immunological Monitoring Facility. This is an excellent example of a combination of immunology, chemistry and structural biology, funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council and will also be a commercial partnership with 4G Vaccines. The improved stimulation will provide a next generation of potential immunotherapy (vaccine) based approaches to the treatment of cancer.



L-R: Kylie Goy and Jacqueline Flynn of the Immunological Monitoring Facility viewing cell cultures by microscope.



A mutant peptide from myelin basic protein with a central amino acid K91 mutated to Y91 alters immune responses drastically in animal models.

Snapshots

Apostolopolous Laboratory (Immunology and Cancer Vaccine):

Our research has shown that the function of dendritic cells (DC) is dependant on their developmental stage, and may form the basis of improved DC-based immunotherapy protocols. In a study focused on multiple sclerosis, a number of mutant peptide antigens were designed and shown to alter DC-driven immune response resulting in the suppression of MS in mice.

Ffrench Laboratory (Viral Immunology): A major Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) clinical trial showed clear differences in the nature of the immune response in those individuals who could clear the infection compared to those that went on to chronic infection. Importantly we showed that early treatment for HCV infection with Interferon restored effective immune responses, indicating early therapy may aid in the prevention of subsequent re-infection with HCV.

Gerondakis Laboratory (Intracellular Signalling and Gene Expression): This laboratory has shown that survival of B-cells stimulated through Toll-like receptors is achieved by the NF- κ B pathway controlling several mechanisms that collectively neutralise and degrade Bim, a cellular protein which promotes cell death when activated by stress signals such as microbial products. These findings provide new insight into the mechanisms that limit microbial pathogenesis arising from cell death during infections.

Hogarth Laboratory (Helen Macpherson Smith Trust Inflammatory Diseases): We have analysed 34,000 genes in the mouse and identified 18 that are altered during rheumatoid arthritis development in an animal model and one candidate target identified for generation of future treatments. We are elucidating how a key new subset of T-cells (Th17) drives inflammatory disease. Microbes have also evolved ways of avoiding immunity and we have used Xray crystallography to discover how the Golden Staph 'hijacks' immunity by binding and inactivating IgA. (Figure 1)

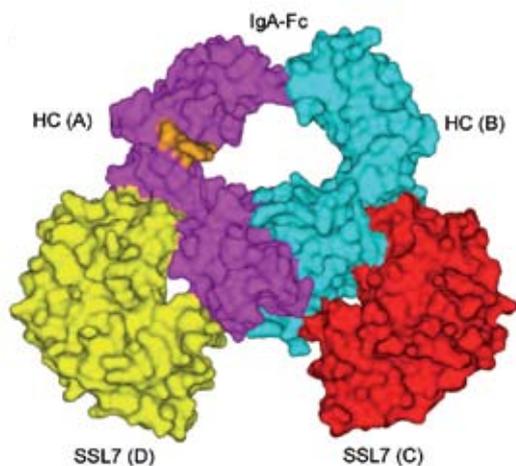


Figure 1: The interaction of a 'golden staph' protein SSL7 with human IgA Fc portion. Surface representation of the two SSL7 protein binding at the interface of $\text{C}\alpha 2$ and $\text{C}\alpha 3$ which competes with the $\text{F}\alpha\text{R}$ binding on inflammation cells.

Jackson Laboratory (Immunoreceptor): We have made a remarkable observation showing that PECAM (platelet/endothelial cell adhesion molecule), which normally regulates immunity, works against the immune system in Salmonella infections – mice lacking PECAM are better able to resist infection. Understanding the mechanism of this resistance may improve our control of Salmonella infection in humans.

Pietersz Laboratory (Bio-Organic and Medicinal Chemistry): A number of novel ligands that bind to dendritic cells have been developed based on dendrimer modified antigens. In addition, these vaccines also incorporate synthetic danger signals to efficiently activate dendritic cells to prime naïve T-cells. Similar approaches are used to deliver genetic material to develop DNA vaccines and gene therapy strategies for the treatment of cancer.

Power Laboratory (Kidney): Renin is the most important controller of blood pressure. Our recent research has shown that its secretion is controlled, in part, by fatty acid metabolism in the kidney. This data suggests a new link between obesity, diabetes and blood pressure. The second area is trying to understand how leaks occur in the kidney. Our recent work has shown that abnormalities in lysosomal function – the body's rubbish disposal system – can lead to loss of proteins that can damage the kidney, leading to kidney failure and the need for dialysis. (Figure 2)

Ramsland Laboratory (Structural Immunology): Recent studies have shed new light on our understanding of carbohydrate recognition by antibodies. Dr Ramsland's group, with collaborators, determined the structural basis of antibody interactions with a carbohydrate present on pig cells, but not human cells $\text{Gal}\alpha(1,3)\text{Gal}$. Automated docking studies with a panel of antibodies and $\text{Gal}\alpha(1,3)\text{Gal}$ carbohydrates determined the major binding mode was end-on insertion where the terminal sugar unit anchors the entire carbohydrate.

Xing Laboratory (Cancer Immunotherapy): We have generated a specific antibody to a proto-oncogene PIM-1, which reacted strongly with prostate cancer. We demonstrated for the first time that the antibody induced cancer cell death. It also substantially inhibited growth of human prostate cancer cells in an animal model. This is an exciting step towards the development of new treatment for patients with prostate cancer.

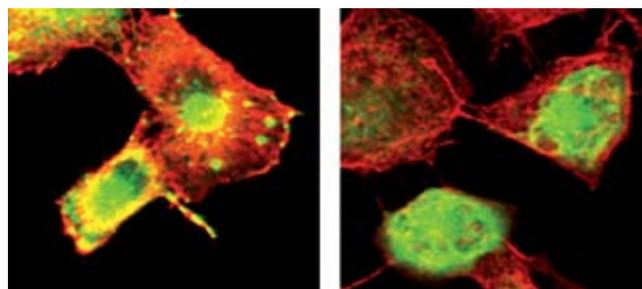


Figure 2: Normal kidney cells (left) express the SCARB3 lysosomal gene (green dots), but in patients lacking the gene (right) kidney function failed.

Centre for Immunology: our staff and students

APOSTOLOPOULOS LABORATORY (Immunology and Cancer Vaccine)

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Paul A Ramsland, PhD

Staff

William Farrugia, MSc

XING LABORATORY (Cancer Immunotherapy)

Head

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CENTRE POPUL HEALTH



FOR ATION

The Centre for Population Health (CPH) strives to improve the health of the community by conducting high quality, innovative research that addresses the major public health problems associated with infectious diseases and drugs and related behaviours. CPH's areas of specific interest are HIV, hepatitis C, sexually transmitted infections, malaria, tuberculosis and drug and alcohol misuse; all are serious health concerns in Australia and the Asia and Pacific Regions predominately affecting highly vulnerable populations. The problems and populations which the CPH addresses are decidedly challenging, but this makes our work equally rewarding and important.



Overview



The Centre for Population Health (CPH) implements novel, multidisciplinary scientific programs that use cutting-edge epidemiology, high quality laboratory science, excellent clinical and social research, and strong public health principles to address major health problems in our region. Working with highly vulnerable populations, CPH undertakes a broad spectrum of work, ranging from research that helps to better understand the priority diseases and their transmission and ecology, to discovery science with potential for longer term benefits such as therapeutics and vaccines, to health systems oriented research that directly influences health policy. Some areas of specific interest are described below.

Alcohol and other drug use is a major public health issue costing the Australian community an estimated \$55 billion per annum. CPH conducts research designed to measure the nature and extent of alcohol and other drug use over time, with a view to developing effective policy responses.

Hepatitis C is associated with considerable mortality and morbidity with over 180 million people infected world wide. Working closely with people who inject drugs and collaborating with virologists, immunologists and mathematical modellers, CPH's hepatitis C research focuses on improving understanding about hepatitis C virus infection and transmission, with the ultimate aim of developing a hepatitis C vaccine.

It is estimated that over 33 million people throughout the world are living with **HIV**, and in Australia new diagnoses of HIV continue to increase. CPH aims to reduce HIV transmission in the

Australian population by managing and developing innovative surveillance systems for the Victorian Government, and by undertaking research involving the groups most at risk of HIV infection.

Malaria is a major global public health problem, causing as many as one billion malaria episodes each year and more than two million deaths, predominantly in young children in the poorest communities. The Centre's malaria program extends from basic laboratory research through molecular epidemiology to large field trials of anti-malarial therapy in children in Papua New Guinea, all aimed at providing evidence for more effective control and treatment.

Chlamydia trachomatis is a sexually transmitted infection that predominately affects young heterosexual men and women; there were over 60,000 new notifications in Australia in 2008. If untreated, chlamydia infection is a major cause of pelvic inflammatory disease and tubal infertility in women. CPH aims to reduce the impact of chlamydia on the community by reducing transmission and increasing the number of young people tested and treated for chlamydia.

Tuberculosis (TB) remains a major public health menace with the number of cases worldwide increasing. The emergence of TB that is resistant to almost all currently available drugs is a significant threat to control programs internationally. The Centre for Population Health is working on the epidemiology and health systems implications of the emergence of drug-resistant TB.

Highlights

Groundbreaking work on drug-resistant tuberculosis

In an international collaboration set in Uzbekistan, Dr Helen Cox of Burnet's International Health Research Group and her colleagues followed 87 patients infected with multidrug-resistant tuberculosis, using drug sensitivity testing and molecular typing. During the course of treatment 18 patients developed resistance to ofloxacin, a marker for the feared extensively drug-resistant (XDR) strains. They demonstrated that in 13 patients the molecular type remained constant and the strains had amplified resistance during treatment, and one patient had an initial dual infection with a sensitive and a resistant strain. Alarmingly, four patients were shown to have been exogenously reinfected while actually on treatment, with strains similar to those isolated from other patients staying in the hospital at the same time. These findings were published in one of the world's highest impact journals, *The New England Journal of Medicine* (359;22, 2398-2400) and have major practical implications for the treatment of drug-resistant TB (DR-TB) in hospital settings.

Current research centres on a collaboration with the international humanitarian organisation Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in a pilot project for treating drug-resistant TB in a large Cape Town township in South Africa. Khayelitsha has an antenatal HIV prevalence of around 30% and a TB case notification above 1500/100,000/year. Not surprisingly, drug-resistant TB has emerged as a significant threat, with an incidence estimated to be higher than anywhere else in the world. Operational research has evaluated whether providing more patient-centred care in a community setting can result in better case detection and improved treatment outcomes. Specific studies are quantifying the prevalence of DR-TB in Khayelitsha, providing data allowing the optimisation of treatment regimens and determination of whether natural ventilation can be effectively used for TB infection control in primary care clinics.

The networks study – an innovative multidisciplinary investigation of the hepatitis C virus

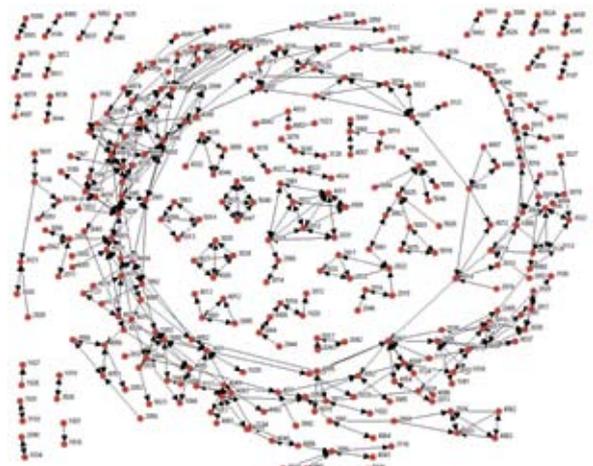
Since early 2005, Margaret Hellard and Campbell Aitken have collaborated with scientists from the Victorian Infectious Diseases Reference Laboratory and the department of Immunology at the University of Melbourne on a major multidisciplinary study of the hepatitis C virus (HCV). Their networks study focuses on HCV transmission within social networks which include several hundred injecting drug users, the population most at risk of HCV. (Approximately 180 million people are infected with HCV worldwide, and it can lead to chronic hepatitis, cirrhosis and liver cancer. HCV infection is responsible for half of all cases of liver cancer and two thirds of liver transplants in Australia.) Margaret and Campbell found that people who were infected with HCV, then cleared their infection, were significantly more likely to be re-infected with the virus than those who had never contracted the disease – even after controlling for behaviour and other differences. (Many other infectious agents, such as the hepatitis B virus, induce total immunity; reinfection is impossible.) The HCV incidence rate in the group at risk of reinfection was 46.8% per annum, compared with 15.5% per annum in the previously uninfected group. These findings suggest that clearance of an HCV infection does not confer immunity against future infection and makes subsequent infection more likely, which has obvious implications for vaccine development. The importance of Margaret and Campbell's work was demonstrated by the publication of a paper describing the networks study in *Hepatology*, the most prestigious journal in the field, in late 2008.



Consultation on drug-resistant TB.



Measuring ventilation in rooms where XDR-TB patients will be hospitalised.



Links between networks study participants based on injecting relationships.

Snapshots

A novel protein export machine in malaria parasites

Malaria is one of the most devastating infectious diseases of humankind and is caused by massive infection and destruction of the body's blood cells by *Plasmodium* species parasites. In our work we are trying to understand how the Plasmodium parasites recognise and infect blood cells, and once there, how they are able to grow and avoid the human immune system. In a recent breakthrough study we have identified novel parasite protein machines that export parasite proteins into their red blood cell hosts. The exported proteins are essential for parasite survival and we wish to discover drugs that can block the export machine thereby eradicating the parasites.

HIV prevalence study – 'Suck it & See'

Suck it and See is an innovative new study that aims to estimate the prevalence of HIV and the extent of unrecognised infections among gay men in Melbourne. We successfully recruited 746 men through community-based sites including bars, clubs, sex-on-premises venues and sexual health clinics. All participants self-completed a short behavioural survey and also provided an oral fluid specimen for HIV antibody testing. As the first of its kind in Australia, it is intended that this study will be the pilot for a nation-wide system conducted periodically and will inform ongoing epidemiological initiatives.

New Burnet study addresses health outcomes for injecting drug users

In 2008, we commenced a longitudinal study of the health and social outcomes associated with injecting drug users known as the Melbourne Injecting Drug User Cohort Study (MIX). MIX will provide new data on the typical trajectories of injecting drug use in Australia and determine risk and protective factors for users for outcomes in the health, social and psychological domains. We will measure these outcomes using linkage to health and social datasets along with direct face-to-face interviews with participants. Baseline data collection (funded by the Colonial Foundation Trust) is well underway and we will be recontacting participants over a period of four years following the receipt of a project grant from the NHMRC.

Sexual health and young people

CPH continued its work related to sexual health and young people. We again attended the Melbourne Big Day Out music festival in January, recruiting over 2000 young people to complete a short behavioural survey. Participants then received twelve sexual health promotion text messages on their mobile phones over the subsequent four months. The results were very

encouraging – there was a significant improvement in sexual health knowledge and uptake of sexual health testing after receiving the messages. The success of this project has led to further funding to scale up this approach.

Justice health research

The Centre for Population Health commenced a study investigating the post-prison release experiences of offenders with a history of injecting drug use. This study will interview participants at one month, three months and six months post-release and examine personal, behavioural and service-related outcomes during this particularly vulnerable period in their lives – a period often characterised by substantially increased risks of mortality and morbidity. This study forms part of an expanding justice health research program which has been enhanced by the arrival of Dr Stuart Kinner, an NHMRC post-doctoral scholar who is examining health and integration outcomes among people with incarceration histories.

Development of innovative surveillance systems

CPH worked on the development of several innovative surveillance systems to improve our understanding of HIV, hepatitis C, chlamydia and syphilis transmission. These included an HIV/STI sentinel surveillance system for Victoria and the Australian Collaboration for Chlamydia Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance (ACCESS). Working with NCHECR, NRL and the National Perinatal Statistics Unit, we are establishing six separate chlamydia sentinel surveillance networks, each providing unique information on testing uptake and prevalence of chlamydia infection in a range of priority populations: young heterosexuals, men who have sex with men, Indigenous Australians, pregnant women and sex workers.

Malaria genomics for better interventions

A major obstacle to broadly effective malaria vaccines is the extraordinary genetic diversity of the malaria parasite, *Plasmodium falciparum*. Dr Alyssa Barry and colleagues are investigating the distribution and evolution of diversity of *P.falciparum* surface antigens, including leading vaccine candidates. These studies are essential for a better understanding of malaria epidemiology and transmission, and for designing better, longer-lasting vaccines. We are also defining patterns of antibody acquisition to the highly variable parasite antigen PfEMP1, to understand how natural immunity develops. This is a collaboration with the Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research, Queensland Institute of Medical Research and University of California, Irvine.

Centre for Population Health: our staff and students

Co-Heads

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John Reeder, MSc, PhD

Head, International Health Research Group

John Reeder, MSc PhD

Head, Drug and Alcohol Program

Paul Dietze, BSc(Hons), PhD

Head, HCV Program

Campbell Aitken, BSc(Hons), PhD

Head, HIV/AIDS & STI Program

Mark Stoové, PhD, GradDip (Ed), BAppSci(Hons)

Co-Heads, Gilson/ Crabb Laboratory

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Helen Cox, PhD (TB Epidemiology)

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HIV Clinical Advisor

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Statistician

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NHMRC Senior Research Fellow

Associate Professor Margaret Hellard

NHMRC Post Doctoral Fellow

Peter Higgs

NHMRC Career Development Award

Associate Professor Paul Dietze

NHMRC Howard Florey Centenary Fellowship

Dr Alyssa Barry

NHMRC Public Health Fellowship

Dr Helen Cox

CENTRE INTERNA HEALTH



FOR TIONAL

The Centre for International Health (CIH) is committed to improving the health of communities in low-income countries through strengthening primary health care and the control of high-burden health problems. We aim to both support evidence-informed health programs and to influence more broadly international health policies and initiatives within the developing world. CIH designs, implements and evaluates public health programs in Asia, the Pacific region and Africa, predominantly undertaking programs in partnership with local and international organisations. Areas of focus are HIV and AIDS prevention and care, including harm reduction; women's and children's health; and the control of other communicable diseases, including emerging infections. CIH also delivers a highly-regarded training and education program in international public health.



Overview



During 2008, the Centres for International Health and Harm Reduction merged to form a 'new' CIH, which retains a strong commitment to comprehensive harm reduction. We have expanded our traditional focus on injecting drug use to a broader Drugs and Society approach that includes research on the impact of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), marijuana, and alcohol on behaviours that heighten the risk of sexually transmitted infections. We also continue to work closely with law enforcement officials in a number of countries, including Malaysia, Indonesia, and China, to enable drug users to access prevention and treatment services.

There were a number of major challenges to our work during 2008, including the civil disturbances in Tibet in March, which led to our program manager having to leave the region and limitations on our outreach work to sex workers and their clients. Nevertheless, by the end of the year, we were able to sign a new agreement with local authorities to continue working in Lhasa for a further two years.

Following the devastating May cyclone in the Delta region of Myanmar, Burnet helped establish the Local Resource Centre for mobilising community-based responses, which has provided support to local NGOs in their response to cyclone-affected communities. In addition, we received funding from AusAID to implement an Integrated Psychosocial, Sexual and Reproductive Health Program in partnership with Marie Stopes International and the Antares Foundation Australia. These new programs led to a rapid increase in the number of Burnet national staff from around 12 to nearly 60.

Despite the beginnings of the financial crisis, CIH experienced significant growth. Overall, we managed 98 contracted pieces of work in 2008 with funding from 40 different sources, including eight governments, seven UN agencies, two development banks,

seven international NGOs, six private sector entities, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Malaria, and Tuberculosis. This resulted in a 51% increase in revenue compared with 2007 to more than \$14 million, 64% of which supported our country programs.

Involvement in implementing Australian Government funded 'bilateral' health programs has long been a core activity. During 2008, in association with GRM Pty Ltd, we commenced support to the third phase of Australian assistance to the Indonesian response to HIV and AIDS through the HIV Cooperation Program for Indonesia (2008 – 2012). We continued to manage the China Australia HIV and Health Facility and, with the Australian Red Cross, jointly implemented the Tibet Health Sector Support Program. The latter program has been extended for a further 15 months by the Australian Government. In Papua New Guinea (PNG), AusAID extended Burnet's contract to manage the Tingim Laip program, which supports community-based responses to HIV in 35 sites. The Pacific Regional HIV/AIDS Project came to an end in September. An external evaluation highlighted a range of achievements, such as support to strategic planning, community-based and national prevention and care activities across 14 countries in the region, and innovative communication strategies, such as the TV soap series, *Love Patrol*.

CIH reached an important milestone in 2008 when our first 'country program' – in the Lao PDR – celebrated its 10th anniversary. It was in Lao PDR where Burnet established its first country office and in March 2008, we opened a regional office in Bangkok. The Aceh Partnerships in Health program, established after the Indonesian tsunami, came to an end and we closed our Banda Aceh office. However, we will continue to provide support to HIV prevention activities through a local NGO, Medan Aceh Partnerships. We maintained our other programs in Mozambique, Indonesia, PNG, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam.

Management Group (Above L-R): Back: Mark Tennent, Dr Chris Morgan, Robyn Whitney, Professor Mike Toole (Head). Front: Bruce Parnell, Marion Brown, Dr Wendy Holmes. Absent: Robert Power.

Country programs

Indonesia

A review of Burnet's Indonesia Country Program resulted in a more focused strategic plan. Burnet staff have been active in several national networks, including HIV counselling and gay, transgender and other men who have sex with men. Burnet's counseling training was acknowledged at the national level as a model of good practice. The Levi Strauss Foundation continues to support capacity building for local responses to HIV among drug users in Bekasi, West Java. Our program of capacity building in HIV prevention and care continues in NTB province. AusAID commissioned Burnet to assess methods to 'mainstream' HIV in all development programs.

Lao People's Democratic Republic

In 2008, the Lao program developed a wide-ranging portfolio of new activities. The mining company LXML funded a maternal and child health and nutrition project in the surrounding district. Burnet is a sub-recipient in a new Global Fund grant; our role is to promote safer sex among men who have sex with men in three provinces. We successfully tendered for a two-year HIV prevention project, funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), in communities along a newly constructed highway in the North. Local staff engaged in a range of consultancies for development partners, including ADB, World Vision and Lux-Development.

Mozambique

The fifth year of our program witnessed significant achievements, including increasing proficiency of the Manica core team as trainers and mentors, strengthened capacity of our partner MONASO Manica, and increasing institutional and technical capacity of NGOs in Manica and Sofala provinces. Burnet and the MOH are working closely on the Advanced Counselling Initiative. Local partner OMES continues to play a leading role in HIV prevention in Manica and the Chimoio STI Night Clinic provides effective, non-judgemental care.

In October, our Youth Ambassador, Collingwood footballer Heritier O'Brien visited Manica and has become a strong advocate for Burnet's HIV work in Mozambique.

Myanmar

The devastating natural disaster of Cyclone Nargis left over 130,000 people either dead or missing and directly affected another 2 million people. In response to Nargis, our team in Myanmar grew to 58 full-time staff in order to deliver services through the Local Resource Centre and the Integrated Psychosocial Sexual Reproductive Health project (with Marie Stopes International). In the midst of these diverse public health and emergency activities the Burnet Institute program in Myanmar continued its focus on strengthening the capacity of local partners to build community responses to HIV. With funding from the 3 Diseases Fund and AusAID, our team delivered training, mentoring and leadership support to 10 organisations, ranging from local women's groups to national partners: the Myanmar Red Cross and Anti Narcotics Association. During 2008 our team prepared for the return of the Global Fund by developing proposals for HIV prevention activities for men who have sex with men and injecting drug users.

Papua New Guinea

We appointed a new country representative, Jim Benn, during 2008. Our core activity continued to be the Tingim Laip HIV prevention project. The East New Britain Sexual Health Improvement Project became fully operational with STI training for health workers and the development of community-based 'stret tokers' who promote prevention, including condoms. There was a successful second measles supplementary immunisation activity – with social mobilisation from Burnet. We engaged with the Ministerial Taskforce on Maternal Mortality from September 2008. Burnet's new Director, during a visit, signalled that all of Burnet's four Centres have the potential to engage in research and public health activities in Papua New Guinea.



Young Indonesians benefit from Burnet's health messages.



Burnet's Tibet Program Manager Chris Hagerty signs a two year cooperation agreement.



Heritier 'Harry' O'Brien plays footy with local children in Mozambique.

Country programs (cont.)

China (Tibet), Sri Lanka, and Vietnam

- In Tibet, a two year Cooperation Agreement was endorsed and new support received from the Canada Fund to implement the Duilong Dechen Community HIV Prevention Project.
- In this fifth year of the Sri Lanka project to improve the health and well-being of elders in tea estates, there was a focus on advocacy, disseminating lessons learned and building sustainability of activities.
- With a Planet Wheeler Grant, CIH supported the Vietnam Community Mobilisation Centre for HIV/AIDS Control to implement harm reduction activities in Hanoi, including peer education, outreach, and a drop-in centre.

Other highlights

In 2008, AusAID established four new 'knowledge hubs'. The Women's and Children's Health (WCH) Knowledge Hub (Compass) is a partnership between Burnet's Centre for International Health, the Menzies School of Health Research and the Centre for International Child Health at the University of Melbourne. The purpose of Compass is to establish a central knowledge point for those who work to improve WCH, advocating for greater investment, facilitating partnerships, and influencing policy and practice, with a focus on contributing to equitable progress towards the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDG) 4 and 5.

Research included studies related to Drugs and Society in Asia and the Pacific, such as the AusAID-funded Illicit Drugs Initiative – research and capacity building on amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) in Lao PDR, Cambodia and Thailand. The Pacific Drug and Alcohol Research Network (ten countries) is in its fourth year, supported by AusAID, UNODC and WHO. Burnet and The Fiji School of Medicine, with AusAID funding, is conducting situation assessments of STI/HIV risks associated with drugs and alcohol in 16 Pacific countries.

The Centre for International Health contributed to a range of activities commissioned by a number of international partners. For example, a study of HIV epidemiology and surveillance in Pacific countries was commissioned by UNAIDS for the Commission on AIDS in the Pacific. Other activities included the development of the Pacific Regional HIV Strategic Implementation Plan (SPC), evaluation of the national needle and syringe program in Malaysia (WHO), technical direction of the Central Asia Regional HIV/AIDS Program (DFID), development of a national strategy on HIV prevention in mothers and children for Sri Lanka (World Bank), development of an advocacy tool around HIV and men who have sex with men in South East Asia (RTI/USAID), capacity building in essential drugs management in the Pacific (WHO), review of Uzbekistan's harm reduction program (World Vision), and HIV prevention in prisons in China (UNODC).

Finally, there was a continued increase in student enrolments in our 12 post-graduate courses, with a steadily higher proportion of international students, reaching 33% in 2008.



Consultation with the elders on the tea plantations in Sri Lanka.



Meetings are vital to Tingim Laip's community-based approach in Papua New Guinea.

Centre for International Health Melbourne office: our staff and students

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Dip (Laos)

Finance Assistant

Thavisouk Homsombath, Dip
BA, Economics & Business
Management(Laos)

Onsite Project Officer

Lathatana Chanthala, English
Dip (Laos)

Project Coordinator

Viroth Beuypantoueth,
Higher Dip(Laos)

Project Management Advisor

Philippa Sackett, BSc
(Psychology), MA (Human
Rights)

Project Officers

Bangone Santavasy, M.A
(Thailand)
Anongly Phimmasone, Dip
BA, Economics & Business
Management (Laos)
Phansamai Vilasack, 3rd year of
English Dip (Laos)
Amphone Keooudom, MD (Laos)

Senior Project Officer

Khankham Southavilay, MA
DipHistory (Comsomol)

MOZAMBIQUE

Maputo Office

Country Representative

Dr Paulo Proto de Souza, MD,
MPH

Accounts Assistant

Mariamio Jamaldine

Finance Manager

Benjamim Antonio, Bachelor
of Business Adm Moz

Project Assistant

Edna Sandra Reis

Volunteer

Fiona Sillars

Chimoio Office

Regional Coordinator

Alfeu Manuel Muchine, BA

Cleaner/Office Assistant

Victorino Durbek

Driver

Vicente Fernando Silva

MYANMAR

Country Representative

Kim Benton, BBSoc, GradDipBHC (La Trobe), GradDip Drama (Auckland), LTh (NZJBTs), LTCL

Administration Assistants

Naw Cecilia Aye
Zin Mar Nay Win

Administration Coordinator

Nyi Nyi Win, Assoc in AppSc (New York City Technical College)

Administration Officers

Nee Sin Thweit Aye
May Thu Shein
Myo Khin

Centre Coordinator

Myint Su, BSc Zoology (Yangon)

Cleaners

Ni Ni Mar
New' New' Ohn

Consultant (part time)

Kerren Hedlund

Driver

Naing Htoo Zaw (a) Zaw Zaw

Finance Officers

Aung Iwin
Wintwar Tun

Finance Managers

Naing Naing Win
Min Min Htike

Housekeeping Supervisor

San San Aye

Housekeeper

Nwe Nwe Ohn (from August 2008)

HR Assistant

Aye Myat Soe

Information Management Coordinator

Aye Myat Thu

Information Management Officer

Nang Nechi Minn

IT Officers

Myo Min Min Htike
Lwin Min Ko

Logistics Officer

Thida Win

M&E Officers

Mon Mon
Banyar Tun

Program Secretariat Manager

Phone Myint Win

Project Officers

Aung Min Thein
Nwe Mar
Zin Mar Thu
Myo Than
Ye' Min Htoon
Khin Hnin Oo
Aung Myint Than
Wai Lin Kyaw
Ne Chye Thwin
Nay Myo Aung
Doi Ra
Sai Aung Kyaw Myint
Nay Lin Aung

Project Training Coordinator

Khine Nandar Sein Tun

Regional Officer

Swe San Oo

Team Leaders

Cho Cho Mar, BCom (Institute of Economics, Yangon), CPA (Myanmar Accountancy Council)
Tin Aung Win, BVetSc (Inst of Animal Husbandry & Science, Yangon), DipFood Tech (Yangon Inst of Tech)
Nang Pann El Kham
Htar Htar, BSc (Mawlamyaing), DipAcc (London)

Technical Advisor

Kelly Macdonald, MSc Reproductive & Sexual Health (London), MSc Rural Planning & Dev (Ontario), BA Int Dev Studies (Calgary)

Technical Support Officers

Aung Moe Than
Pyae Phyo Aung
Thet Thet Mar
Wah Wah Lynn

Thematic Coordinators

Hla Htay
Tin Tin Mar, BSc Zoology (Yangon)
Khin Pa Pa Naing

Translator

Patrick Macormick

PAPUA NEW GUINEA (PNG)

Senior Program Manager

Jim Benn, BSocSc(Waikato), PG DipAcc (Wellington), PG Dip Community Development (Deakin) (from April 2008)

Admin Assistant Port Moresby

Freda Joup

Admin Assistant ENBSHIP

Elizabeth Norman

Community Worker ENBSHIP

Ellen Kavang
Sakaia Luana

Drivers Port Moresby

Harry Fong
Irunah Sagah Abari (until October 2008)
Terence Kassman (until September 2008)

Finance Assistant

Naomi Vele

Finance Manager

Kathleen Waninara-Kema

Health Extension Officer

Geraldine Wambo

Janitor Port Moresby

Inara Udia

Logistics Officer

Caroline Talei Bunemiga

M&E Coordinator

Fidelis Jogamup

National Manager – Tingim Laip program

Ako Maniana

Office Manager

Berance Reuben

Project Manager

Lesley Bola (until January 2008)

Project Officers

Benson McRubins
Bridget Taimbari
Denys Waibauru
James Sakul
Jimmy Frumpui (until September 2008)
Joseph Mocke
Lazarus Pomo (until May 2008)
Meredith Tutumang
Paul Weriyai
Simon Kange
Ronald Kwenama
Rose Mauyet

Receptionist

Nora Luanda (until May 2008)
Lillian Tau

Regional Coordinator

Tingim Laip

Joan Usan
Joanne Ganoka
Judy Tokeimota
Tanya Mossman

Senior Technical Advisor

Annette Coppola, RN, CMW, Post Grad Dip SH&V, MIM, MPH

Social Mobilisation Health Promotion

Lester Bisibierra

Team Leader ENBSHIP

Joan Macfarlane

Training Coordinator

Erica Ogoba

THAILAND

(office established March 2008)

Asia Regional Representative

Brad Otto, BA (Denver)

CORPOR AND SU SERVIC

ATE PPORT ES



Overview



The role of Chief Operating Officer for the Burnet Institute was established in mid 2008 and I thank the Director and the Board for the opportunity to move into the role from my previous position within the Centre for International Health. The need for such a role reflects the growth of the Institute, both in size and the diversity of activities and the subsequent need to support those activities in an integrated and co-ordinated manner across our financial services, human resources, corporate affairs, fundraising, IT, building services and laboratory support. The areas of Commercialisation, IP and Legal also form part of Corporate and Support Services but will be reported upon separately in this annual report. In addition to these ongoing services it has been an exciting challenge to oversee the development of the Institute's new building via the Alfred Centre Stage 2 (ACS2) project, also to be reported on separately.

Business Services at the Burnet Institute constitutes finance, purchasing and supply, human resources, corporate governance and general administration. We are fortunate to have a very talented and stable team in this area able to continue the excellent provision of services despite the growth in staff and activities requiring support, as evidenced by the doubling of the Institute's financial turnover in the last three years. Initiatives in this area during 2008 include implementation of an internal auditing program, installation of a web-based purchase ordering system, and continued investment in new and replacement equipment.

Financial management of the ACS2 development was a key focus for 2008 which saw significant work in financial modelling, managing cash flows and maximising returns on investments. We also undertook further refinement of a well established risk management process which is reviewed regularly by the Board. Key risk issues are grouped by risk category and include:

Governance, Strategic, Commercial, Financial, Research and Development, Facilities and Operations, and Personnel. High levels of risk are prioritised and mitigating strategies enacted.

Plans for 2009 include development of the Human Resource area to address issues associated with overseas-based staff, implementing opportunities for sharing services with AMREP partners, and further refinement of the risk management and internal audit framework.

Burnet's Public Affairs and Development (PAD) team continued to expand its broad range of activities increasing the brand awareness of the Burnet Institute and raising funds in support of the Institute's laboratory research and public health programs. The past year while demanding, has been one of our most successful in fundraising, however, with the current global financial crisis we anticipate 2009 to be more challenging. The main challenge continues to be attracting new funding for infrastructure, in particular from donations, bequests and commercial collaborations, so that the Burnet Institute can continue to provide the best available resources for its scientists. During 2008, \$2.23 million was raised via PAD initiatives.

Major brand awareness activities undertaken in 2008 included the Melbourne City Romp initially launched in 2007 and the expansion of this to Brisbane attracting a combined total of 20,000 participants. Other events included the Burnet Oration with the Hon Justice Michael Kirby, the Thomas Heywood Organ Recital which was arranged by the Friends of Burnet, and the Melbourne World AIDS Day event focused on Burnet's HIV programs in Mozambique.

The Bosom Buddies Breast Cancer Foundation continued its annual charity ball and corporate golf days with the support of a dedicated committee led by Patron Mr Bill Jane OAM and the

Rotary Club of Berwick. I would also like to extend our thanks to all our dedicated volunteers and committees for their support at our events and to our Youth Ambassador Heritier O'Brien and Ambassador Deanna Blegg for their commitment to the Institute.

The Institute was the recipient of a number of major grants from Trusts and Foundations as well as private donations for which we are most grateful. Of particular significance was funding from the Janina and Bill Amiet Foundation supporting the Institute's cancer research programs. In addition, major grants were received from the Miller Foundation, the Ian Potter Foundation and the Percy Baxter Charitable Trust. The Institute would like to acknowledge and thank all those Trusts and Foundations which supported Burnet in 2008, this support has enabled the Institute to undertake a number of important research and public health programs both within Australia and internationally, which would otherwise have not been possible.

In 2008, several major IT infrastructure projects were implemented, the most popular of these was the Institute-wide wireless network which has saved the Institute from installing additional wiring to support new staff and visiting researchers.

Due to the growth in IT services, server room space and power are at a premium. With this in mind, a process of consolidating backup tape systems and server disk systems was completed utilising a one-tape library system for all server and desktop backups, and a new consolidated NAS/SAN disk unit providing all server disk storage. In addition, a project to migrate IT services of our larger aging Sun Solaris servers onto faster and more efficient Intel servers running the Open Source Linux operating system was implemented.

Two new administrative facilities were installed including the online IPOS ordering system replacing the in-house facility that was developed in 1998. This is integrated with the finance system; and the new Connx online HR facility that will be expanded in 2009 allowing staff to receive their pay slips electronically and apply for leave online. A number of websites were developed for various collaborative projects with other

organisations these included the China-Australia Health HIV/AIDS Facility and the Australian Collaboration for Chlamydia Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance (ACCESS).

Maintaining laboratory and facilities services across two sites is always a challenge. Striving for consistency in standards and operational approach has to be tempered by the undeniably different physical conditions and historical influences on each site. Despite these challenges our Laboratory Services team have continued to provide high level support to our operations at both campuses. The ever-growing regulatory compliance demands have professionally and effectively been addressed and the safety of our staff and our operations remains a priority as demonstrated by the recruitment of a dedicated laboratory safety consultant.

While officially this report is to cover 2008 it would be remiss of me not to mention two points of significance that occurred in February 2009. Firstly the Institute's Laboratory and Operations Manager, Dana Herrmann retired from the Institute after 10 years of dedicated and valuable service. In addition to overseeing the move to the current AMREP campus she has provided the foundations for what is a highly regarded and professionally-run set of laboratories and associated services including a very effective OHS record. Secondly, an external review of the Corporate and Support Services was undertaken in February to seek opportunities to better align the services to meet the evolving needs of the Institute. The recommendations and findings of that review are currently being considered with a revised structure expected to be in place by mid 2009.

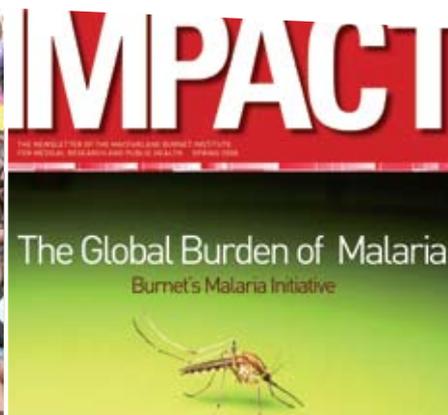
I would like to thank all staff across the corporate services units for their support and assistance over the past six months and I look forward to an exciting and challenging year in 2009.



Geoff Drenkhahn, Chief Operating Officer



Melbourne City Romp teams celebrating at Federation Square.



IMPACT, Burnet's regular newsletter.



Burnet's Brendan Crabb and Alastair Lucas, with Professor Tim Flannery (centre), guest speaker at the Annual Burnet Business Breakfast.

Corporate and Support Services: our staff

EXECUTIVE

Director

Brendan Crabb, PhD

Deputy Directors

P Mark Hogarth, PhD, NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow

David Anderson, BSc(Hons), PhD, NHMRC Senior Research Fellow

Chief Operating Officer

Geoff Drenkhahn, MBA Tech Mgr (Deakin), FAIM (from July 2008)

Executive Officer

Janet Cameron, BA(Hons), LLB (to June 2008)

Company Secretary

Peter Spiller, BBus, CPA

Personal Assistant to the Director

Valerie Skahill, BA(Hons)

Personal Assistants to Deputy Directors

Susan Collins (Professor Hogarth)

Nadine Barnes (Associate Professor Anderson)

Alfred Centre Stage 2

Project Manager

Bruce Loveland, PhD

Human Resources Manager

Paul Duffy, BA, Grad Dip(HR/IR)

BUSINESS UNIT

Chief Financial Officer

Peter Spiller, BBus, CPA

Accounting Manager

Pixie Tan, BCom, CPA

Finance Manager

Rob Tanner, BBA, CA

Assistant Accountant

Peter Dib

Receptionist

Sieyin Phung, BBus

Finance Officer

Liz Kitchen

Payroll Officer

Jack Bambino

Purchasing Officers

Mark Hamilton, BA
Kevin Hesse

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT

Director

Paul Rathbone, BAppSc, FAIMS, Grad Dip (Public Relations), MBus (Marketing)

Marketing and Communications Manager

Gillian Chamberlain, AdvCertBus (RMIT), CertEdit/Pub (RMIT), CertDirMar (ADMA)

Senior Public Affairs Officer

Tracy Routledge, BA (Communications) (from July 2008)

Community Relations Officer

Ian Haigh, BA

Client Development Coordinator

Pin Affleck, BFA(Hons) (from August 2008)

Public Affairs and Development Officer

Hazel Squair, BMA (Public Relations) (from July 2008)

Public Affairs Officers

Claire Gorst (to April 2008)
Rachel Lenders, BA

MELBOURNE AND BRISBANE CITY ROMPS

Event Director

Brendon Grail, BBus

Deputy Event Director

Fiona Rhody-Nicoll, LLB(Hons)

Event Manager, Brisbane City Romp

Emma Leishman (February to November 2008)

Customer Services Co-ordinator, Brisbane City Romp

Bianca Sardoni (June to October 2008)

Volunteer Co-ordinator, Brisbane City Romp

Talei Wright (June to October 2008)

Customer Services Co-ordinator, Melbourne City Romp

Melissa Mulcahy, Adv Dip Health Sciences (from July to November 2008)

Volunteer Co-ordinator, Melbourne City Romp

Grace Daley, BA Dev Studies, (from July to November 2008)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Head

Paul Stephens, BComp

Staff

Britta Taylor, MA
Damon Warren, BSurv(Hons)
Gary Jamieson, PhD
Matt Gray, Dip InfoSys
Dyson Simmons, B InfoSys(Hons)

FACILITIES AND RESEARCH SUPPORT SERVICES

Operations Manager

Dana Herrman, BAppSc, MBA

Research Services Manager

Soto Kolivas, PhD

Technical Assistant

Leanne Reardon
Barb Ledwidge

Laboratory Safety Advisor

Sol Hall (from October 2008)

Storeman

Blaine Oataway (from November 2008)

Maintenance Technician

Chris Pope

Biological Research Facility Manager

Charlotte Priest, AssDipAppSc,

Animal Technology Assistant Manager

Julie Toussaint

Staff

Josh Lorimer
Carlie Tobias, DipAppSc, Animal Technology
Tricia Murphy, DipAppSc, Animal Technology



Where we work

Commercialisation

The Institute continued to focus on translating its research into health outcomes during 2008.

- The Burnet Institute continues to be a major participant in the Cooperative Research Centre for Biomarker Translation (CRC) that officially commenced operation in 2007. Other participants include La Trobe University, The Mater Medical Research Institute, Mater Misericordiae Health Services, The Women's and Children's Health Research Institute, and The Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science. The commercial partners are Amgen (USA) and Becton Dickinson Biosciences (USA). The CRC's principal objective is the development of antibodies directed against therapeutic and diagnostic targets (biomarkers) present on cells that play a key role in major diseases including autoimmune disease (especially rheumatoid arthritis) and cancers (haematological, colorectal, breast and prostate). The CRC has been awarded AUD\$30.6 million over seven years.
- Burnet's partner companies IgAvax Pty Ltd and 4G Vaccines Pty Ltd continued research into developing an effective intranasal vaccine for respiratory diseases and a vaccine for the treatment of and protection against breast cancer. Research is progressing according to milestones and both companies are likely to reach clinical stage by 2010.
- Professors David Anderson and Suzanne Crowe have continued to progress their project for the development of a point-of-care CD4 test, funded by the CD4 Initiative, Imperial College London through a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The test aims to provide a quick and accurate method of measuring CD4 levels in HIV-infected individuals, suitable for use in resource-poor settings where there is no access to laboratory infrastructure. This new test is expected to help manage HIV infection particularly in the developing world. The grant is worth approximately US\$3 million over four years.

- Professors David Anderson and Geoffrey Pietersz were successful in receiving NHMRC development grants worth over AUD\$330,000 in total for the further development of Professor Anderson's CD4 ELISA-based test and Professor Pietersz's novel vaccine formulation for the immunotherapy of adenocarcinomas.

OUR STAFF

Director, Commercialisation and Strategic Development

P Mark Hogarth, PhD, NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow

Chair, IP and Commercialisation Working Group

Geoffrey Pietersz, PhD

Commercialisation Manager

Serina Cucuzza, BCom, BSc(Hons)

IP Manager

Maria Harrison-Smith

Legal Advisor

Alison Greenway, BSc(Hons), LLB, PhD

Project Manager

Pat Mottram, PhD



Our team (L-R): Back: Associate Professor Bruce Loveland, Associate Professor David Anderson. Centre: Dr Alison Greenway, Serina Cucuzza, Dr Pat Mottram, Professor Mark Hogarth. Front: Maria Harrison-Smith, Professor Geoffrey Pietersz.



Burnet places great emphasis on translational research.

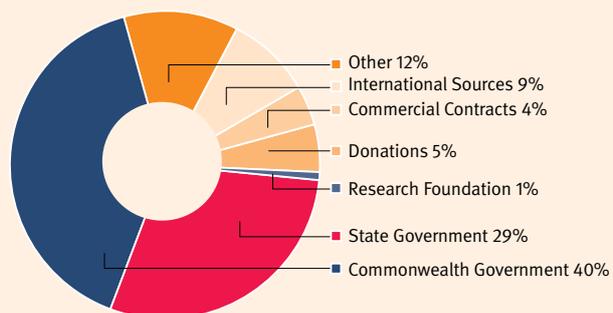
New Patents and Applications 2008

Title	Country	Filing Date	Number
PATENTS GRANTED – 2008			
Transgenic Animal Model for Autoimmune Diseases	Australia	06-Jun-03	2003233246
Transgenic Animal Model for Autoimmune Diseases	New Zealand	06-Jun-03	536963
Transgenic Animal Model for Autoimmune Diseases	US	06-Jun-03	7351875
Fc Receptor Modulating Compounds and Compositions	US	24-Dec-03	7332631
Antigenic Carbohydrate Compounds and their Use in Immunotherapy	Canada	15-Nov-94	2135833
Composition Comprising Immunogenic Virus Sized Particles	Australia	14-Sep-01	2006200045
Composition Comprising Immunogenic Virus Sized Particles	Australia	14-Sep-01	2006204620
Antibodies Against Cancer	US	26-Mar-02	7318924
Immunoreactive Antigens of Hepatitis E Virus	Europe	23-Sep-94	722499
A Nucleic Acid Construct Encoding a Processing Component Derived from the N-term reg of the Hep Virus ORF2, and an Antigenic Peptide	US	27-Sep-02	7341723
NEW PCTs – 2008			
Chemically Modified Macromolecules (mannan and aldehyde dendrimers)	PCT	13-Jun-08	PCT/AU2008/000864
Dendritic Cell Markers and Uses Thereof	PCT	30-Aug-08	PCT/AU2008/001294
Peptide Analogues and Conjugates Thereof (mbp epitope analogues for MS vacc.)	PCT	20-Nov-08	PCT/IB2008/003493
NEW PROVISIONALS – 2008			
Methods of Detecting Dead and Dying Cells	US Prov	01-Jun-08	60/969118
Peptide Analogues and Conjugates Thereof (mbp epitope analogues for MS vacc.)	Au prov	12-Sep-08	2008904757

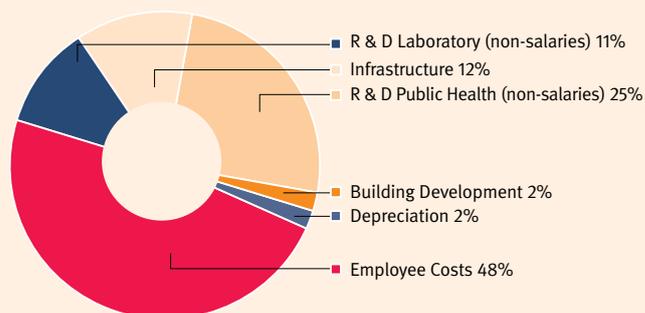
A number of Burnet researchers were successful in securing funding from the ACH2 scheme including Heidi Drummer, Andy Pombourios, Margaret Hellard, David Anderson. The scheme funds translational projects specifically in the area of HIV and Hepatitis.

Summary of Income and Expenditure 2008

TOTAL INCOME (\$52.36 MILLION)



TOTAL EXPENDITURE (\$42.81 MILLION)



The full finance report reflected in the Summary of Income and Expenditure above is available on request.

Education and capacity building program

The Burnet Institute continued to play an important role in education and capacity building during 2008, both within Australia and overseas. Burnet provided training in laboratory and social research, with students from Australian and international universities undertaking postgraduate independent research projects across all of the program areas. Burnet was also actively involved in the delivery of public health courses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, through associations with the University of Melbourne, Monash University, Deakin University, La Trobe University, and Udayana University (Bali) and Atma Jaya Catholic University in Indonesia.

Honours program at the Burnet Institute

Ten students undertook a BSc(Hons) or BMed Sci(Hons) program at Burnet in 2008 – six from Monash University, and four from University of Melbourne.

Six of these students studied within the Centre for Virology and four within the Centre for Immunology, across a wide range of projects. These included the role of heterosubtypic immunity in influenza (Rebecca Dutkowski), tetraspanins in thrombus stability (Eva Orłowski), PECAM-1 in salmonella infections (May Lin Yap), Hepatitis C virus glycoprotein structure and function (Mark Edmunds), truncated HCV E2 in different viral genotypes (Yousef Alhammad), the role of SR proteins in HIV replication in macrophages (Sushama Telwatte), HIV-associated host cell factors (Chin Long Wong), HIV gag protein structure (Omer Gilan), determinants of HIV viral assembly (Vera van Hoeven), and memory B-cells responses in Hepatitis C virus infection (Devy Santoso).

The Institute also offered an advanced coursework module for Monash/AMREP Honours students. This module involved advanced training in deconvolution microscopy, flow cytometry and sorting, laser capture microscopy and multi-plex cytokine analysis using bead array. These training sessions were provided by senior scientists at Burnet with expert knowledge of these techniques. The students then completed an assessment task, describing how they would use the equipment in a grant proposal to study a particular aspect of viral infection or viral immunity.

The Honours year also involved completion of other core coursework subjects, such as: advanced statistics, production of a review of the literature related to their thesis topic, several oral presentations, and the final submission of their Honours thesis describing their year's research in October/November. This was followed by an oral defence of the thesis by their examiners.

Overall, the students at Burnet did very well achieving six First Class Honours and four H2I or H2A marks. Three of the students have gone on to beginning a PhD at Burnet or elsewhere, while most other students have now started work as research assistants. One student with a combined Law/BMS(Hons) degree is now working in patent law in Japan.

The 2008 Honours coordinators at Burnet were Associate Professor Paul Gorry and Associate Professor Rosemary Ffrench. Further enquiries regarding the Honours program at Burnet should be sent to gorry@burnet.edu.au.



Our Education team (L-R): Marion Brown, Associate Professor Rosemary Ffrench, Dr Anthony Jaworowski. Absent: Professor Steve Gerondakis.



Students who attended Burnet's HIV course in Phnom Penh, 2008.

Postgraduate Study

During 2008, 38 students undertook postgraduate research at Burnet in basic laboratory-based and public health research. These students were recruited from a variety of Australian and international universities, including universities from Jordan, Iraq, Germany and Portugal; enrolled through both Monash University and the University of Melbourne. During this year, eight Doctoral Degrees and one Masters Degree were awarded to Burnet Institute students.

The Burnet Institute places great emphasis on postgraduate study, with the aim of providing high quality research training in areas related to public health and basic science in infectious diseases and immunology. To assist in fostering this aim, Burnet has an active postgraduate committee, chaired by Dr Anthony Jaworowski, which liaises with each student's academic department. The functions of this committee include mentoring, monitoring student progress and conflict mediation. In addition, the committee organises seminars and postgraduate symposia to nurture the academic life of our postgraduate students.

Advanced Medical Science (AMS) students

The AMS program is a one-year research program for third year medical students from the University of Melbourne. In 2008, Burnet had three AMS students – one in the Centre for Immunology; one in the Centre for Virology; and one in the Centre for Population Health.

Centre for International Health (CIH)

A record number of students enrolled in the 14 postgraduate subjects that were offered by Centre for International Health (CIH) in 2008. This high number is in line with international trends which show that courses in epidemiology, public health and global health are 'hot' classes on campuses these days¹. These CIH subjects, accredited by Monash University and/or University of Melbourne, can be credited towards a Master of Public Health or Master of International Health degree, a Graduate Diploma in International Health, or may even be attended by students not seeking any academic accreditation. A total of 244 students were enrolled in these courses, with many completing two or more subjects. Total subject enrolments within Burnet's CIH for 2008 were 378. Similar to previous years, the enrolment data shows that the student cohort comprises more women (189) than men (55). While all subjects proved to be popular, the Public Health

in Refugee Settings and the Managing Community-based HIV Programs in Developing Countries attracted interest well beyond the 40 places available in each course. The two international health core subjects, Primary Health Care in Developing Countries and Field Methods for International Health Planning and Evaluation, were delivered in both semesters in 2008 – to meet high demand and to ensure that all students completed these compulsory units.

In addition to this core teaching, CIH was involved in some exciting education and training activities. The three-year contract with AusAID to provide HIV training for AusAID staff ended in July 2008, following CIH facilitated workshops in Canberra, Suva (16 AusAID staff from seven Pacific countries), Vientiane, Phnom Penh and Hanoi. The Asia Regional HIV course was again conducted in Phnom Penh, attracting 21 participants from eight countries. In the latter half of 2008, with funding from the AusAID Australian Leadership Awards Fellowship scheme, CIH provided public health training to 17 staff members from Udayana University in Bali to support them in introducing a Masters of Public Health course in 2009.

Centre for Population Health (CPH)

The Centre for Population Health (CPH) provided a number of short courses in conjunction with the Centre for International Health (CIH) during 2008. CPH staff also presented teaching sessions, as needed, for other organisations. These teaching sessions included General Practice Victoria and the HIV, Hepatitis and STI Education and Resource Centre. In addition, CPH provided the field placement component for one Master of Applied Epidemiology student, studying the course through the Australian National University's National Centre for Epidemiology and Public Health.

For the past three years, CPH has been successfully running a training program which offers young people from marginalised communities the chance to undertake a traineeship in which they gain practical research skills, and also allows them to study and obtain a qualification in a relevant field. The program is supported by grants from the Myer, Bokhara, IOOF, Invergowrie and Matana Foundations, and the Gandel Charitable Trust. Each traineeship is for a two-year period, with a new trainee selected to start each year. In 2008, one of the two trainees focused on hepatitis C outreach and field work, and the other was involved with research on sexually transmitted infections in collaboration with the Victorian Aboriginal Service.

¹Brown, D. For a Global Generation, Public Health is a Hot Field. The Washington Post 2008 September 19; page A01

Committee members

BOARD SUB-COMMITTEES:

Audit Finance & Risk Committee:

Ross Cooke – Chair
Neil Edwards

Investment Committee:

Denise Allen – Chair
Sid Khotkar*
David Lee*
Alastair Lucas

IP & Commercialisation Committee:

Rob Milne – Chair
David Anderson
Serina Cucuzza
Tracey Batten (until December 2008)
P Mark Hogarth
Ian Wightwick (until December 2008)

Research Advisory Committee:

James McCluskey – Chair
Michael Alpers*
Lorena Brown*
Nick Crofts*
Brendan Crabb
Peter Doherty
John Dowling
P Mark Hogarth
Anne Kelso* (from 2009)

Fundraising Committee:

Garry Hounsell – Chair
Pin Affleck
Julius Colman*
Brendan Crabb
P Mark Hogarth
Henry Lanzer
Alastair Lucas
Maria Myers
Paul Rathbone

ACS2 Project Committee:

Rob Milne – Chair
Ross Cooke
Brendan Crabb
Neil Edwards
P Mark Hogarth
Alastair Lucas

INTERNAL COMMITTEES:

Scientific Advisory Committee:

Brendan Crabb – Chair
David Anderson
Marion Brown
Suzanne Crowe
Steve Gerondakis
Margaret Hellard
Mark Hogarth
Robert Power
John Reeder
Mike Toole

OH&S Committee:

Con Sonza – Chair
Sarah Charnaud
Trish Clark
Brendan Crabb (from 2009)
Johanna Dean
Geoff Drenkhahn (from 2009)
Paula Ellenberg
Anne Ellet
Rosemary Ffrench
Paul Gilson
Matt Gray
Raelene Grumont
Sol Hall
Soto Kolivas
Bruce Loveland
Johnson Mak (from 2009)
Blaine Oataway
Andy Poubourios (from 2009)
Laveena Sharma

Laboratory Users Group:

Heidi Drummer – Chair
David Anderson
Jenny Anderson
Alyssa Barry
Melissa Churchill
Brendan Crabb
Geoff Drenkhahn
Rosemary Ffrench
Steve Gerondakis
Paul Gilson
Paul Gorry
Eric Gowans (until November 2008)
Elizabeth Grgacic
Mark Hamilton
Dana Hermann (until February 2008)
Anthony Jaworowski
Bruce Loveland
Johnson Mak
Andy Poubourios
Li Shuo
Ajantha Solomon
Con Sonza
Gilda Tachedjian

PhD Committee:

Anthony Jaworowski (Chair until 5 May 2009)
Rosemary Ffrench (Chair from 5 May 2009)
Campbell Aitken
Alyssa Barry (from 5 May 2009)
Melissa Churchill
Heidi Drummer (from 5 May 2009)
Paul Gorry
Elizabeth Grgacic
Paul Ramsland
Gilda Tachedjian

Laboratory Equipment and Facilities Committee:

Melissa Churchill – Chair
Ashish Banjeere
Alyssa Barry
Brendan Crabb
Kylie Goy
Vicki Greengrass
David Harrison
Marcel Hinjen
Gary Jamieson
Soto Kolivas
Maree Powell
Paul Rathbone
Hazel Squair
Gilda Tachedjian

IP Working Group:

Geoff Piertersz – Chair
David Anderson
Serina Cucuzza
Alison Greenway
Maria Harrison-Smith
Pat Mottram

AMREP Precinct Animal Centre:

Graeme Ryan – Chair*
David Anderson
Jay Chin-Dusting*
Steve Gerondakis (since August 2008)
Jenny Grace*
Mark Hogarth (until August 2008)
David Lloyd*
Hatem Salem*
Steve Wesseligh*

AMREP Animal Ethics Committee:

Raffi Gugasyan – Chair
Ashish Banerjee
Kay Juliff*
Charles Hardy*
Robyn Sullivan*
Patricia Baitz*
Debbie Ramsey*

*Member external to the Burnet Institute

Governance statement

The Board of Directors has adopted a Governance framework which incorporates the 'Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations' of the Australian Stock Exchange and which is appropriate for the size, complexity and operations of the Burnet Institute. While some of these provisions are particular to listed for-profit corporations, many are just as relevant to a complex not-for-profit entity such as the Burnet Institute as they are to the commercial sector. The ongoing relevance and effectiveness of this framework will be periodically reviewed to reflect changing circumstances and ways of improving the practices we have adopted.

Role of the Board and Management

The Board's primary role is the protection and enhancement of the long-term interests of the Burnet Institute and its stakeholders. To fulfil this role, the Board gives consideration to the range of research and other activities which are appropriate to the Institute ensuring that the key stakeholders' interests are addressed. The Board is responsible for the overall governance of the Institute including formulating (on the advice of the Executive Director) its strategic direction, ensuring that risk management policies are in place and are being monitored, establishing and monitoring the Executive Director's and management's goals and performance and ensuring the integrity of internal control and management information systems. It is also responsible for approving and monitoring financial and other reporting.

To assist the execution of its responsibilities, the Board has established the following Board committees:

- Audit, Finance and Risk
- Investment
- Intellectual Property and Commercialisation
- Fundraising
- Project
- Research Advisory.

Matters attended to by Board Committees are reported to the Board following each committee meeting. Board Committees are authorised to seek any information they require from any officer of the Institute and may take such independent professional advice as they consider necessary. They have no executive powers regarding their findings and recommendations. The Board may at any time determine to address matters identified within a committee's terms of reference at the full Board level.

Responsibility for the operation and administration of the Institute has been delegated to the Executive Director and the executive management team. These responsibilities have been delineated by formal authority delegations.

Composition of the Board

In accordance with the Institute's Constitution, the number of directors constituting the Board must not be less than eight and not more than 20 and will include the Executive Director in its number. A majority of the Board should be independent directors, in particular the role of the Chair and Executive Director should not be exercised by the same person. Directors shall be appointed by resolution of the Board and each Affiliated University may propose one director.

The appointment of Board Members is run by the Chair of the Board who will review nominations in consultation with the Executive Director and other Members. Appointments will be approved by the Board and confirmed at the AGM.

All Board Members appointed to the Burnet Institute Board will receive a letter of appointment from the Chair, which sets out the basis of the appointment. That letter will outline background information, documentation and policies including:

- Term of appointment
- Meeting attendance expectations
- Governance charter
- Constitution
- Committees
- Board papers
- Confidentiality
- Access to professional advice
- Conflicts of interest
- Induction.

As a general rule, Board Members are not expected to serve for more than ten years. This rule will be subject to review on a case-by-case basis.

Ethical and Responsible Decision Making

All Directors and employees are expected to discharge their duties in good faith and act honestly in the best interests of the Institute, striving at all times to enhance the reputation and performance of the Institute. Directors must ensure that they use the powers of office for the proper purpose and in the best interests of the Institute as a whole. They must not make improper use of information gained through their position as a director, or take improper advantage of their position as a director.

Directors are required to undertake diligent analysis of all proposals placed before the Board and make reasonable enquiries to ensure that the Institute is operating efficiently, effectively and legally towards achieving its goals.

Governance statement (cont.)

Directors must keep the Board advised, on an ongoing basis, of any interest that could potentially conflict with those of the Institute and any development which may impact the directors' perceived or actual independence. The Board has procedures in place to allow directors to disclose potential conflicts of interests.

Directors do not participate in the day-to-day management of the Institute. Consequently, representations or agreements with suppliers, clients, employees, consultants, professional firms or other parties or organisations are made by management unless such an authority is explicitly delegated by the Board to directors, either individually or as a Member of a Committee.

The Institute has adopted guidelines for dealing in securities. Directors and employees have been advised of the seriousness and consequences of trading in public companies with which the Institute has entered into commercial arrangements, when in possession of confidential information which would have a material effect on the share price of those companies. The Company Secretary's written approval must be sought before Board Members and employees can trade shares in these companies. Approval will be granted when the Company Secretary is satisfied that the Board Member or employee does not have confidential information in these companies.

Risk Management

The Board, through its Audit, Finance and Risk Committee, has responsibility for ensuring that risk management policies are in place and are being monitored. The Audit, Finance and Risk Committee reports to the Board regularly on the status of risks.

The Institute's risk management process is supported by:

- Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 4360:1999 - Risk Management, which provides a generic guide for the establishment and implementation of the risk management process involving the identification, analysis, evaluation, treatment and ongoing monitoring of risks
- Burnet Institute's Risk Management guidelines
- Training as required to ensure that management and staff of the Burnet Institute understand and implement this Policy.

Audit, Finance and Risk Committee

The main role of the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee is to audit the business operations and to oversee the finance and risk management functions. The Committee shall have unlimited access to the Internal and External Auditors and to senior management and may require reports and presentations on specific items.

Specific responsibilities of the Committee include:

- Reviewing the risk management framework and internal control processes relating to all risks of the Institute

- Monitoring internal controls in relation to financial and commercial activities, legislative and regulatory conformance and asset protection
- Ensuring that the preparation and presentation of the annual financial statements show a true and fair view and comply with all relevant accounting standards and statutory requirements
- Facilitating open communication between the Board, Audit, Finance and Risk Committee, Senior Management and Auditors
- Determining the adequacy of the Institute's administrative, quality, project and accounting systems
- Developing and enforcing a framework for accountability at all levels of the organisation.

Remuneration and Succession Planning

The Remuneration Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the Executive Director on remuneration packages and policies applicable to senior staff.

The review of the Executive Director's performance is conducted by the Chair with one other Board Member. However, all Board Members have the opportunity to provide input into the process. The Executive Director's remuneration is approved by the Board.

Succession planning is undertaken as follows:

- In relation to the Executive Director – conducted by the Board
- In relation to other senior staff – by the Executive Director with input from the Board
- In relation to staff below senior level – by the Executive Director with input from the senior management team.

Integrity in Financial Reporting

The Audit, Finance and Risk Committee manages the relationship between the Institute and the external auditor on behalf of the Board. It recommends to the Board potential auditors for appointment and the terms of engagement, including remuneration. The Audit, Finance and Risk Committee evaluates the performance of the external auditor during its term of appointment against specified criteria which include delivering value to stakeholders and the Institute, cost-effectiveness and maintaining the highest levels of professional integrity, objectivity and independence.

The Executive Director and the Chief Financial Officer provide formal statements to the Board that in all material respects:

- The Institute's financial statements present a true and fair view of the Institute's financial condition and operational results and comply with relevant accounting standards
- The risk management and internal compliance and control systems are sound, appropriate and operating efficiently and effectively.

ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations

ASX Recommendation		Compliance
1	Lay solid foundations for management and oversight	
1.1	Establish the functions reserved to the Board and those delegated to senior executives	Comply
2	Structure the Board to add value	
2.1	A majority of the Board should be independent Directors	Comply
2.2	The Chair should be an independent Director	Comply
2.3	The roles of Chair and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) should not be exercised by same person	Comply
2.4	The Board should establish a nomination committee	Comply
2.5	Disclose the process for evaluating the performance of the board, its committees and individual directors	Comply
3	Promote ethical and responsible decision-making	
3.1	Establish a code of conduct	Comply
3.2	Establish a policy concerning trading in company securities by Directors, senior executives and employees	Comply
4	Safeguard integrity in financial reporting	
4.1	Establish an Audit Committee.	Comply
4.2	Audit Committee structure to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only non-executive Directors • A majority of independent Directors • An independent chairperson who is not chairperson of the Board • Consists of at least three members 	Comply Comply Comply Comply
5	Make timely and balanced disclosures	
5.1	Continuous policies and procedures	Not applicable
6	Respect the rights of stakeholders	
6.1	Design a communications policy for promoting effective communication with stakeholders and encourage their participation at general meetings	Comply
7	Recognise and manage risk	
7.1	Establish policies for the oversight and management of material business risks	Comply
7.2	Management to design and implement the risk management and internal control system to manage the material business risks	Comply
7.3	Written statement to Board by CEO and CFO in accordance with section 295A of the Corporations Act	Comply
8	Remunerate fairly and responsibly	
8.1	The Board should establish a Remuneration Committee	Comply
8.2	Distinguish non-executive directors' remuneration from that of executive directors and senior executives	Comply

Achievements

Current Grants

Adams JM, Bouillet P, Colman P, Cory S, **Gerondakis S**, Huang D, Lindeman G, Strasser A, Vaux D, Visvader J. \$1,600,000. Chief Investigator NHMRC Program Grant Roles of impaired apoptosis and differentiation in tumorigenesis and therapy, 2007–2011.

Adams JM, Cory S, Colman P, Strasser A, Vaux DL, Bouillet P, **Gerondakis S**, Huang DSC. \$800,000. Principal Investigator, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America. Renewal of Specialized Centre of Research Grant Apoptosis in Hematopoiesis, Leukemogenesis and Therapy, 2006–2010.

Apostolopoulos V. US\$249,750. The Susan G Komen for the Cure Project Grant, USA. Role: Principle Investigator, Development of a DNA breast cancer vaccine, 2006–2009.

Barry A. \$370,000. Population genomics of malaria surface antigen genes.

Centre for International Health. \$117,647. Levi Strauss Foundation. Capacity Building for Local Responses to HIV amongst Injecting Drug Users in Bekasi, West Java. Indonesia, 2007–2008.

Centre for International Health. \$2,073,034. UNOPS. 3D Fund – Reducing burden of CD morbidity/mortality in Myanmar, 2007–2009.

Centre for International Health. \$2,800,149. AusAID. Tingim Laip project, Papua New Guinea, 2007–2008.

Centre for International Health. \$28,000. Australian Red Cross. Xinjiang HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Project. China – Tibet, 2007–2008.

Centre for International Health. \$300,000. AusAID. Provision of Short Course training for AusAID personnel on HIV and AIDS, 2005–2008.

Centre for International Health. \$31,800,000. AusAID. AusAID development initiative. China-Australia Health and HIV/AIDS Facility, 2007–2012.

Centre for International Health. \$38,610. South Barkly Grow Well Project Consultancy. Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation 2006–2008.

Centre for International Health. \$574,979. NZAID. Building Capacity for HIV prevention & support programs among local NGOs. Indonesia, 2006–2009.

Cherry CL, Hooker DJ, Wesselingh SL, McLean CA. \$172,500 (for 18 months). Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Research (ACH²). Project Grant. Establishing the use and interpretation of an LM-PCR-based phenotypic assay for antiretroviral toxicity, 2007–2008.

Cherry CL. \$362,000. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Career Development Award. Understanding the side effects of HAART in HIV patients, 2009–2012.

Cherry CL. Paid consultancy to CNS Bio Australia on studies investigating the efficacy of flupirtine for the treatment of painful HIV-associated neuropathies. \$40,000 per year since 2007.

Churchill M, Gorry P. \$172,250. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). Quantitative, real time assay for HIV-1 Neutralising antibody & entry inhibitor potency, 2007–2009.

Crabb B and Ralph S. \$298,000. NHMRC. Epigenetic control of antigenic variation in Plasmodium falciparum, 2007–2009.

Crabb B, Cowman A and others. US\$2.916 million. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Preclinical prioritization of blood-stage malaria vaccine candidates, 2007–2010.

Croft N, **Hellard M**. \$240,040. NCHECR. A prospective, longitudinal, Australian cohort study of newly acquired hepatitis C (HCV) infection, and the impact and efficacy of therapy with PEG-interferon alpha-2a, 2003–2009.

Crowe SM, Ryan CE, Darcy A, Rogers G, Kama M. \$60,067. Secretariat of the Pacific Community and WHO. HIV molecular surveillance study in Pacific Island countries and territories, 2007–2008.

Crowe SM, Anderson D, Landay A, Denny T. \$1,810,722. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation administered through CD4 Initiative/Imperial College. A point-of-care test for examining CD4 in remote areas, 2007–2008.

Crowe SM, Lavu E, Hearps A, Markby J. \$15,500. National AIDS Council (NACS). Monitoring of the anti retrovirus treatment (ART) of HIV/AIDS in patients in Port Moresby General Hospital (PMGH) by CD4 count and HIV viral load, 2008–2010.

Crowe SM, Malau C, O'Connor J, Tiban K, Spelman D, **Aleksic E, Ryan CE**. \$100,146. AusAID (via Secretariat of the Pacific Community). Molecular epidemiology of mycobacterium tuberculosis in Kiribati, 2007–2008.

Crowe SM. \$1,500,000. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Program Grant. Pathogenesis of persistent human virus infections of global significance, 2005–2009.

Crowe SM. \$40,000. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). HIV monitoring in resource constrained countries, 2007–2008.

Crowe SM. \$46,280. Australia/India Council (DFAT). Training program on antiretroviral drugs for Indian doctors, 2008–2009.

Crowe SM. \$80,000. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). Development of dried blood spot and dried plasma spot technology for HIV monitoring assays, 2007–2008.

Crowe SM. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Principal Research Fellowship, 2008–2012.

Cunningham A, Brew B, **Crowe SM, Lewin SR**, Slobedman B, **Wesselingh SL**. \$10,000,000. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Program Grant. Pathogenesis of persistent human viral infections of global significance, 2004–2009.

Dietze P, Munir V, Johnston J, Fry C, Smit D & Degenhardt L. \$310,125. NHMRC. The risk factors for ecstasy and related drug overdose: A case-crossover study, 2007–2010.

Drummer H, Pombourios P. \$150,000. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). Monoclonal antibodies specific to novel epitopes in glycoprotein E2 diagnostic and therapeutic research, Jul 2008–Dec 2009.

Drummer HE, Pombourios P, Dore G, **Hellard M**, Torrezi J. \$467,748. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. Characterization of neutralizing antibody responses in HCV infected individuals, 2006–2008.

Drummer HE, Pombourios P, Elhassen D. \$513,000. Project Grant. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Structure and function of the hepatitis C virus glycoproteins E1 and E2, 2007–2009.

Drummer HE, Pombourios P. \$133,000. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). Evaluation of a minimal core domain of the HCV glycoprotein E2 as a vaccine candidate with potential to elicit broadly neutralizing antibodies, Jan 2007–Jun 2008.

Drummer HE. \$452,500. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). RD Wright Career Development Award, 2007–2011.

- Emery S, Hoy J, Pett S, Roth N, **Wright E**. \$405,401. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Randomised trial to determine the safety and efficacy of early versus deferred treatment of adult HIV infection, 2008–2009.
- Farrell L, Fry T, **Aitken C**. \$165,000. ARC. An investigation of illicit tobacco use – its prevalence, economic impact and the motivations and perceptions of consumers, 2006–2008.
- Ffrench R**. \$475,000. NHMRC Industry Fellowship, Development and immunogenicity testing of 'Virus-like particle' vaccines, 2006–2010.
- Gilson P**, de Koning-Ward T, Boddey J. NHMRC. \$362,250. Identification of the Plasmodium falciparum translocon that exports parasite proteins into their erythrocytic hosts, 2008–2010.
- Gorry PR, Churchill M, Lewin SR, Tachedjian G**. \$150,875. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). In vitro assay for HIV resistance to the CCR5 inhibitor maraviroc, 2008–2009.
- Gorry PR**, Mijch M, **Churchill M**. \$138,000. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). Rapid assay for plasma HIV-1 coreceptor specificity, 2007–2008.
- Gorry PR, Pombourios P**, Center R, **Churchill M**. \$361,875. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. Pathogenesis of CCR5-restricted HIV-1, 2007–2009.
- Gorry PR, Tachedjian G, Lewin S, Churchill M**. \$150,875. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). In vitro assay for HIV resistance to the CCR5 inhibitor Maraviroc, 2008–2009.
- Gorry PR**. \$426,250. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). R.D. Wright Career Development Award. Pathogenesis of macrophage-tropic HIV-1, 2005–2009.
- Gowans EJ**, Li S, **Loveland BE**. \$412,875. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. Understanding hepatitis C virus-specific T cell tolerance, 2007–2009.
- Gowans EJ**, Martyn J. \$129,000. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). Grant in aid. A novel recombinant baculovirus as a vaccine delivery vehicle for HCV, 2007–2008.
- Grgacic EVL**. \$276,750. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. A new insight into hepatitis B infection: the HBV fusion peptide, 2007–2009.
- Haqshenas G, **Gowans EJ**. \$136,500. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). Grant in aid. Construction of HCV chimeric viruses which encode the p7 protein from multiple genotypes, 2007–2008.
- Hellard M, Aitken C, Lim M**, Hocking J. \$5,000. Pierce Armstrong Trust. SMS to improve young people's sexual health, 2007–2008.
- Hellard M, Aitken C**. \$100,000. Gandel Charitable Trust. A research traineeship for an outreach worker from a marginalised community, 2007–2009.
- Hellard M**, Donovan B, Guy R, Kaldor J, Sullivan E, Dimech W. \$1,083,843. Federal Government Chlamydia Targeted Grants Program. Australian Collaboration for Chlamydia Enhanced Sentinel Surveillance, 2007–2009.
- Hellard M**, Fairley C, **Aitken C**, Hocking J. \$192,735. Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council Priority Driven Research Grants. The impact of text & email messaging on the sexual risk behaviour of young men & women: a randomised controlled trial, 2006–2008.
- Hellard M**, Guy R, Minge A, White B, \$94,232.00. DHS Victoria. Evaluation of the Victorian public health prisoner initiative, 2006–2008.
- Hellard M**, Guy R, **Winter R**. \$58,510. DHS Victoria. Evaluation of Hepatitis C treatment, information and support for Victorian prisoners.
- Hijnen M**. \$100,000. The Netherlands Rubicon Fellowship. Structural biology of HIV, 2006–2008.
- Hogarth PM, Mottram P, Powell MS**. \$516,375. NHMRC Project Grant. Mechanisms of tissue destruction in autoimmunity, 2008–2010.
- Hogarth PM, Wines BD, Powell MS**. \$741,000. NHMRC Project Grant. Structure and function of antibody Fc receptors, 2008–2010.
- Hogarth PM**. \$145,000. NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellowship, 2007–2011.
- Kaldor J, Crofts N, Dore J, **Hellard M**, Lloyd A, Rawlinson W, MacCaughan G, Haber P, van Beek I, Dolan K. US\$1.8 million. NIH. Longitudinal Cohort Study of Newly Acquired Hepatitis C Virus Infection among Injecting Drug Users, 2003–2008.
- Kong F, Dietze P, Hellard M**. \$48,000. Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing. Ecstasy and related drugs reporting system (EDRS), 2005–2010.
- Lehmann D, Reeder J**. £940,000. Wellcome Trust International Collaborative Research Grant. Neonatal immunization with pneumococcal conjugate vaccine in PNG, 2005–2010.
- Lewin SR, Cameron PU, Jaworowski A**. \$364,875. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. Modulation of HIV-1 latency by chemokines and dendritic cells, 2008–2010.
- Lewin SR, Crowe SM**. \$25,000. Find Award Application. Development of a rapid test to quantify HIV-1 fitness of drug resistant viruses, 2007–2008.
- Lloyd A, Harvey C, **Ffrench R**, Zaunders J, Kumar R, Grimm M. \$315,000. NHMRC Project grant. Positioning and function of T cells in HCV infected liver, 2006–2008.
- Mak J, Jaworowski A, da Fonseca Pereira C**. \$582,750. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. Does HIV function as a lipid raft during infection, 2008–2010.
- Mak J, Tachedjian G**. \$396,375. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. Retroviral Recombination, 2006–2008.
- Mak J**. \$1,000,000. Pfizer Foundation Fellowship. HIV Assembly, 2004–2009.
- Netter HJ, **Gowans EJ**. \$165,000. ARC. Linkage Grant. Antiviral compounds to inhibit the replicase of hepatitis C virus, 2008–2010.
- Pietersz GA, Apostolopoulos V**. \$518,250. NHMRC Project Grant. Polynucleotide Vaccine based on targeted delivery to antigen presenting cells, 2008–2010.
- Pombourios P, Drummer HE, Gorry PR**. \$801,000. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. Delineation of receptor-activated conformational signalling pathways on HIV-1 envelope glycoproteins, 2008–2010.
- Pombourios P, Drummer HE**. \$132,000. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Research (ACH²). Project Grant. Terminal interactions in gp41: a novel target for fusion inhibitors, Jan 2007–June 2008.
- Pombourios P, Drummer HE**. \$150,000. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Research (ACH²). Project Grant. The terminal fusion clasp of gp41: a new target for antiviral discovery, July 2008–Dec 2009.
- Power DA**. \$392,625. NHMRC Project Grant. The energy sensor AMPK in acute renal failure, 2006–2008.
- Power DA**. \$511,500. NHMRC Project Grant. Protein kinases regulate salt reabsorption in the kidney, 2007–2009.
- Price P, **Cherry CL, Wesselingh SL**. \$120,000 (for 18 months). Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Research (ACH²). Project Grant. Developing a pharmacogenetic test to estimate an individual's neuropathy risk prior to commencing antiretroviral therapy, 2007–2008.
- Ramsland PA**. NHMRC R Douglas Wright Biomedical Career Development Award, Structural investigations of carbohydrate recognition by antibodies with emerging importance in medicine, 2006–2010.
- Reeder J**. PNG Kina 890,000 (~US\$300,000). UNICEF. Enhancing Pregnancy Outcomes in PNG: a 2-centre intervention trial, 2006–2008.
- Reeder J**. US\$2.6million. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Infectious Disease Program award. Intermittent preventative treatment during EPI for the prevention of malaria and anaemia in PNG infants, 2005–2009.
- Reeder J**. US\$250,000. MalGen consortium (Gates Global Grand Challenge). Genetics of malaria in PNG, 2005–2008.
- Reeder J**. US\$750,000. Fogarty International. International Global Infectious Disease Research Training Program award.

Rogerson S, **Jaworowski A**. \$365,750. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. HIV and Immunity to Malaria, 2006–2008.

Stojanovska L, **Apostolopoulos V**, Tay M. \$9,700. CRGC industry grant, Victoria University, Role: Co-Chief Investigator, Effects of *Tsugae var janniae* on hormone profiles, inflammatory biomarkers and symptoms in post-menopausal women, 2008.

Tachedjian G. Co-Leader of Project 2. PI Paull J. US\$885,534. U19 AI060598/NIH/NIAID Integrated Preclinical/Clinical Program for Topical Microbicides. Development of Dendrimer and Combination Microbicides, 2004–2009.

Tachedjian G, Harrigan R, Sluis-Cremer N. \$361,875. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. Drug resistance mutations in the connection subdomain of the HIV reverse transcriptase, 2007–2009.

Tachedjian G, Mak J. \$277,500. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. The Role of the HIV-1 Reverse Transcriptase Domain in Correct Processing of Viral Proteins to form Infectious Virus, 2006–2008.

Tachedjian G, Chalmers D, Rhodes D. \$150,000. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). Inhibitors of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase dimerization, 2007–2008.

Wesselingh S, **Churchill M, Gorry PR**. \$513,000. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. Molecular studies of the astrocyte reservoir of HIV-1 in the central nervous system, 2007–2009.

Wesselingh S, **Tachedjian G**, McCarthy T, Grippner G. \$97,500. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). Structure function analysis of multi-surface dendrimer based microbicide, 2007–2008.

New Grants

Aitken C, Dietze P, Winter R, Power R. \$94,751. DHS Victoria. Evaluation of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) 'Supporting Measures Relating to Needle and Syringe Programs (NSPs)' in Victoria.

Aitken C, Dixon H, **Lim M**, Wakefield M, Ferrari G, Hope J, **Hellard M**. \$68,593. Vic Health Discovery Grant. Using text messaging (SMS) to promote health issues to young people: a randomised controlled trial.

Aitken C, Hellard M, Stoové M, Higgs P, Winter R. \$93,402. DHS Victoria. An investigation of the environmental, behavioural and immunological factors that allow some injecting drug users to avoid hepatitis C virus exposure.

Aitken C, Winter R. NZ\$80,000. New Zealand Ministry of Health. Review of needle exchange services in New Zealand.

Anderson D, Garcia M, Crowe S. \$159,750. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Development Grant. Development and prototype manufacture of a high-throughput CD4 T-cell test for management of HIV/AIDS infections, 2008–2009.

Anderson D, Garcia M, French R. \$158,675. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²). EOI Grant. Serological diagnosis of neonatal HIV infection in resource-poor settings: selective detection of endogenous HIV-specific IgA, 2008–2009.

Anderson J, Hope T, **Tachedjian G**. \$518,250. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Project Grant. Mechanisms underlying APOBEC3G restriction of HIV-1, 2008–2010.

Centre for International Health with Centre for Population Health. AUD\$379,730. AusAID. Mapping sexual and social networks of men who have sex with both men and women in Laos and Vietnam, countries with concentrated HIV epidemics.

Centre for International Health. \$1,000,000. AusAID funded HIV Cooperation Program for Indonesia with GRM, 2008–2013.

Centre for International Health. \$1,040,000. AusAID. AusAID Cyclone Nargis Relief – Local Resource Centre for Community based responses. Myanmar.

Centre for International Health. \$10,000. South Barkly Grow Well Project Consultancy. Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation. Australia.

Centre for International Health. \$112,750. AusAID. Investigating the role of drug & alcohol use in the spread of HIV & other STIs in Pacific, 2008–2009.

Centre for International Health. \$118,635. JTAI. Fiji Health Sector Improvement Program – Immunisation coverage survey. Pacific.

Centre for International Health. \$14,583. SPC. Facilitate two sub-regional meetings for national & regional stakeholders. Pacific.

Centre for International Health. \$15,300. AIHI, University of Melbourne. HIV AIDS Regional Project (HAARP). Review & updating of the law enforcement & advocacy manuals.

Centre for International Health. \$15,904. WHO. Development of training module on medicines supply & management for Pacific health workers.

Centre for International Health. \$150,870. Oxiana Lane Xang Minerals Ltd (LXML). Mother and Child Health Project. Laos, 2008–2011.

Centre for International Health. \$16,835. MAC. Technical assistance for NSEP Capacity Building & Peer Education Workshop. Malaysia.

Centre for International Health. \$19,589. University Malaya. Design mission & delivery of professional development training for Prisons & AADK. Malaysia.

Centre for International Health. \$2,710,792. AusAID. Tingim Laip project, Papua New Guinea.

Centre for International Health. \$200,000. AusAID. Myanmar Local Resource Centre.

Centre for International Health. \$209,570. AusAID. Australian Leadership Awards (ALA) Fellowships funding support.

Centre for International Health. \$27,000. World Vision Australia. Needs Assessment for HIV Mainstreaming in AusAID's Indonesia Program.

Centre for International Health. \$29,348. WHO PNG. Improving Immunisation Service Delivery at the Aid Post level in PNG.

Centre for International Health. \$29,629. UNFPA. Female peer education on sexual & reproductive health. Laos.

Centre for International Health. \$30,000. Mott MacDonald (HLSP). HIV AIDS Asian Regional Project (HAARP) inputs EAP Site Assessment Mission.

Centre for International Health. \$31,250. UNAIDS Pacific. Review & Synthesis of data to describe current epidemic. Pacific.

Centre for International Health. \$32,810. JTAI. HIV Training to the PNG-Australia HIV/AIDS Program. Papua New Guinea.

Centre for International Health. \$36,000. PNG IMR. Final report for the research findings on the enhancing pregnancy outcomes.

Centre for International Health. \$36,000. UNODC. Desk review & field visits for HIV/AIDS control in closed settings & drug users. China, 2008–2009.

Centre for International Health. \$36,340. PACT. Young Male Peer Education under the PACT Community REACH Program, Laos.

Centre for International Health. \$37,656. Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations. Support for Gay, Transgender & other men who have sex with men Working Group & Network. Indonesia.

Centre for International Health. \$391,569. AusAID. APAC Reducing Community Vulnerability to HIV and AIDS. Africa, 2008–2009.

Centre for International Health. \$41,885. Dutch Embassy, Bangkok. Female peer education on sexual & reproductive health. Laos.

Centre for International Health. \$533,333. RTI – USAID Health Policy Initiative, 2008–2010.

- Centre for International Health.** \$56,250. ADB. Provide advice & guidance on MPWT in developing an HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan plus an Action Plan for awareness. Laos.
- Centre for International Health.** \$60,000. Wheeler Foundation. Support of the Dove Club to undertake Peer Outreach Activities with IDU. Mekong Delta, 2008–2009.
- Centre for International Health.** \$64,000. Robert Christie Foundation. Grant for establishing Intl School for Development & Project Planning. India.
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- Gorry PR, Tachedjian G, Churchill M, Lewin SR.** \$140,000. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research ACH². Project Grant. In vitro assay for assessment of resistance to the CCR5 antagonist maraviroc, 2008–2009.
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- Hooker DJ, Cherry CL, Wesselingh SL.** \$164,500 (for 18 months). Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Research (ACH²). Project Grant. Measuring and monitoring apoptosis and antiretroviral therapy by merging real-time and ligation-mediated PCR, 2008–2009.
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- Power DA.** \$438,000. NHMRC Project Grant. The role of the lysosomal protein SCARB2 in kidney disease, 2009–2011.
- Ramsland PA, Wines BD.** \$462,750. NHMRC Project Grant. Bacterial evasion of IgA immunity, 2009–2011.

- Reeder J, Barry A.** \$370,500. NHMRC. Population genomics of *Plasmodium falciparum* surface antigen genes.
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COMMISSIONED REPORTS AND OTHER PUBLISHED MATERIAL

Aitken C, Fry T, Grahlmann L, Masters T. *Health perceptions of home-grown tobacco (chop-chop) smokers*. Nicotine and Tobacco Research 2008; 10(3):413–416.

Aitken C, Winter R. *Review of New Zealand's Needle Exchange Programme*. Wellington. Final Report. New Zealand Ministry of Health. Melbourne.

Apostolopoulos V, Weiner D, Gong J. Editorial. *Cancer vaccines – methods for inducing immunity*. Expert Review of Vaccines, 2008, 7:861–862.

Apostolopoulos V. Guest Editor: *Expert Reviews of Vaccines*. Special Focus issue on Cancer Vaccines. Vol. 7 No. 7, September, 2008.

Apostolopoulos V. Journal Cover image. Human Vaccines, Vol. 4, No. 6 (November/December) 2008. *Structure of a non-canonical peptide [a glycopeptide derived from the tumour associated peptide MUC1-8], which utilises the GalNAc residue for high affinity binding from publication Apostolopoulos et al 2008, 4(6):400–409.*

Coghlan B, Gouillou M, van Gemert C, Hocking J, Spelman T, Watson-Jones R, Xue B. *HIV in the Pacific: summary of surveillance data, 1984–2007*. Commissioned by UNAIDS for the Commission on AIDS in the Pacific.

Dorabjee J. *Evaluation of the Harm Reduction Program, Xinjiang HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Project, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, PR China*.

Dorabjee J. *Review of the AusAID funded Xinjiang HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care Project, Needle Syringe Program (NSP) in Urumqi and Yining, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, PR China*.

Dorabjee J. *Review of World Vision Uzbekistan's HIV/AIDS Prevention among IDUs program in Tashkent, Uzbekistan*.

Dwyer R, **Horyniak D**, **Dietze P**, **Aitken C**, **Higgs P**. *People who drink in Public Spaces in the Footscray CBD*. Report to Maribyrnong Council. Melbourne.

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El-Hayek C, **Horyniak D**. *Targeted Report 2 – New HIV Diagnoses and People Living With HIV in Victoria: Females and males without a history of male-to-male-sex*. DHS Victoria. Melbourne.

Gold J, **Lim M**. *Using SMS for Health Promotion*. Yikes (Newsletter of the Youth Affairs Council of Victoria) May 2008; 6(2): 28–29.

Goller J, **Lim M**, **Horyniak D**, **Aitken C**, **Stoové M**, Samuel King J, Brown J, Fairley C, Higgins N, **Hellard M**. *Understanding the epidemiology of hepatitis C in Victoria: review of current surveillance mechanisms*. Poster. 2008.

Goller, J, **Winter R**, **Downing S**, **Aitken C**, **Hellard M**. *Evaluation of the Western Australian Aboriginal Sexual Health Strategy (2005–2008) and the WA HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Infection and Hepatitis C Action Plans 2006–2008*. Melbourne. Communicable Disease Control Directorate of the Western Australian Department of Health.

Hagarty C, **Otto B**, Young F. *Mapping donor support for HIV programming for men who have sex with men in the Greater Mekong Subregion*. USAID Health Policy Initiative.

Higgs P, **Aitken C**, **Hellard M**, Maher L. *How do some people manage to avoid hepatitis C infection despite injecting for many years?* Good Liver, 2008; Summer: 8–9.

Higgs P. *From complexity to stability*. Synergy No. 2. (Co-morbidity 1) 2008; 17.

Higgs P. *Rethinking vulnerability and gender relations: Women in relationships with HIV-positive men (review)*. ASHM Journal Club 2008; 17 (3):5–7.

Higgs P. *Thinking globally: 19th conference on reduction of drug related harm*. Good Liver 2008; Spring: 13.

Horyniak D, **Lim M**, **Yohannes K**. *HIV Surveillance in Victoria, 1983–2007: A Special Report*. Report to the Department of Human Services, Victoria. Melbourne.

Horyniak D, **Pedrana A**, **Hellard M**, **Aitken C**. *Feeling fruity: Risk behaviours and blood borne virus exposure among transient workers in rural Victoria*. ANEX Bulletin 2008; 6(2):3.

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Katsara M, Yuriev E, **Ramsland P**, Deraos G, Matsoukas J, **Apostolopoulos V**. *Development of a vaccine against Multiple Sclerosis*. Journal of Peptide Science, 2008, 14, 20–20 (P22100–48).

Lenton E, White B, **Higgs P**, **Aitken C**, **Hellard M**. *Supporting young people at risk of hepatitis C infection: A pilot of an individualised, structured intervention to reduce the negative health consequences for young people who have had contact with the criminal justice system*. Report to the Department of Human Services, Victoria. Melbourne.

Loveland BE, Cebon J. *Cancer exploiting the complement system: a clue or an exception?* *Nat Immunol* 2008;9:1205–06.

Nielsen, S, Bruno, R, Caruthers, S, Fischer, J, Fry, C, Lintzeris, N, **Stoové, M**. *Investigation of pharmaceutical misuse among drug treatment clients. Report to the Commonwealth Government Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy and the Victorian Department of Human Services*. Melbourne.

Parnell BW. *Infrastructure, mobility and HIV: selected multisectoral action*. UNDP.

Perret J, Pouniotis DS, McDonald C, **Apostolopoulos V**. *T helper-17 cell responses in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: A pilot study*. *Respirology*, 2008, 13: Supp2: A51.

Pouniotis DS, **Apostolopoulos V**, **Pietersz GA**. *Delivery of tumor antigens using a membrane translocating peptide to dendritic cells induces cellular and protective immune responses*. *Cancer Immunology Immunotherapy*, 2008, 57:S1–S53 (P032).

Power R, **Winter R**, **Liddell S**, Wain D. *Local Solutions to Public Injecting*, DHS Victoria.

Power R, Wodak A. *Review and evaluation of harm reduction program in Malaysia*, WHO Commissioned Report.

Sheng KC, **Kalkanidis M**, **Pietersz GA**, Pouniotis DS, **Esparon S**, **Tang CK**, **Apostolopoulos V**. *A novel mannose-based antigen delivery system potentiates immunogenicity via specific DC subtypes and TLR4 functionality*. *Cancer Immunology Immunotherapy*, 2008, 57:S1–S53 (P139).

Wright EJ, Brew BJ. *Progressive Multifocal Meukoencephalopathy*. In: *HIV Management in Australasia: a guide for clinical care*. Edited by Hoy and Lewin. Second edition Published by the Australasian Society of HIV Medicine, 2008.

Wright EJ, **Cherry CL**, Brew BJ. *Neurological disorders in HIV/AIDS*. In: *HIV Management in Australasia: a guide for clinical care*. Edited by Hoy and Lewin. Second edition Published by the Australasian Society of HIV Medicine, 2008.

Yohannes K, **Horyniak D**. *HIV/AIDS Update*. Victorian Infectious Diseases Bulletin March 2008; 11(1).

Yohannes K, **Horyniak D**. *HIV/AIDS Update*. Victorian Infectious Diseases Bulletin June 2008; 11(2).

Presentations

INVITED LECTURES AND SEMINARS

International

Anderson D. *Development of a Rapid, point-of care immunochromatographic test for measurement of CD4 T-cells*. CD4 Initiative meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

Anderson D. *Development of a Rapid, point-of care immunochromatographic test for measurement of CD4 T-cells*. CD4 Initiative meeting and MSF Open Day, Geneva, Switzerland.

Crabb B. *Early events mediating invasion into erythrocytes by the malaria parasite*. Berard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine, Hamburg University.

Crabb B. Johns Hopkins Research Institute International Malaria Conference, Baltimore, USA.

Crabb B. Keystone Symposium on Pathogenesis and Control of Emerging Infections and Drug Resistant Organisms, Thailand.

Crabb B. *New Insights into Merozoite Invasion and Post-Invasion Events*. Keystone Symposium on Malaria: Immunology, Pathogenesis & Vaccine Perspectives, Alpbach, Austria.

Crabb B. *New Insights into RBC invasion by P. falciparum merozoites*. Nanyang Technical University, Singapore.

Crabb B. *RBC invasion & malaria vaccine development*. Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research – 40th Anniversary Colloquium.

Dietze P. *Liquor licensing in Melbourne/Victoria: Creating a sophisticated café culture or boozy cesspit?* The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK.

Dietze P. *Randomised Controlled Trial Comparing The Effectiveness and Safety of Intranasal and Intramuscular Naloxone For The Treatment Of Heroin Overdose*, National Addiction Centre, Maudsley Hospital, Kings College. London, UK.

Dietze P. *Randomised Controlled Trial Comparing The Effectiveness and Safety of Intranasal and Intramuscular Naloxone For The Treatment Of Heroin Overdose*, Harm Reduction Coalition, New York City, USA.

Gerondakis S. RIKEN Centre, Tskuba City, Japan. October 2008.

Gerondakis S. Vaccine Centre, Emory University, Georgia. February 2008.

Hellard M. *The role of network studies in understanding hepatitis C transmission and immunovirology*. The Networks 2 Study – what we have learnt thus far (invited speaker), GGD 2008. Amsterdam.

Katsara M. *Linear/cyclic mutant analogues of self antigens (MBP and PLP) manipulate immune responses in mice*. 9th International Conference in Medicinal Chemistry: Drug Discovery and Design. University of Patras, Greece. March 2008.

Leeansyah E. *The effect of HIV-1 infection on Fcγ receptor signalling and function*. Partners AIDS Center, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School.

Parnell BW. *HIV national strategic planning in South East Asia and the Pacific*. World Bank AIDS Strategy and Action Plan lead consultants' meeting. July 2008. Washington, USA.

Parnell BW. *Mobility and HIV in South East Asia*. UNDP consultation: a new agenda for mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in low prevalence environments. November 2008. New Delhi, India.

Tachedjian G. *Activity of priostar based microbicides*. NIH Face to Face Meeting, New Delhi, India.

Tachedjian G. *The tale of two suppressors that restore HIV-1 reverse transcriptase dimerization*. University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, Pittsburgh, PA. USA.

Toole M. *35 years in international health: war, sex, and weaning foods*. Boston Medical Centre. March 2008. Boston, USA.

Toole M. *Global progress in child health*. Medical University of South Carolina. March 2008. Charleston, USA.

Toole M. *Health emergencies in developing countries*. Kyushu International Nursing University. March 2008. Fukuoka, Japan.

Xing P-X. *Antibody-based immunotherapy*, Jiang Hang University, China, March 2008.

National

Aitken C. *A social network approach to hepatitis C virus epidemiology in Melbourne*. Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre. Melbourne, Australia.

Aitken C. *Social network methods in hepatitis C virus epidemiology*. Nossal Institute for Global Health. 27 October 2008. Melbourne.

Anderson JL. *Defining TRIM5α and APOBEC3G host cell protein restrictions of HIV-1*. Seminar Series, Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health, Melbourne.

Anderson JL. *Viruses & Host Cell Interactions. Restriction of retroviruses by cellular TRIM5 proteins*. The Australian Society for Microbiology Conference, Melbourne.

Apostolopoulos V. Guest Lecture. Victoria University, Human Biomedical Sciences, 2nd Year Pathology Nursing Students, St Albans Campus, VIC Australia. Neoplasia (4 Lectures), August/September 2008.

Apostolopoulos V. Guest Speaker. Brimbank Central Rotary Club, *How far are we off a cancer vaccine?* Australia, May 2008.

Apostolopoulos V. Guest Speaker. Careers Week. *Achievement and Setting Goals* [Speech to Yr 10–12 students], St Johns College, Preston, Australia, August 2008.

- Apostolopoulos V.** Invited Guest Speaker, Address to Year 12 Students: *life after high school and achievement*. St Johns College, Preston, Australia, November 2008.
- Apostolopoulos V.** Special Guest Lecture (invited). The Ladies Probus Club of Jells Park, *Development of a vaccine against breast cancer*, Australia, June 2008.
- Apostolopoulos V.** Special Guest Lecture. The Williamstown-Point Gellibrand Ladies Probus Club, *Cancer research and development of cancer vaccines*, Williamstown, Australia, February 2008.
- Barry, A.** *Geographic variation of malaria surface antigens*. Monash University, Department of Microbiology Sept 2008, Melbourne.
- Cherry CL.** *HIV-associated neuropathy*. Medical Research Foundation Seminar Series, University of Western Australia, Perth.
- Cherry CL.** *Neuropathy in HIV: an old problem revisited*. University of Melbourne Centre for Neurosciences Post-graduate Seminar Series, Melbourne.
- Crabb B.** *Molecular Approaches to Malaria 2008*. Lorne, Victoria.
- Crabb B.** *Pathogenesis and Control of Emerging Infections and Drug Resistant Organisms*. Department of Immunology, Monash University. 2008. Melbourne.
- Crabb B.** Walter & Eliza Hall Institute. 2008, Melbourne.
- Dietze P.** *Recent developments in the use of naloxone for the reversal of opioid overdose: Results of a randomised controlled trial of intranasal naloxone and implications for the development of peer-distribution programs*. National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research. August, 2008, Sydney.
- Dietze P.** *The effects of cannabis, alone and in combination with alcohol, on the simulated driving of experienced and inexperienced drivers*. Victorian Substance Use Research Forum series. August 2008, Melbourne.
- Drummer HE.** HCV Vaccine Initiative Workshop, Sydney.
- French RA.** *Immune defenses against bacterial infections*. Monash University, 3rd year Immunology lecture, May 2008.
- French RA.** *Induced innate immune responses*. Monash University, 3rd year Immunology lecture, March 2008.
- Gorry PR.** *Adaptive changes in CCR5-restricted HIV-1 affecting entry inhibitor potency*. Invited symposium presentation, Australian Society for HIV Medicine Conference, Perth.
- Gorry PR.** *Heterogeneity in CCR5-restricted HIV phenotypes affecting pathogenicity and sensitivity to HIV entry inhibitors*. Plenary Lecture., 25th Australian National Serology Reference Laboratory Workshop on Serology, Melbourne.
- Gorry PR.** *Heterogeneity in primary R5 HIV-1 gp120 structures affecting CD4 and CCR5 interactions and exposure of neutralising antibody epitopes*. Plenary Lecture, Australian Society for HIV Medicine Conference, Perth.
- Gorry PR.** *Tissue-specific adaptive changes in V3 of gp120 enables persistence of Maraviroc-sensitive R5X4 HIV-1 in brain*. Invited symposium presentation, Australian Society for HIV Medicine Conference, Perth.
- Gowans EJ.** *Flavivirus Vaccines-Progress and developments*. Asia Pacific International Conference on Travel Medicine Conference, Melbourne.
- Gowans EJ.** *Immunotherapy to treat persistent infection with hepatitis C virus*. Sir Mark Oliphant Conferences-International Frontiers of Science and Technology. Vaccine and Immunotherapy Technologies, Canberra.
- Gowans EJ.** *Vaccine and antiviral approaches to prevent HCV infection*. Women's and Children's Health Research Institute, Adelaide.
- Grgacic EVL.** *The Duck Hepatitis B Virus Model: Studies in Assembly, Entry and Vaccine Technology Department*, Microbiology Monash University, Melbourne.
- Hellard M.** *Doin' "it" Swiss*. The implications of the Swiss Statement. ASHM. 2008, Melbourne.
- Hellard M.** *Lessons from the field; working with IDUs to understand HCV transmission*. University of Melbourne, Public Health Symposium. 2008, Melbourne.
- Hellard M.** *The Networks 2 Study – using a social network approach to understand hepatitis C transmission and immunity in injecting drug users*. National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research. 2008, Sydney.
- Hellard M.** *The Swiss Statement – The evidence for, against and the public health implications*. ASHM. 2008, Sydney.
- Hellard M.** *Turning Point Fitzroy. A social network approach to hepatitis C virus epidemiology in Melbourne*. Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre Talking Point. 31 June, 2008. Melbourne.
- Jenkinson R, Quinn B.** *Amphetamine Type Stimulant Use and Associated Outcomes*. Amphetamine Type Stimulant (ATS) Treatment Approaches Study Tour. July 2008, Melbourne.
- Kalkanidis M.** *Delivered Medicinal Chemistry lectures to 2nd year undergraduate students*, Chemistry Department, La Trobe University, Melbourne, July – November 2008.
- Kalkanidis M.** *Novel Cancer Vaccines Based on Tumour Antigens*, 3rd year undergraduate students, Chemistry Department, La Trobe University, Melbourne, October 2008.
- Kong F.** *Ecstasy and Related Drugs Reporting System (EDRS) Preliminary Results And Changes*. Australian National Council on Drugs (ANCD). 27th–28th November 2008, Melbourne.
- Lim M.** *Sexual Health Risks. Harm Reduction: controlling HIV in drug users*. Burnet Institute, in conjunction with the Nossal Institute for Global Health, University of Melbourne. November 17, 2008, Melbourne.
- Lim M.** *Surveillance of Drug Use at a Music Festival*. Victorian Substance Use Research Forum. September 26, 2008, Melbourne.
- Natoli L** *Early childhood feeding and nutrition*. University of Melbourne, International Child Health course, 2008, Melbourne, Australia.
- Natoli L.** *Breast feeding*. University of Melbourne, International Child Health course, 2008, Melbourne, Australia.
- Perret J.** *Systemic cytokines in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD): A pilot study*. Victorian Branch: Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand, Melbourne October, 2008.
- Power DA.** *The lysosomal pathway to proteinuria*. Florence May McCredie Symposium, Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, September 2008.
- Stoové, M.** *HIV and Hepatitis C Epidemiology*. Alfred Hospital Education and Resource Centre as part of Pre and Post HIV/Hep C Test Counselling Course, 2008, Melbourne.
- Tachedjian G.** *Antivirals and Drug Resistance. Drug resistance mutations in the C-terminal domains of the HIV reverse transcriptase*. The Australian Society for Microbiology Conference, Melbourne.
- Tachedjian G.** *Drug resistance mutations in the HIV reverse transcriptase*. Centre for Immunology Research Seminar Series, National Centre for Epidemiology and Clinical Research, Darlinghurst, NSW.
- Tachedjian G.** *Drug resistance mutations in the HIV reverse transcriptase connection domain*. Department of Microbiology and Immunology Seminar Series, University of Melbourne, Melbourne.
- Tachedjian G.** *Drug resistance mutations in the HIV reverse transcriptase*. Monash Infectious Diseases Society, Alfred ID Unit, Melbourne.
- Tachedjian G.** *HIV-1 reverse transcriptase: critical roles in early and late stages of virus replication*. Seminar Series, Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health, Melbourne.
- Tachedjian G.** *Preclinical Development of Microbicides*. Microbicides and HIV Biomedical Prevention Symposium: Gender and Vulnerability, University of Sydney.
- Tachedjian G.** *Role of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase dimerization in viral replication*. Institute for Molecular Bioscience, The University of Queensland, St Lucia, Queensland.

Toole M. *HIV Prevention: thinking outside the boxes.* Fenner Lecture. May 2008. Melbourne, Australia.

Wines BD. *The myeloid IgA-receptor (FcaRI) and the staphylococcal decoy protein SSL7.* Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Melbourne University, April 2008.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

International

Allison WE, **Wright E**, Schaefer M, Lal L, Smith J, Kaldor J. *A survey of paediatric diagnostic, treatment and support services for HIV infection in the Asia Pacific region.* World AIDS Conference, IAS, Mexico City.

Anderson D. CD4 Initiative Investigators Meeting, New Orleans.

Anderson D. CD4 Initiative Investigators Meeting, Open Day and Steering Committee meeting, Geneva.

Anderson D. Clinical Investigators Meeting, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Rhode Island.

Anderson D. *Development of a Rapid, point-of care immunochromatographic test for measurement of CD4 T-cells.* Doris Duke Innovations in Clinical Research Investigators meeting, Newport, Rhode Island, USA.

Apostolopoulos V. *Mannosylated antigens induces potent immune responses in vivo.* 9th International Conference in Medicinal Chemistry. Drug Discovery and Design, Conference. Department of Chemistry and Pharmacology, University of Patras, Greece, March 2008. Invited Plenary Lecture.

Apostolopoulos V. *Peptide based vaccines: A structural and immunological perspective.* 1st International Conference on Drug Design & Discovery, Dubai, UAE. February 2008. Invited Keynote Speaker.

Barry A. *Extensive population subdivision of the genes encoding twelve leading malaria vaccine candidates.* Molecular Epidemiology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases IX. October, 2008. Irvine, California.

Cendron A. *Crystallization studies of a human IgG receptor and Fab fragments from anti-receptor antibodies.* 12th International School & Conference on the Crystallisation of Biological Macromolecules. Cancun, Mexico, May 2008.

Cherry CL. *Managing antiretroviral drug toxicities. (Invited plenary lecture.)* Annual meeting of the Indonesian Society for Physicians Working with HIV/AIDS, Jakarta.

Crowe SM. Invited Plenary Speaker: HIV Congress 2008. *Low cost viral load testing in resource constrained countries.* Bombay, India.

Crowe SM. Invited Speaker: 22nd Conference of the European Macrophage and Dendritic Cell Society, *Role of monocytes in HIV pathogenesis.* Brescia, Italy.

Crowe SM. Invited Speaker: *Optimizing HIV monitoring technologies in South East Europe.* Skopje, Macedonia.

Crowe SM. Invited Symposium Speaker: PITTCON '2008 (Pittsburgh Conference). *HIV/AIDS-related Diagnostics for Resource-limited Countries. Towards a point-of-care viral load assay in resource-poor countries.* New Orleans.

De Souza P, Whitney R, Lai P, Uaquiço A. *Sustainable civil society capacity: strengthening technical and institutional capacity of local NGOs in Manica/Mozambique.* XVII International AIDS Conference 3–8 August 2008, Mexico City, Mexico.

Dorabjee J. Debate: *This house believes that methadone maintenance therapy only prolongs addiction and abstinence is the only cure.* HAARP Consultation and Coordination Forum (HCCF) Meeting, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. October 2008.

Dorabjee J. *Drug Policies – more harm than good.* Parliamentarians, Policy Makers & Drug User Forum: The 1st Asian Consultation on the Prevention of HIV related to Drug Use. January 2008, Goa, India.

Dorabjee J. *Lessons learnt from the Asia Regional HIV/AIDS Program.* HAARP Consultation and Coordination Forum (HCCF) Meeting. Response Beyond Borders – the 1st Asian Consultation on the prevention of HIV related to Drug Use. January 2008, Goa, India.

Dorabjee J. *Outcomes of the 1st Asian Consultation on the Prevention of HIV related to Drug Use.* United Nations Regional Task Force on Injecting Drug Use and HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific. March 2008, Thailand.

Dorabjee J. *The importance of Cross Border Interventions.* HAARP Consultation and Coordination Forum (HCCF) Meeting. October 2008, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Ffrench RA. *Heterosubtypic T cell responses against avian influenza H5 HA are frequently detected in individuals previously infected with human influenza strains.* International Congress of Virology, Istanbul, Turkey, August 2008

Gerondakis S. Congress of the Federation of Immunological Societies of Asia-Oceania (FIMSA), Taiwan, October 2008. Invited speaker.

Gerondakis S. Keystone Symposia, NF- κ B. Banff. Alberta, Canada. February 2008. Invited Plenary Speaker.

Greengrass V, Plate M, Steele P, Denholm J, Cherry CL, Morris L, Crowe SM. *Evaluation of the new version 3 Cavid ExaVir™ Load quantitative HIV RT load kit as an alternative HIV viral load monitoring assay for use in Melbourne, Australia.* 17th International AIDS Conference, Mexico City.

Hellard M. *Acute and Early Chronic HCV Treatment Responses within a Predominantly Injecting Drug User Population.* The Australian Trial in Acute Hepatitis C International Harm Reduction Conference, 2008 Barcelona.

Hogarth PM. *Differences in the organisation of Fc receptors regulate the interaction with Ig and are critical in determining ITAM based signaling outcomes.* FASEB Summer Research Conference 'Immunoreceptors', New Haven, USA, August 2008. Invited speaker.

Power DA. *The lysosomal pathway to proteinuria.* Podocyte 2008 Meeting, Toronto, Canada, June 2008. Invited Speaker.

Power R. *A new paradigm for harm reduction.* Response Beyond Borders. January 2008, Goa, India.

Power R. *The Pacific Drug and Alcohol Research Network.* International Harm Reduction Conference, (on behalf of PDARN). May 2008, Barcelona, Spain.

Reeder J. Opening Address, PNG Institute of Medical Research 40th Anniversary Colloquium 2008. Goroka, PNG.

Reeder, J. Invited Moderator, *Understanding the genetic basis to infectious diseases.* ASTMH 2008. New Orleans, USA

Snell B. *Pharmaceuticals Activities in Pacific Island Countries.* Regional Consultation Health Action International, August 29, 2008, Bangkok, Thailand.

Snell B. *Strengthening human resources in medicines supply and management: Role of pharmacy workforce in medicines supply management; training module on medicines supply management.* Workshop on Pharmaceutical Policies and Access to Essential Medicines for Pacific Island Countries. 25–27 August 2008, Nadi, Fiji.

Tannock G. Symposium on Molecular Biology, Institute for Biotechnology, Hanoi Vietnam.

Viethier PTK, McCaffrey K, Quinn C, Owczarek C, Hardy M, Walker L, Fabri L, Scotney P, Poubourios P, Drummer HE. *Evaluation of a modified E2661 glycoprotein core domain as a HCV vaccine candidate.* 15th International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus & Related Viruses, San Antonio.

Wong C, Liu Y, **Yip J**, Wee JL, Oates L, Beauchemin N, **Jackson DE.** *CEACAM1 is a negative regulator of platelet-collagen interactions and thrombus growth in vivo.* (Poster and short oral presentation). Gordon Research Conference, Waterville Valley, USA. July 2008.

Xing P-X. *Immunotherapy of cancer based on monoclonal antibody to Cripto.* Annual Conference of Hubei Anti-Cancer Society, China, March 2008. Invited Speaker.

Yap SH, Radzio J, Sluis-Cremer N, Tachedjian G. *N348I in the connection domain of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase confers zidovudine/NNRTI dual resistance*. 15th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, Boston, USA.

National

Aitken C, Lewis J, Hocking J, Bowden D, **Hellard M**. *Does information about drug users' social networks predict exposure to the hepatitis c virus?* 6th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference, 20–22 October 2008. Brisbane.

Aitken C, Lewis J, Tracy S, **Spelman T**, Bowden D, Bharadwaj M, **Drummer H**, **Hellard M**. *High incidence of hepatitis c virus re-infection in a cohort of injecting drug users*. 6th Australasian. Viral Hepatitis Conference, 20–22 October 2008. Brisbane.

Anderson D. Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference, Brisbane; Australian Centre for Hepatitis and HIV Virology, Adelaide.

Anderson D. *Development of a Rapid, point-of-care immunochromatographic test for measurement of CD4 T-cells*. Festschrift for Chris Burrell, Adelaide.

Anderson D. *Interactions of hepatitis viruses with polarized epithelia (hepatocytes)*. 6th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference, Brisbane.

Anderson D. *Novel virus-like particle (VLP) vaccines based on duck hepatitis B virus*. 6th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference, Brisbane.

Anderson D. *Novel virus-like particle (VLP) vaccines based on duck hepatitis B virus*. Australian Society for Microbiology, Melbourne.

Anderson D. *The vaccine development pathway*. UNSW Hepatitis C vaccine initiative, Sydney.

Anderson JL, Tachedjian G, Hope TJ. *APOBEC3G restricts early HIV-1 replication primarily in the cytoplasm of target cells*. 4th Annual Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research Workshop. Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Apostolopoulos V. *Orphan vaccines – The MUC1 Vaccine*. 2nd Australasian vaccines and immunotherapeutics development (AVID) meeting. Surfers Paradise, Queensland, May 2008. Invited Speaker.

Bellamy-McIntyre A, Drummer HE, Pombourios P. *A functional link between the CD4 binding domain of gp120 and the MPER of gp41 in HIV-1 ACH²*. 4th National Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Boo I, te Wierek K, Pombourios P, Drummer HE. *Role of Histidine Residues in HCV E2 in viral entry*. ACH² 4th National Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Brooks N, Pouniotis DS, **Apostolopoulos V**, **Pietersz GA**. *Delivery of multiple tumour epitopes by membrane translocating peptides*. Tumour Immunology Workshop, 38th Australasian Society for Immunology Canberra, December 2008.

Cherry CL, Affandi JS, Imran D, Yuniastuti E, Smyth K, Vanar S, Price P, Kamarulzaman A. *Predicting neuropathy risk before stavudine prescription: an algorithm for minimizing neurotoxicity in resource-limited settings*. Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Annual Meeting, Perth.

Cherry CL, Affandi JS, Yuniastuti E, Imran D, Price P. *TNFA genotype, patient height and age combine to predict risk of antiretroviral toxic neuropathy in HIV patients receiving stavudine*. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Research Annual Meeting, Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Chew C, Price P, Affandi JS, Valente F, Imran D, Kamarulzaman A, Tan HY, **Cherry CL**. *Characterisation of the TNF block haplotypes and genotypes that predict an individual's risk of stavudine-associated sensory neuropathy*. Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Annual Meeting, Perth.

Cowieson NP, Hijnen M, Wilce J, Wilce M, Mak J. *Structural Analysis of the HIV Gag Polyprotein During Proteolytic Processing*. ComBio, Canberra.

Crowe SM. Invited symposium speaker: *Clinical viral load testing in resource poor settings*. 2008 Australian Society for Microbiology Conference, Melbourne.

Crowe SM. *Microbes Sans Frontiers*. Priscilla Kincaid-Smith Oration and Medal, The Royal Australasian College of Physicians Congress, Adelaide.

da Fonseca Pereira C, Ellenberg P, Mak J. *Development of a Novel System to Dissect the Early Steps of HIV Infection*. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²) Annual Meeting, Adelaide.

Dean J, Boo I, Talbot G, Pombourios P, Drummer H. *Fusion activation triggers of Hepatitis C Virus envelope glycoproteins E1 and E2: potential role for thiol disulfide isomerization*. ACH² 4th National Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Dowling D, Nasr-Esfahani S, Tan CH, O'Brien K, Howard KL, Jans DA, Purcell DF, Stoltzfus CM, **Sonza S**. *HIV-1 infection changes the balance of cellular splicing factors that regulate alternative viral splicing and virus production in macrophages*. 4th Annual Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research Workshop. Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Flynn JK, White P, Grebely J, Kaldor J, **Hellard M**, Dore G, Lloyd AR, **Ffrench RA**. *Immunity to Acute Hepatitis C and the Influence of Early Therapy*. 6th Australian Viral Hepatitis Conference, Brisbane, Australia, 20th –22nd October 2008. Centre for Immunology, Centre for Population Health.

Gerondakis S. *Innate Sculpting of Adaptive Immunity*. Hamilton Island, April 2008. Invited Speaker.

Goller J, Guy R, Lim M Gold J, Leslie, D, BK Tee, Roth N, Fairley C, Higgins N, **Hellard M**. *HIV, syphilis and chlamydia in MSM in Victoria: risk behaviour and prevalence at clinic Sentinel surveillance sites*. ASHM conference 17–20 December 2008. Perth.

Goller, J. *Syphilis prevalence in Victoria: increased risk in HIV positive men who have sex with men*, (on behalf of the Victorian Primary Care Network for Sentinel Surveillance on BBVs and STIs), Population Health Conference, 2008. Brisbane.

Gray L, Churchill M, Cowley D, Sterjovski J, Ellett E, Saksena N, Pombourios P, Wesselingh S, Gabuzda D, Gorry PR. *Tissue-specific adaptive changes in R5X4 HIV-1 Env variants compartmentalized in brain and lymphoid tissues of individuals with AIDS*. 4th National Scientific Workshop of the Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²), Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Greengrass V, Plate M, Steele P, Denholm J, Morris L, Crowe SM. *Evaluation of the new version 3 Cavid ExaVir™ Load quantitative HIV RT load kit as an alternative HIV Viral Load monitoring assay for use in both resource-constrained and developed countries*. Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM), 20th Annual Conference, Perth.

Greengrass V, **Plate M**, Steele P, Denholm J, Morris L, Crowe SM. *Evaluation of the new version 3 Cavid ExaVir™ Load quantitative HIV RT load kit as an alternative HIV viral load monitoring assay for use in both resource-constrained and developed countries*. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²), 4th Annual Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Handoko Y, **Grgacic EVL**. *Role of the endosomal protease cathepin L in hepadnaviral entry*. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²), 4th Annual Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Hearps A, Plate M, Morris L, Greengrass V, Crowe SM. *Development of a low cost HIV genotyping assay to screen for drug resistance mutations using dried blood spot samples*. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²), 4th Annual Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Hellard M, Grebely J, Matthews G, Haber P, Yeung B, Mark P, Petoumenos K, van Beek I, McCaughan G, White P, **Ffrench R**, Rawlinson W, Lloyd A, Kaldor J, and Dore G on behalf of the ATACH Study Group. *Impact of illicit drug use on the response to therapy during treatment for acute and early chronic hepatitis C infection*, 6th Australasian. Viral Hepatitis Conference, 20–22 October 2008. Brisbane.

Hellard M, Matthews GV, Petoumenos K, Grebely J, Haber P, van Beek I, Day C, Mark P, McCaughan G, Rawlinson W, Lloyd A, Kaldor J, and Dore G on behalf of the ATACH Study Group. *Factors associated with uptake of treatment for acute and early chronic hepatitis C virus infection*, 6th Australasian. Viral Hepatitis Conference, 20–22 October 2008. Brisbane.

- Higgs P, Moneer S, Aitken C, Bharadwaj M, Maher L, Hellard M.** *Misclassification bias in a cohort of hepatitis C negative injectors*. 6th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference, 20–22 October 2008. Brisbane.
- Hijnen M, Cowieson NP, Wilce M, Mak J.** *Solution Structure and Functional Interactions of the Full Length HIV Gag Proteins*. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²) Annual Meeting, Adelaide.
- Hogarth PM.** *Cellular and molecular basis of FcR dependent antibody induced tissue destruction in induced and spontaneous autoimmune joint destruction*. Garvan Institute International Fellow Symposium, December 2008. Invited Speaker.
- Holmes W.** *A novel approach to antenatal risk assessment in very low HIV prevalence settings in resource-poor countries*. Oral presentation. ASHM Conference, September 2008. Perth, Australia.
- Hooker D, Wesselingh S, Cherry CL.** *Apoptosis is measurable by ligation-mediated polymerase chain reaction*. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Research Annual Meeting, Barossa Valley, South Australia.
- Hooker D, Wesselingh S, Cherry CL.** *Monitoring and understanding apoptosis in HIV patients by ligation-mediated polymerase chain reaction*. Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Annual Meeting, Perth.
- Jackson DE.** *Mechanisms of thrombus stability and growth*. AIMS National Meeting, Melbourne, Platelet Biology, October 2008. Invited Speaker.
- Jones KL, Roche M, Gantier M, Williams BRG, Mak J.** *Uracil DNA Glycosylase Is Poorly Expressed in the Natural Target Cells of HIV and Is Not Required for HIV Infection*. Australian Society for Microbiology Annual Meeting, Melbourne.
- Kong F.** *Is Khat an emerging practice among regular ecstasy users in Melbourne?* National Drug Trends Conference, 2008. Sydney.
- Lay C-S, Bellamy-McIntyre A, Talbo G, Drummer HE, Poubourios P.** *Terminal interactions in the HIV-1 gp41 trimer of hairpins*. ACH² 4th National Workshop. Barossa Valley, South Australia.
- Li S, Loveland BE, Gowans EJ.** *Regulatory T cells in HCV infection*. Australian Society for Immunology. Annual Meeting. Canberra.
- Lim M, Goller J, Horyniak D, Aitken C, Stoové M, Quinn B, Higgins N, Hellard M.** *Victoria's six hepatitis c surveillance mechanisms – strengths, weaknesses, costs and necessity*, 6th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference, 20–22 Oct 2008. Brisbane.
- Loveland BE.** *Models for Clinical Research*. Alfred Medical Research and Education Precinct (AMREP) – the Burnet Institute. Clinical Research Excellence (CRX08), Brisbane.
- Martyn J, Li S, **Gowans EJ.** *A novel baculovirus which targets IgG^R-positive cells*. ACH² Annual Meeting, Barossa Valley, Australia.
- McCaffrey K, Boo I, Vietheer P, Poubourios P, Drummer HE.** *Expression and characterization of Hepatitis C virus (HCV) envelope glycoprotein E2 core domains for crystallization trials*. ACH² 4th National Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.
- Peel T, McLean C, Cameron P, Hoy J, **Wright E.** *Steroid dependent cryptococcal immune restoration disease in an HIV positive patient*. 20th Annual Conference of the Australasian Society of HIV Medicine, Perth.
- Pietersz GA.** *Mannosylated dendrimer-modified antigens for immunotherapy*. 38th Australasian Society for Immunology, Canberra, December 2008.
- Power R, Winter R.** *Local Solutions to public injecting*. APSAD. November 2008. Sydney, Australia.
- Power R.** *Reproductive health interventions targeting adolescents in rural Zimbabwe*. Australian Society for HIV Medicine. September 2008. Perth, Australia.
- Ryan CE, Kama M, Darcy A, Aleksic E, Mirza, T, Chaudhary A, Rogers G, Crowe SM.** *The Molecular characterization of the HIV-1 Epidemic in Fiji*. Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM), 20th Annual Conference, Perth.
- Ryan CE, van Rooijen L, Steele P, Morris L, Plate M, Greengrass V, Crowe SM.** *The adaptation of the low cost Cavid ExaVir™ Load assay for the use with dried plasma spots to measure HIV-1 viral load in resource limited settings*. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²), 4th Annual Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.
- Sheng K-C, Kalkanidis M, Pouniotis D, Esparon S, Tang CK, Apostolopoulos V, Pietersz GA.** *Mannosylated dendrimer modified antigens for immunotherapy*. Australian Vaccines and Immunotherapeutics Development (AVID) Meeting. Gold Coast, Queensland, May 2008.
- Sheng K-C, Kalkanidis M, Pouniotis D, Wright MD, Pietersz GA, Apostolopoulos V.** *The adjuvanticity of a novel mannosylated antigen potentiates immune responses via toll-like receptor 4 modulated dendritic cell functionality*. Australian Vaccines and Immunotherapeutics Development (AVID) Meeting, Gold Coast, Queensland, May 2008.
- Sinclair A, **Winter R, Jatkar U, Higgs P, Aitken C.** *Were community concerns realized in the establishment of an NSP? Evidence, policy and practice*, APSAD Conference 23–26 November 2008. Sydney. Abstract 339, p67.
- Smyth RP, Schlub T, Davenport MP, Mak J.** *HIV Evolution and Its Regulation*. Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²) Annual Meeting, Adelaide.
- Stoové M, Jenkinson R, Hellard M.** *Local HIV information, testing and support (HITS) program: improving the capacity of general practitioners*. Australian Society for HIV Medicine Conference, 2008. Perth.
- Tachedjian G, Tyssen D, Moore K, Treble K, Zanin M, Gray L, Gorry P, Sterjovski J, Wesselingh S, Lowe M, Henderson S, Lewis G, Krippner G, McCarthy T, Paull J.** *In vitro activity of the dendrimer-based microbicide SPL7013*. 4th Annual Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research Workshop. Barossa Valley, South Australia.
- Tachedjian G.** *Antivirals and Drug Resistance. Drug resistance in the C-terminal domains of the HIV reverse transcriptase*. The Australian Society for Microbiology Conference, Melbourne.
- Tachedjian G.** *Drug resistance mutations in the HIV reverse transcriptase*, Centre for Immunology Research Seminar Series, National Centre for Epidemiology and Clinical Research, Darlinghurst, NSW.
- Tachedjian G.** *Preclinical Development of Microbicides. Microbicides and HIV Biomedical Prevention Symposium: Gender, Vulnerability*, University of Sydney, NSW.
- Tachedjian G.** *Role of HIV01 reverse transcriptase dimerization in viral replication*, Institute for Molecular Bioscience, The University of Queensland.
- TeWierak KT, McCaffrey K, Boo I, Poubourios P, Drummer HE.** *Hypervariable regions of E2 modulate E1E2 glycoprotein function*. ACH² 4th National Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.
- Toole M.** *Strengthening District and Community Health Services in Lao PDR*. World Health Day Forum. April 7, 2008. Melbourne, Australia.
- Toole M.** *Strengthening technical and organisational capacity of local NGOs in Manica province, Mozambique*. Australasian African Studies Conference. November 28, 2008. Melbourne, Australia.
- van de Waarsenburg S.** *Development of a Rapid Point of Care Test for Estimation of CD4+ T cell counts for use in Resource-Constrained settings*. Monash Infection and Immunity Network, Melbourne.
- van de Waarsenburg S.** *Development of a Rapid Point of Care Test for Estimation of CD4+ T cell counts for use in Resource-Constrained settings*. Australian Centre for Hepatitis and HIV Virology, Adelaide.
- Vietheer, PTK, McCaffrey K, Quinn C, Owczarek C, Hardy M, Walker L, Fabri L, Scotney P, Poubourios P, Drummer HE.** *Evaluation of modified E2₆₆₁ glycoprotein core domain as an HCV vaccine candidate*. ACH² 4th National Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.
- Wines B, Ramsland PA, Trist HM, Fraser JD, Hogarth PM.** *The interaction of human, rat and mouse IgA with the staphylococcal decoy protein SSL7 and the leukocyte IgA receptor*. 38th Australasian Society for Immunology, Canberra, December 2008.

Wong C, Liu Y, **Yip J**, Wee JL, Oates L, Beauchemin N, **Jackson DE**. Oral presentation, *CEACAM1 is a negative regulator of platelet-collagen interactions and thrombus growth in vivo*. Atherothrombosis IVBM Meeting, Melbourne, June 2008.

Yap SH, Radzio RJ, Sluis-Cremer N, Tachedjian G. *N348I in the connection domain of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase confers zidovudine/NNRTI dual resistance*. 4th Annual Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Research Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Aleksic E, Cox H, **Ryan C**, Globan M, Reiher B, Toatu T, O'Connor J, Crowe S. *Molecular Epidemiology of Mycobacterium tuberculosis in Kiribati*. Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM), 20th Annual Conference, Perth.

Benton K, Tin Aung Win. *HIV and sexual identity in Myanmar*. 3rd International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) Regional Conference in Asia 'Equality in Diversity Now!' 24–27 January 2008, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Brooks N, Pouniotis DS, **Apostolopoulos V, Pietersz GA**. *Delivery of multiple tumour epitopes by membrane translocating peptides*. 38th Australasian Society for Immunology, Canberra, December 2008.

Day S, Slaats I, **Sheng K-C, Apostolopoulos V**. *Functional characterisation of Muc1 on murine lymphocytes*. 38th Australasian Society for Immunology, Canberra, December 2008.

Deraos G, Chatzantoni K, Matsoukas M-T, **Katsara M**, Tselios T, Deraos S, Papathanasopoulos P, Vynios D, **Apostolopoulos V**, Mouzaki A, Matsoukas J. *Modifications of the myelin basic protein epitope MBP87-99 divert Th2 to Th1: immune responses in PBMC from MS patients*. 30th European Peptide Symposium (30EPS), Helsinki, Finland, September 2008.

Flynn J, Grgracic E, Anderson D, Ffrench R. *HCV E2 virus like particles stimulate maturation of human dendritic cells*. ISAC XXIV, Budapest, Hungary, 17–21 May 2008.

Flynn J, White P, Grebely J, **Hellard M**, Kaldor J, Dore G, Lloyd AR, **Ffrench RA**. *Preservation of effector T cell function in treated acute HCV subjects*. 15th International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses, Texas, USA, 5–9th October 2008. Centre for Immunology, Centre for Population Health.

Garcia M. *An immunochromatographic test for measurement of CD4 T-cells at point-of-care*. Rapid Diagnostics, Washington DC, USA.

Garcia M. *An immunochromatographic test for measurement of CD4 T-cells at point-of-care*. Alfred Research Week, Melbourne.

Gold J, Lim M, Aitken C, Hocking J, **Hellard M**. *SMS 2008: Expanding the use of Text Messages for Sexual Health Promotion to Young People*. Australasian Sexual Health Conference, September 2008. Perth.

Gold J, Lim M, Hocking J, **Aitken C**, Keogh L, Fairley C, Jordan L, Dixon H, Wakefield M, Ferrari G, Johnson E, **Hellard M**. *SMS 4 Health Promotion: Building the Evidence Base*. Adolescent Health, November 2008, Melbourne.

Gowans EJ, Roberts SK, Wall DM, Brown LE, Loveland BE, Hart D, Jackson DC. *Immunotherapy for HCV infection*. American Association for the Study of Liver Disease. Annual Meeting, San Francisco, USA.

Gray L, Churchill M, Cowley D, Sterjovski J, Ellett A, Saksena N, Poubourios P, Wesselingh S, Gabuzda D, Gorry PR. *Tissue-specific adaptive changes in R5X4 HIV-1 Env variants compartmentalized in brain and lymphoid tissues of individuals with AIDS*. 2nd Annual Monash Immunity & Infection Network, (MIIN). (2008) Young Investigators Symposium, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria.

Gray L, Churchill M, Cowley D, Sterjovski J, Ellett A, Saksena N, Poubourios P, Wesselingh S, Gabuzda D, Gorry PR. *Tissue-specific adaptive changes in R5X4 HIV-1 Env variants compartmentalized in brain and lymphoid tissues of individuals with AIDS*. 20th Alfred Week Research Poster Display, Alfred Hospital, Melbourne.

Gray L, Churchill M, Cowley D, Sterjovski J, Ellett E, Saksena N, Poubourios P, Wesselingh S, Gabuzda D, Gorry PR. *Tissue-specific adaptive changes in R5X4 HIV-1 Env variants compartmentalized in brain and lymphoid tissues of individuals with AIDS*. 15th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI), February Boston, MA, USA.

Grebely J, Matthews GV, White PA, Renkin M, **Flynn J, Ffrench R**, Kaldor J, **Hellard M**, Lloyd A, Dore GJ on behalf of the ATACH Study Group. *Incidence and risk factors for HCV reinfection and superinfection in individuals treated for acute/early chronic HCV infection*. 6th Viral Hepatitis Conference, Brisbane, October 2008. Centre for Immunology, Centre for Population Health.

Greengrass V, Plate M, Steele P, Denholm J, Morris L, Crowe SM. *Evaluation of the new version 3 Cavid ExaVir™ Load quantitative HIV RT load kit as an alternative HIV viral load monitoring assay for use in Melbourne*. XVII International AIDS Conference, Mexico City, Mexico.

Higgs P, Aitken C, Hellard M, Maher L. *Avoiding hepatitis C infection despite long term injecting: behavioural, social or immunological?* Australian Society of HIV Medicine 20th Annual Conference. September 2008, Perth.

Higgs P, Kefle Y, Hellard M, Maher L. *Factors influencing a self-limiting HIV outbreak among ethnic Vietnamese injecting drug users in Melbourne, Australia*. 19th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug-related Harm. May 2008, Barcelona.

Higgs P, Yohannes K, Hellard M, Maher L. *Self-limiting HIV outbreak among ethnic Vietnamese injecting drug users in Australia: A qualitative study*. XVII International AIDS Conference. August 2008, Mexico.

Horyniak D, Higgs P, Lewis J, **Winter R, Aitken C**. *An evaluation of a heroin overdose prevention and education campaign*. Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and Other Drugs (APSAD) Conference. 23rd–26th November 2008. Sydney.

Horyniak D, Higgs P, Lewis J, **Winter R, Aitken C**. *An evaluation of a heroin overdose prevention and education campaign*. Alfred Week Research Poster Display, Alfred Hospital. 20th–24th October, 2008, Melbourne.

Jenkinson R, Stoové M, Hellard M. *Local HIV Information, Testing and Support (HITS) Pilot Program: Improving the Capacity of General Practitioners (GPs)*. Population Health Congress. July 2008, Brisbane.

Katsara M, Yuriev E, **Ramsland P**, Deraos G, Matsoukas J, **Apostolopoulos V**. *Development of a vaccine against Multiple Sclerosis*. 30th European Peptide Symposium (30EPS), Helsinki, Finland, September, 2008.

Katsara M, Yuriev E, **Ramsland P**, Deraos G, Tselios T, Deraos S, Matsoukas J, **Apostolopoulos V**. *Linear/cyclic mutant analogues of self antigens (MBP and PLP) manipulate immune responses in mice*. 9th International Conference in Medicinal Chemistry: Drug Discovery and Design. University of Patras, Greece, March 2008.

Leeansyah E, Crowe SM, Jaworowski A. *Poster presentation: ITAM-signalling proteins expression in peripheral blood mononuclear cell populations of HIV-1-infected individuals*. Keystone Symposia in NK and NKT Cell Biology, Colorado, USA.

Leeansyah E, Paukovics G, Crowe S M, Jaworowski A. *The expression of ITAM-signalling proteins in peripheral blood mononuclear cell populations of HIV-1-infected individuals*. Monash Infection and Immunity Network Young Investigator Symposium, Melbourne.

Leeansyah E, Zhou J, Paukovics G, Crowe SM, Jaworowski A. *Decreased FcR-gamma Expression in NK cells Isolated from HIV-1-infected Individuals receiving antiretroviral therapy*. 11th Meeting of the Society for Natural Immunity, Fremantle, WA.

Li S, Loveland BE, Plebanski M, Floess S, Hamann A, Gaudieri S, Lucas A, Hellard M, Roberts S, Paukovics G, Aitken C, Barry S, Schofield L, Gowans EJ. *Understanding the role of HCV specific regulatory T cells*. 15th International on HCV and Related Viruses, San Antonio, USA.

Lim M, Goller J, Gold J, Samuel-King J, Brown J, Fairley C, Guy R, Henning D, Buchanan A, Hellard M. *Hepatitis C Sentinel Surveillance in Victoria*. Viral Hepatitis Conference, October 2008, Brisbane.

- Lim M, Goller J, Guy R, Hocking J, McNamee K, Gold J, Fairley C, Kelly N, Henning D, Hellard M.** *Trends in Chlamydia Testing and Risk Factors in Young People: Findings from the Sentinel Surveillance Network.* Adolescent Health November 2008. Melbourne.
- Lim M, Goller J, Guy R, Hocking J, McNamee K, Gold J, Fairley C, Kelly N, Henning D, Timms J, Hellard M.** *Trends in Chlamydia Prevalence, Testing and Risk Behaviours among Young People: Victorian Sentinel Surveillance.* Australasian Sexual Health Conference, September 2008. Perth.
- Lim M, Goller J, Horyniak D, Aitken C, Stoové M, Quinn B, Samuel-King J, Brown J, Fairley C, Higgins N, Hellard M.** *Six current mechanisms of Hepatitis C surveillance in Victoria: What are the strengths, weaknesses, costs and necessity of each?* Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM) Conference. 17th–20th September 2008, Perth.
- Lim M, Nguyen O, Walsh N, von Bibra S, Devadason D, Guy R, Hellard M.** *Use of Hepatitis C (HCV) Surveillance System For Recruitment Of Patients With Newly Acquired HCV Into A Clinical Trial.* Australian Society for HIV. 2008, Sydney.
- Pacific Regional HIV Project team.** *Let's talk and walk the talks – a school-based peer education program in Fiji.* XVII International Conference on AIDS. August 2008, Mexico. Poster.
- Pacific Regional HIV Project team.** *Making HIV visible in Fiji – Role of People Living with HIV.* XVII International Conference on AIDS, August 2008, Mexico. Poster.
- Pacific Regional HIV Project team.** *Monitoring and evaluating Stepping Stones in the Pacific.* XVII International Conference on AIDS. August 2008, Mexico. Poster.
- Pacific Regional HIV Project team.** *PRHP Finance Accountability.* XVII International Conference on AIDS, August 2008. Mexico. Poster.
- Pacific Regional HIV Project team.** *Survey of Female Sex workers in Vanuatu.* XVII International Conference on AIDS, August 2008, Mexico. Poster.
- Parnell BW.** *Creating conditions for advocacy to shape policy in Myanmar.* XVII International AIDS Conference. August 2008. Mexico City, Mexico. Poster.
- Pedrana A, Stoové M, von Doussa H, Guy R, Hellard M.** *Estimating HIV prevalence of HIV among men who have sex with men (MSM); a review of methodological options.* Australasian Society for HIV Medicine, September 2008, Perth.
- Perret J, Apostolopoulos V, McDonald CF, Pouniotis DS.** *T helper-17 cell responses in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: a pilot study.* The Thoracic society of Australia and New Zealand, Melbourne Convention Centre, March, 2008.
- Perret J, Pouniotis DS, McDonald C, Apostolopoulos V.** *T helper-17 cell responses in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD): A pilot study.* Austin Medical Research Week, Austin Health., Melbourne, October, 2008.
- Pietersz GA, Mottram PL, van de Velde NC, Tan Sardjono C, Esparon S, Ramsland PA, Moloney G, Bael JB, McCarthy TD, Matthews BR, Powell MS, Hogarth PM.** *Fc Receptors as targets for the treatment of chronic inflammatory disease in mice.* Australasian Society for Immunology, Canberra, 2008.
- Pouniotis DS, **Brooks N, Perret J, Apostolopoulos V, McDonald CF.** *Blood monocytes function from patients with early diagnosed primary lung cancer.* The Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand, Melbourne Convention Centre, March, 2008.
- Proto de Souza P, Whitney R.** *How to enhance learning and skills development via planning, review and evaluation.* XVII International AIDS Conference 3–8 August 2008, Mexico City, Mexico. Poster.
- Renkin L, Hughes C.** *Altered indigenous decision making structures at community level in Papua New Guinea: enabling genuine youth participation in responses to HIV.* XVII International AIDS Conference, 3–8 August 2008, Mexico City. Poster.
- Rokhmah Hidayati N, Renkin L.** *Enabling while rebuilding: facilitating an HIV response in post-tsunami Aceh, Indonesia.* XVII International AIDS Conference, 3–8 August 2008, Mexico City. Poster.
- Sacks-Davis R, Gold J, Hellard M.** *Treating injecting drug users for hepatitis C: myths and reality.* 6th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference. 20th–22nd October 2008. Brisbane.
- Sacks-Davis R, Gold J, Hellard M.** *Hepatitis C treatment outcomes for injecting drug users: review of the evidence.* 6th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference. 20th–22nd October 2008, Brisbane.
- Sheridan S, Phimphachanh C, Chanlivong N, Manivong S, Khamsyvolsong S, Lattanavong P, Sisouk T, Toledo C, Scherzer M, Toole M, van Griensven F.** *Assessment of HIV infection and risk behavior among populations of men who have sex with men in Vientiane Capital, Lao People's Democratic Republic.* XVII International AIDS Conference, Mexico City. Poster.
- Snell B.** *A team approach to strengthening supply of essential medicines in Pacific Island Countries.* Population Health Congress July 6–9, 2008, Brisbane, Australia. Poster.
- Songbandith T, Sheridan S, Ounaphom P, Chanlivong N, Toole M.** *Sexual behaviour and vulnerability of young females,* Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR. XVII International AIDS Conference, Mexico City. Poster.
- Sterjovski J, Churchill MJ, Ellett AM, Gray L, Roche MJ, Dunfee R, Purcell DFJ, Saksena N, Wang B, Sonza S, Wesselingh SL, Karlsson I, Fenyo E-M, Gabuzda D, Cunningham AL, and Gorry PR.** *Asn 362 in gp120 contributes to enhanced fusogenicity by CCR5-restricted HIV-1 envelope glycoprotein variants from patients with AIDS.* Keystone Symposia on HIV Pathogenesis, Banff, Alberta, Canada.
- Tachedjian G, Tyssen D, Moore K, Treble K, Zanin M, Gray L, Gorry P, Wesselingh S, Lowe M, Henderson S, Lewis G, Krippner G, McCarthy T, Paull J.** *In vitro activity of dendrimer-based microbicides.* Microbicides 2008, New Delhi, India.
- Tang CK, Apostolopoulos V, Pietersz GA.** *Immune responses and mechanism of action induced by mannan mediated DNA vaccination.* 38th Australasian Society for Immunology, Canberra, December 2008.
- Tang CK, Pietersz GA, Apostolopoulos V.** *Oxidised mannan potentiates DNA vaccine for use in cancer immunotherapy.* 2nd AVID Meeting, Surfers Paradise, May 2008.
- Toole M, Hughes C, Chanlivong N.** *A gendered approach to reducing the risk of anal sex as a factor in HIV transmission among urban youth in Laos.* XVII International AIDS Conference, Mexico City. Poster.
- Toole MJ, Hughes C, Chanlivong N, Khamsyvoravong S, and Vilasack P.** *Addressing the diversity of male sexual behaviour through research and tailored HIV prevention education in Laos.* XVII International AIDS Conference, Mexico City. Poster.
- Wapling J, Kuiper M, Tachedjian G.** *Characterisation of mutations that prevent and restore HIV-1 reverse transcriptase dimerisation.* XVII International AIDS Conference, Mexico City.
- Wapling J, Kuiper M, Tachedjian G.** *The role of reverse transcriptase dimerisation in HIV replication.* The 4th Australian Health & Medical Research Congress, Brisbane, Queensland.
- White PA, Grebely J, Matthews GV, **Flynn J, Renkin M, Kaldor J, Lloyd A, Hellard M, Ffrench R, Dore GJ** on behalf of the ATAHC Study Group. *Natural history of HCV reinfection and superinfection.* 6th Viral Hepatitis Conference, Brisbane, October 2008. Centre for Immunology, Centre for Population Health.
- Whitney R, Brown M, Proto de Souza P.** *Three simple steps to guided self-assessment: participatory methodology put into practice in Mozambique.* XVII International AIDS Conference 3–8 August 2008, Mexico City, Mexico. Poster.
- Woolley IJ, Ayoub S, **Crowe SM, Cherry CL, Visvanathan K, Morand E.** *MIF (Macrophage Inhibitory Factor): a potential biomarker for cardiovascular disease in persons with HIV?* Lipodystrophy Workshop, London, UK.
- Yap SH, Radzio J, Sluis-Cremer N, Tachedjian G.** *N348I in the connection domain of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase confers zidovudine/NNRTI dual resistance.* Cold Spring Harbor Retroviruses Meeting, Cold Spring Harbor, New York, USA.
- Zhou J, **Tippett E, Rogerson SJ, Jaworowski A.** *HIV alters proinflammatory cytokine secretion in response to phagocytosis of malaria infected erythrocytes by monocyte derived macrophages.* Australasian Society of Immunology, Canberra.

Awards and prizes

DEGREES AWARDED

PhD

Audsley, J. *Alternative approaches in the preparation and growth of influenza B vaccine viruses.* Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT).

Cook, N. MB BS FRACP. University of Melbourne. Supported by a Postgraduate Medical Research Scholarship from the NHMRC. 2008. Thesis title: *Regulation of the renal sodium co-transporter NKCC2 by the AMP-activated protein kinase.*

Counihan, N. *Interactions of hepatitis A virus with polarized epithelia,* Monash University.

Dorning, K. *Children as Beneficiaries and Participants in Development Programs: A Case Study in Burma (Myanmar),* Victoria University.

Dunstan, K. BSc(Hons), UNSW. Thesis title: *Understanding the Early Interactions between Vaccinia virus and Dendritic cells – Towards an Enhanced Vaccine Vector.*

Giles, M. *HIV and women in Australia,* Monash University.

Guy, R. *The use of routine HIV testing data as a basis for planning and evaluating public health interventions,* Monash University.

Higgs, P. *Exploring risk: A case study of ethnic Vietnamese heroin users,* Monash University.

Jones, K. *Early stage of HIV infection,* Monash University.

Katsara, M. Thesis title: *Immune responses to myelin peptide analogues conjugated to mannan in animal models of MS* University of Patras, Greece.

Leeansyah, E. *The effect of HIV-1 infection on Fc-gamma receptor signalling and function* Department of Medicine, Monash University.

Neilsen, S. *The impact of benzodiazepines on opioid substitution treatment,* Monash University.

Merati, TM. *Molecular Epidemiology of HIV infection in Indonesia.* Udayana University, Bali.

Warning, J. BSc(Hons), UNSW. Thesis title: *Microtransfusion and Viral Exposure in Infants Born to HIV-infected Women*

Westhorpe, C. *Effects of HIV-1 infection in vitro on transendothelial migration by cells of the macrophage lineage.* Monash University.

Masters

Naing, KPP. Master of Development Study, Yangon University, Yangon, Myanmar.

Thein, AM. Master in Public Administration, Yangon University, Yangon, Myanmar.

van Hoeven, V. (H1). Structural and Biochemical Studies on HIV Assembly Determinants, Utrecht University.

Honours

Alhammad, Y. Department of Microbiology, Monash University.

Dutkowski, R. BSc(Hons), H2I, Monash University. Thesis title: Investigation of heterosubtypic cellular immune responses to influenza in humans.

Edmunds, M. Department of Microbiology. Monash University.

Gilan, O. (H1). Structural Comparison of Retroviral Gag Proteins, Monash University.

La, J. BMedChem (Hons), Monash University.

Orlowski, E. BSc (Hons), H1 Honours, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne. Thesis title: Regulatory mechanisms that influence blood clot formation.

Reddy Luthmoodoo, M. Dept. Microbiology Monash University.

Telawatte, S. Investigation of the role of SR proteins in HIV-1 replication and 2kb mRNA expression in macrophages, Monash University.

Wong, CL. (H2A). Investigating virion-associated host cellular factors in retroviruses, Monash University.

Yap, ML. BSc (Hons), H1 Honours, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne. Thesis title: Defining mechanisms of immunoreceptor binding and modulation of pathogenic *Salmonella typhimurium* infection.

DEGREES IN PROGRESS

PhD

Bellamy-McIntyre, A. *Receptor activated conformation of the gp120-gp41 glycoprotein complex of HIV-1,* Monash University.

Benton, K. *Emotionality and Sexual Scripting,* Deakin University

Brooks, N. BSc(Hons), Thesis title: *Membrane Permeable Multiple Antigen Peptides for the Immunotherapy of Cancer,* RMIT

Bullen, H. *The characterisation of a novel family of invasion associated membrane proteins in Apicomplexan parasites with particular focus on those found in Plasmodium falciparum and Toxoplasma gondii,* The University of Melbourne.

Chew, C. *Antiretroviral toxic neuropathy in HIV patients: genetic and other risk factors,* University of Western Australia.

Choy, SW. MB BS FRACP. University of Melbourne. Supported by a Postgraduate Medical Research Scholarship from the NHMRC.

Cowley, D. *Molecular studies of HIV-1 infection of the central nervous system,* Monash University.

Dean, J. *Thiol disulfide exchange in HCV glycoproteins E1 and E2,* Monash University.

Desmond, M. MB BS FRACP. University of Melbourne. Supported by a Postgraduate Medical Research Scholarship from the NHMRC.

Dong, X. Master of Philosophy. *Studies of GBV-B infection of marmosets,* Monash University.

Fillipas, S. *Physical activity and HIV,* Monash University.

Flynn, J. BSc(Hons), MBiotech, Monash University. Thesis title: *Stimulation and maintenance of T cell responses in acute HCV infection.*

Gold, J. *The medium and the message: an investigation of how youth access, interpret and implement sexual health information,* Monash University.

Gorzin, A. MSc. *The role of the HCV p7 and NS2 proteins in HCV morphogenesis,* Monash University.

Gouklahni, H. *Functional interactions of the structural and nonstructural proteins of HCV,* Monash University.

Gray, L. *Viral determinants in HIV-1 neurotropism and neurovirulence,* University of Melbourne.

Hawkes, D. *Rearrangement of the virion plasma membrane in HIV-1,* Monash University.

Khasawneh, A. *Studies on the fusion mechanism of the HIV-1 glycoproteins,* Monash University.

La, J. *Small molecule inhibitors targeting HIV-1 reverse transcriptase dimerization.* Monash University, Dept of Medicinal Chemistry, Monash Faculty Scholarship.

Laslett, A. *The role of alcohol in child protection notifications, investigations and interventions.* Monash University.

Latour, P. BSc(Hons). *Optimisation of immunotherapy for HCV infection,* Monash University.

Lee, D. MB BS FRACP. University of Melbourne. Supported by a Postgraduate Medical Research Scholarship from the NHMRC.

Lichtfuss, G. *Immune activation and chronic viral infection*, Monash University.

Livingston, M. *Alcohol outlets and their relationship to harm*, University of Melbourne.

McCaffrey, K. *Characterization of a novel HCV vaccine candidate*. Melbourne University.

Pedrana, A. *On the Scene: The Epidemiology of HIV among men who have sex with men (MSM) in Victoria*, Monash University.

Roche, M. *HIV-1 entry and its inhibition*, Monash University.

Ryan, C. *HIV distribution and monitoring in Indonesia, PNG and Fiji*, Monash University.

Smyth, R. *Recombination and the evolution of HIV*, Monash University.

Sterjovski, J. *Pathogenesis of CCR5-restricted Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1*, Monash University.

Taechalertpaisam, T. *Investigation of human erythrocyte invasion by Plasmodium falciparum*, University of Melbourne.

Tippett, E. *The role of CD16+ monocytes in HIV pathogenesis*, Monash University.

Tong, YK. *Virus-like particle vaccines against HIV/AIDS*, Monash University.

Wade, J. *Mechanisms of direct and bystander cell death by CCR5-restricted HIV-1 envelope glycoproteins*, University of Melbourne.

Wapling, J. *Role of highly conserved reverse transcriptase (RT) residues in RT dimerisation, maturation and HIV-1 replication*, Monash University.

Wong, SS. BMedSci, MSc. *The function of the M protein of Dengue virus*, University of Melbourne.

Wright, E. *HIV Neurological Disease: Asia Pacific regional prevalence and response to different antiretroviral treatment strategies across international resource-varied settings*, Monash University.

Yap, SH. *Role of mutations in the connection domain of the HIV reverse transcriptase in drug resistance*, Monash University.

Masters

Downing, S. *Masters of Applied Epidemiology*, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University.

Lau, LM. *The role of tetraspanin superfamily members, CD151 and TSSC6 in modulating platelet function*, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne.

Lim, M. Master of Public Health, Monash University.

van Hoesen, V. (H1). *Structural and Biochemical Studies on HIV Assembly Determinants*, Utrecht University.

Winter, R. Latrobe University, School of Public Health.

Honours

Chong, W. *HIV in pregnancy*. Monash University.

Gilan, O. (H1). *Structural Comparison of Retroviral Gag Proteins*, Monash University.

Santoso, D. BMedSci(Hons) mid-year entry, Monash University. Thesis title: *Memory B cell responses in Hepatitis C virus infection*.

Telawatte, S. *Investigation of the role of SR proteins in HIV-1 replication and 2kb mRNA expression in macrophages*, Monash University.

Wong, CL. (H2A). *Investigating virion-associated host cellular factors in retroviruses*, Monash University.

Post Graduate

O'Neill, S. Masters of Conflict Resolution, La Trobe University

Quartermaine, M. Master of Public Health, James Cook University.

Whitney, R. Postgraduate Certificate in Assessment and Evaluation, University of Melbourne.

OTHER STUDY IN PROGRESS

Garreffa, D. Certified Practicing Accountant (CPA) Program.

Lwin, A. Certified Accounting Technician, Associate of Chartered Certified Accountants, London, UK.

Meshkat, Z. Visiting Scientist.

Renkin, L. Diploma of Professional Counselling, Australian Institute of Professional Counsellors

Sanassee, M. Diploma of Community Welfare Work, Swinburne University of Technology.

Schmich, L. Master of Laws Juris Doctor, Monash University.

Tey, J. AMS student, University of Melbourne.

Thwet Aye, N. Diploma in Business Administration, Thames Centre, Singapore.

Tolstrup, M. Skeiby Hospital, University of Aarhus, Denmark.

Van Rooijen, L. Cavid assay: *Compatibility of blood stabilizers and the effect of RT inhibitors and mutations*. (Free University, The Netherlands).

Wang, J. Trainee of the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine.

War Tun, W. ACCA Part 2, Associate of Chartered Certified Accountants, London, UK.

Xiao, K. Certified Practicing Accountant (CPA) Program.

OTHER AWARDS AND PRIZES

Apostolopoulos, V. Appointed Australia Day Ambassador, January 2008.

Audsley, J. Young Investigators Award, 15th Conference on Opportunistic Infections and Retroviruses, Boston.

Barry, A. Ian Alexander Jamieson Travel Award

Bellamy-McIntyre, A. Harold Mitchell Award, Burnet Institute.

Cherry, CL. National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Career Development Award, 2009–2012.

Crowe, S. Medal, Royal Australian College of Physicians.

da Fonseca Pereira, C. Recipient Roche Travel Award to attend the 2008 Cold Spring Harbour Laboratory Immunocytochemistry, In Situ Hybridization and Live Cell Imaging Workshop.

Dean, J. Melbourne Protein Group. Best Speaker Award.

Gold, J. Australian Postgraduate Award, 2008–2010.

Gold, J. Burnet Institute Public Health Travel Award 2008.

Gold, J. Monash University Faculty of Medicine Excellence Award 2008–2010

Gorry, G. Victorian Young Tall Poppy Science Award; NHMRC Level 2 Career Development Award, 2009–2012.

Gray, L. Young Investigator Award. 15th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (2008), Boston, MA, USA; Student Research Medal (Bronze), Australian Centre for HIV & Hepatitis Virology Research (ACH²) 4th National Scientific Workshop (2008), Barossa Valley, South Australia; Burnet Prize for Infectious Diseases (2nd Prize), 20th Alfred Week Research Poster Display (2008), Alfred Hospital, Melbourne.

Hijnen, M. Best Young Post-Doctoral Award, Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Research (ACH²) Meeting; Recipient of Harold Mitchell Foundation Post-Doctoral Travel Fellowship; The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research Rubicon Fellowship, 2006–2008.

Hoare, H. NHMRC Doherty Fellowship, 2009–2012.

Katsara, M. Best poster Award, 9th International Conference in Medicinal Chemistry: Drug Discovery and Design Conference. University of Patras, Greece, March, 2008.

Lim, M. Postgraduate Publications Award (Monash University).

McCaffrey, K. Virology Travel Award, Burnet Institute.

Pedrana, A. Sidney Myer Health Scholarship.

Power, R. International Health Award, Healthcare Project of the Year 2008. Awarded by British Department of Health, Central Asia Regional HIV/AIDS Program.

Sheng, K. The McKenzie Travel Award, Burnet Institute, Australia.

Smyth, R. Outstanding Post-Graduate Student Presentation, 2008 Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Research (ACH²) Meeting; Kings College London Northcote Post-Graduated Ph.D. Training Scholarship, 2005–2008.

Stoové, M. Honorary Research Fellow, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University.

Stoové, M. Invited to participate in the 2008 Theo Murphy High Flyers Think Tank on Preventative Health convened by the Australian Academy of Science, Sydney.

Tachedjian, G. Nick Crofts Publication Award for top rated publication, Burnet Institute.

Toole, M. Fenner Award 2008.

Wapling, W. Travel Award to attend XVII International AIDS conference, Mexico City.

Yap, SH. Young Investigator Award to present at the 15th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, Boston, MA, Feb 2008; Bronze award for best oral presentation in HIV/AIDS, 4th ACH² Workshop, Barossa Valley, South Australia.

Academic positions and appointments

Anderson, D. Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne; Senior Lecturer, Department of Microbiology and Department of Immunology, Monash University; Member of Victorian Government Animal Welfare Advisory Committee; Board Member, AMREP AS Ltd; Member, AMREP Scientific Advisory Committee; Member, AMREP Monash Micro Imaging committee; NHMRC Senior Research Fellow.

Anderson, J. Convenor of the 'High Resolution Fluorescence Imaging Workshop featuring DeltaVision Deconvolution Microscopy' held Nov 11–14, 2008, Burnet Institute, Melbourne; Burnet Institute representative, Management and Advisory Committee, Monash Micro-Imaging; Member, Burnet Imaging Group.

Apostolopoulos, V. Professor, School of Molecular Sciences, Victoria University; Australia Day Ambassador; Associate Professor (Principal Research Fellow), Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne; Chief Scientific Officer, 4G Pharmaceuticals; Principal Research Fellow, Burnet Institute; Patron and Board member, Women's Wellness West, Victoria University; Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Immunology, Monash University; Scientific Committee, Medicinal Chemistry Postgraduate Program, University of Patras; Scientific Advisory Board, ELFAR Pharmaceuticals Ltd, Greece; ELDrug SA, Greece; Expert Advisory Committee, 2nd Australasian vaccines and immunotherapeutics development (AVID) meeting; Conference Scientific Committee, Honorary Scientific Committee, International Conference, Medicinal Chemistry: Drug Discovery and Design, University of Patras, Greece; Scientific Advisory Board, BIT 1st Annual World Vaccine Congress 2008, Guangzhou, China.

Asproloupous, D. Board Member, Medecins Sans Frontieres, Australia; Board Member (Chair), Antares Foundation Australia.

Barry, A. Senior Research Fellow, Burnet Institute; Honorary Senior Lecturer, Monash University.

Benton, K. Paung Ku Board Member, Myanmar.

Brown, M. Senior Fellow, Centre for International Health; Burnet Principal for Education and Capacity Building.

Cherry, CL. Chair, Toxicology and Pharmacology Working Group of the National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research; Research Review Committee, Alfred Health; Models of Care Steering Committee member for the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine; Victorian State Representative, Australian Doctors Orchestra National Committee; Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, Monash University, since 2004; Senior Burnet Fellow, since 2005; Member, Asia-Pacific NeuroAIDS Consortium; Steering Committee Member, Australian National NeuroAIDS Brain and Tissue Bank; Member, Data safety and monitoring board for a Biota study being conducted at Nucleus Network Clinical Trials Unit.

Churchill, M. Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University; Burnet Senior Fellow, Burnet Institute, 2006–now; Member, Neurology working Group, National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, 2006–now.

Coghlan, B. Senior lecturer, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University.

Crabb, B. Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Medicine, The University of Melbourne; Adjunct Professor, School of Molecular Sciences, La Trobe University.

Crowe, S. Member of the Forum International Working Group for HIV Collaborative Research USA; Member of the CD4 Initiative Advisory Group, UK; Victorian HIV Blood and Tissue Storage Bank Steering Committee; Member, World Health Organisation Working Groups; Member, Antiretroviral Working Group, NCHCCR; Deputy Chairperson, Board of Australia-India Council, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Advisory Panel Member, Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC).

Dietze, P. Senior Research Associate, University of Melbourne, School of Psychology; Public Health Research Fellow, VicHealth, Public Health Research Fellowship Scheme; Career Development Fellowship, National Health and Medical Research Council; Registered Psychologist, Victoria, Psychologists Registration Board.

Dorabjee, J. International Advisory Board Member to the International Harm Reduction Development (IHRD) Program, Open Society Institute (OSI), New York, US; Board Member to the Asian Consortium on Drug Use, HIV, AIDS and Poverty (ACDHAP); Board Member to the International Network of People who Use Drugs (INPUD); Executive Committee Member to UN Regional Taskforce on Injecting Drug Use and HIV/AIDS in Asia and the Pacific; Board Member to the Asian Network of People who Use Drugs (ANPUD); Executive Program Committee Member to the 20th International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm, International Harm Reduction Association, UK.

Drummer, H. Burnet Principal Fellow; NHMRC RD Wright Fellow; Honorary Fellow; Department of Microbiology; Melbourne University; Honorary Senior Lecturer; Department of Microbiology; Monash University; Treasurer Australian Centre for Hepatitis Virology.

Ffrench, R. NHMRC Industry Fellow; Honorary Associate Professor, Department of Immunology, Monash University, 2005–2012; Secretary, Australian Centre for Hepatitis Virology; Secretary, Immunology Group of Victoria; Australian Centre for HIV and Hepatitis Virology Annual Conference Organising Committee; Immunology Group of Victoria Annual Workshop Organising Committee.

Gerondakis, S. NHMRC Principal Research Fellow; Honorary Professor, Department of Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health, Monash University; Honorary Professor, Department of Clinical Hematology, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health, Monash University.

Gorry, P. Chair, Neurology working Group, National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, 2007–now; Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University, 2007–now; Associate Professor, department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne, 2008–now; Burnet Principal Fellow, Burnet Institute, 2007–now; Member, Asia-Pacific NeuroAIDS Consortium.

Grgacic, E. Honorary Senior Lecturer, Department of Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences Central & Eastern Clinical School, Monash University, 2005–present; Senior Burnet Fellow, 2005–present.

Hellard, M. Honorary Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University; visiting Infectious Diseases Physician, Royal Melbourne Hospital; visiting Infectious Diseases Physician, Alfred Hospital.

Higgs, P. Senior Fellow, Burnet Institute.

Hogarth PM. NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow; Honorary Professor, Department of Immunology, Monash University; Honorary Professor, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne; Acting CEO CRC for Biomarker Translation; Arana Scientific Advisory Board; Board Member Igavax Ltd; Consultant, Option Pharmaceuticals (USA); QLD State Government External Reviewer of Mater Medical Research Institute; Molecular and Cellular Immunology Lecture Program, Department of Immunology, Monash University; Member, Victorian Cancer Council Venture Grants Steering Committee; Alfred Centre Stage 2 Steering Committee.

Jackson, D. NHMRC Senior Research Fellow (SRFB); Honorary Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne; Adjunct Associate Professor, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health, Monash University.

Jaworowski, A. Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University.

Loveland, B. Associate Professor, (Honorary), Department of Immunology, Central & Eastern Clinical School, Faculty of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences, Monash University, 2007–2012; Principal Fellow, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences; title of Associate Professor, 2006–now; Principal Fellow, Department of Surgery, University of Melbourne – Austin and Northern Hospitals; title of Associate Professor (2004); Member, Steering Committee, Research Advisory Group, Southern Melbourne Integrated Cancer Service (SMICS), 2006–now; Member of Council, Cancer Council Victoria (CCV), 2002–2012; Member, Scientific Committee, Victorian Breast Cancer Research Consortium (VBCRC), 2002–now.

Mak, J. Associate Professor, Departments of Microbiology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Monash University; Member of ACH² and ASHM Annual Meeting Advisory Committee; Member of NHMRC Grant Review Panel Microbiology since 2003 (Deputy Chair 2006 and Chair for 2007 & 2008); Vice President of Corporate Affairs for the Australian Society for Microbiology since 2008.

Mottram, P. Honorary Senior Research Fellow, University of Melbourne and Monash University.

Natoli, L. Honorary Lecturer, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University.

Pietersz, G. Honorary Professor, Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne; Honorary Professor, Monash University; Research Advisory Committee, Avipep Pty Ltd; Board member, 4G Vaccines.

PONJA Assessment Team, Myanmar:

- **Dr Khine Nandar Sein Htun**, Field data collector in Training on Village Tract Assessment (Tripartite Core Group).
- **Dr Mon Mon**, Facilitator in Training on Village Tract Assessment (Tripartite Core Group).
- **Zin Mar Thu**, Field data collector in Training on Village Tract Assessment (Tripartite Core Group).

Poumbourios, P. Honorary Senior Lecturer. Department of Microbiology. Monash University.

Ramsland, P. Honorary Senior Fellow, Department of Pathology, The University of Melbourne; Honorary Senior Lecturer, Department of Immunology, Monash University.

Reeder, J. Burnet Senior Principal Research Fellow. Burnet Institute, Member, Scientific Organising Committee, Molecular Approaches to Malaria Lorne, Australia, Member, AusAID Malaria Reference Group, Member, Malaria Elimination Group, UCSF Global Health Sciences.

Renkin, L. Honorary Lecturer, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University.

Sonza, S. Senior Lecturer, Department of Microbiology, Monash University. Senior Burnet Fellow; Chair, Burnet Institute Safety Committee.

Tachedjian, G. Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology, Monash University and Department of Medicine, Monash University, Alfred Campus; Principal Burnet Fellow; Member of National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHECR) Antiretroviral Working Group; ASMR's Liaison to the Premiers Award for Health and Medical Research; Member, National Scientific Advisory Committee, Australia Society for Microbiology; Member, Australian Society for Microbiology Research Trust Committee; Convenor of the High Resolution Fluorescence Imaging Workshop featuring DeltaVision Deconvolution Microscopy", Burnet Institute, Melbourne.

Tannock, G. WHO consultant NIHR&D, Jakarta Indonesia 2008–present. Australian Influenza Vaccine Committee, 1997–now.

Toole, M. Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Monash University; Member, Technical Review Panel, Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria; Board Member, Three Disease Fund for Myanmar (Burma).

Wright, E. Chair START Neurology Substudy; Chair Asia-Pacific NeuroAIDS; Co-Director of the Australian National NeuroAIDS Brain and Tissue Bank; Secretary Board of Australasian Society of HIV Medicine; Chair Neurology Working Group of the National Centre of HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research; Chair Asia-Pacific Pediatric HIV/AIDS Consortium, Member; Neurology Working Group, National Centre for HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research; Member Australian Society of Infectious Diseases; Member, Australian Society of Medical Research; Member International Subcommittee ASHM Board; Chair Victorian Non-Occupational Postexposure Steering Committee.

Xing, P. Professor, Victoria University of Technology; Principal Fellow with the title of Associate Professor Department of Pathology, University of Melbourne; Associate Professor, Monash University; Visiting Professor, Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, School of Basic Medicine, Peking Union Medical College; Visiting Professor, Jiangnan University, China.

Editorial boards

Apostolopoulos, V. Associate Editor, *Immunotherapy* (www.future-drugs.com); Editorial Advisory Board, *Recent Patent Reviews on Anti-Cancer Drug Discovery*; *Current Medicinal Chemistry*; *Expert Review of Vaccines*; *Medicinal Chemistry*; *Acta Biochimica et Biophysica Sinica*; *Self/Nonself: immune recognition and signaling*; Journal Guest Editor – *Expert Reviews of Vaccines*. Special focus issue – Cancer Vaccines.

Barry, A. *The Open Parasitology Journal* (International)

Cherry, CL. Basic Science Editor, *Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Journal Club*, 2004–now; *Open AIDS Journal* 2008–now; *Journal of the International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care* 2008–now.

Crabb, B. Editor-in-Chief, *International Journal for Parasitology*.

Crowe, S. *Sexual Health*, 2003–now; *Current HIV Research*, 2001–now; *Journal of Infectious Diseases*, 2002–now; *Current Patents Reviews on Anti-Infective Drug Discovery*, 2005–now; *Future HIV Therapy*, 2006–now; Section Editor, *Journal of Leukocyte Biology*, 2008–now; *The Open Infectious Diseases Journal*, 2009–now.

Dietze, P. Associate Editor of the *International Journal of Drug Policy*

Gorry, P. *Retrovirology*, 2007–now; *Current HIV Research*, 2005–now; *The Open Microbiology Journal*, 2007–now; *Infectious Disease: Research and Treatment*, 2008–now; *Immunology and immunogenetic insights*, 2008–now.

Hogarth, PM. *Faculty of 1000*; *Monoclonal Antibodies Journal*.

Jackson, D. *Letters in Drug Design and Discovery* journal (Bentham Science Publishing); *Open Hematology Journal* (Bentham Science Publishing).

Mak, J. Ad hoc reviews for *J Biol Chem*, *PLoS Med*, *J Virol*, *EMBO J*, *FEBS Lett*, *Trends in Micro*, *J Leuko Biol*, *Immuno Cell Biol and Virology*; Assessor for NHMRC & ARC Project Grants, Wellcome Trust Project Grants, MRC UK Project Grants and Fellowships and the Netherlands NWO Fellowships.

Power, R. Associate Editor, *International Journal of Drug Policy*, Editorial Board, *International Journal of Drug Policy*. Associate Editor, *Harm Reduction Journal*.

Ramsland, P. Associate Editor, *Journal of Molecular Recognition*, John Wiley & Sons UK, Editorial Board Member, *Molecular Biotechnology*, Humana Press, Springer Verlag GmbH, Germany

Reeder J. *PNG Medical Journal*, Scientific Editor.

Tachedjian, G. *Current HIV Research*, 2005–now; *The Open Microbiology Journal*, 2007–now; *International Journal of Virology*, 2005–now.

Tannock, G. *Journal of Med Virology* 2001–now; *Gene Vaccines and Therapy* 2003–now; *Journal of Biomedicine and Biotechnology* 2008–now; *The Open Veterinary Science Journal*, 2008–now.

Wright, E. *Sexual Health* 2003–now; *International Journal Medical Sciences* 2002–now; *African Journal AIDS Research* 2005–now; *AIDS Care* 2003–now; *Journal of Neurovirology* 2005–now; *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, 2004–now.

Xing, P. *The Open Cancer Journal*; *Recent Patents on Anti-Infective Drug Discovery*.

Community engagement

EVENTS

Individual representation:

Anderson, J. Medical Careers Expo, May; Burnet Institute Stand, Melbourne Park Function Centre, Australia.

Apostolopoulos, V. Special Guest. National Breast Cancer Day, Fundraiser – *Beauties and the Beast*. Sanctuary Lakes, Australia.

Ffrench, R. AMREP Postgraduate student information evening; Hep C Awareness Week Research Update; World Day of Immunology.

Loveland, B. Member, Victorian ASMR Medical Research Week Committee.

Tachedjian, G. Member of Victorian ASMR Medical Research Week Committee. Promoted health and medical research to general public during medical research week by organising public events including outside broadcast with Einstein a go go, Science in the Cinema, Regional School tours; ASMR Medical Research Week.

Centre for International Health events:

- The Annual Sue Crockett Memorial Lecture, 26 August
- The Annual Global Health Forum, *Global Health & Global Crises*, World Health Day, 7 April. In collaboration with other AMREP partners
- *Not Just Talk – How Can We Help Mothers to Exclusively Breastfeed?* 8 August
- *Harm Reduction, the Shifting Paradigm*, 9 September
- *Pathways to International Health*, 2 December
- World AIDS Day, December, Yangon, Myanmar
- Leadership Forum *Challenges of Faith-Based Organisations*, Yangon, Myanmar
- Leadership Forum Human Resource Management: *How to retain Employees in the Organisation*, Yangon, Myanmar

Burnet Institute events:

- Bosom Buddies Charity Golf Day (Melbourne – April)
- Thomas Heywood Organ Recital (May)
- Burnet Business Breakfast (July)
- AMREP Student Day (August)
- Bosom Buddies Ball (August)
- Brisbane City Romp (September)
- Bosom Buddies Charity Golf Day (Queensland – October)
- ‘Go for your life’ Melbourne City Romp (October)
- Burnet Institute Oration (November)
- Anaconda Adventure Race Series
 - Lorne (December)
 - Gold Coast (Queensland – September)
 - Dunsborough (Western Australia – October)
- World AIDS Day Celebrate Africa (December)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Apostolopoulos, V. Australia Day Ambassador Address and Award Presentation. Apollo Bay, Australia.

Crowe, S. Invited Judge, Medical and Healthcare Division, Du Pont Australia and New Zealand Innovation Awards, Sydney.

Toole, M. World AIDS Day Dinner, December; *HIV and AIDS in Asia – where to now?* Myanmar.

In appreciation: donations

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Speedy, PM

Tabak, M & R

Taylor, AG

Wightwick, I

\$501 – \$1,000

Ashcroft, RW

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Crutch, R

Cumming, J

Druitt, BL

Field, J

George, L

Harrison, J

Heape, WF

Heaton-Harris, D

Jennings, M

Kennan, H

McCloskey, J

Millard, J

Moore, J

Moss, RJ & GK

Murphy, F

Nelson, RE

Nicholls, P

Nicholls, S

Parker, J

Paterson, IH

Roach, JA

Roberts-Thomson, P

Russell, M

Seelenmeyer, DM

Semler, R

Sharpe, KE

Stringer, J

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Taylor, RB

Tymms, AGM

West, A

Williams, EM

\$101 – \$500

Agnew, E

Aitken, C

Albiston, M

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Anderson, MJ

Andrew, M

Annand, AS

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Bailey, LJ

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Beecher, D

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Bishop, EW

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Bockholt, RL

Bouris, A

Bracher, GHW

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Chen, M

Cherry, C

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Collier, P

Cousland, P

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Crabb, B

Crosby, FM

Cubbins, JL

Davey, G

Davis, AC

Day, ES

de Pury, G

Dennis, P

Di Paola, G

Dillon, E

Dinh, N

Dixon, T

Dowse, B & M

Drury, JE

Dunn, I

Easton, BA & EM

Emmerson, JM

Enting, G

Fairlie, J

Fenner, F, AC CMG

Fethers, B

Ffrench, R

Fischer, M

Fitzwater, JM

Foo, T

Ford, D

Fowler, EA

Francis, P

Franklin, JC

Fung, W

Furneaux, C

Gabor, S

Gibb, DDV

Gibson, JD

Giles, J

Gilfedder, P

Binns, C

Glascodine, BL

Glover, J

Gonshor, M

Goodrich, RA & A

Gray, YM

Hagger, M

Halabut

Hall, J

Hall, MJ

Hammersfeld, A

Hannagan, C & P

Hannan, S

Harbig, R

Hargreaves, E & G

Harris, GA

Harrison, L

Harvey, K & J

Hatch, K

Heaviside, J

Hegarty, VC

Heitmann, HM

Henderson, ME

Herring, ML

Hewett, T

Hewitt Lees, B

Higgs, P

Hill, M

Hill, R

Hives, A

Hogarth, M

Hoitinga, EN

Holdsworth, S

Hone, RE

Hopkins, J

Hotton, G

Hoult, R

Hyams, SH

Jacka, P

Jackson, F

Jackson, HM

Jacoby, R

Janes, MR

Jenkins, G

Johnson, D & L

Keir, W

Kempson, PC

Kimpton, SF

Kimpton, ZM

Kirkpatrick, JN

Kovacs, J & J

Lander, JM

Law, J

Lawry, B

Lazarus, LS

Leitinger, J

Lemon, P

Lesser, EL

Linsten, D & BM

Ludbrooke, M

Lukeis, RM

Lush, M

MacDonald, RA

Macindoe, A

MacKenzie, KW

Mair, L

Marek, I

Mathison, GR

McDougall, M

McIntosh, JA

McLoughlin, EM

Meredith, E

Miller, GF

Miller, RG

Miller, SP

Miller, WH

Milne, J

Moir, G

Morgan, T

Morrissey, M

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Moss, LE

Mulder, B

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Northend, R

Northrop, R

Nossbaum, R

Nuccio, A

Oakley, C

O'Brien, H

O'Donnell, T

O'Halloran, L

O'Hara, V

Page, MO

Parker, J

Parnell, B & J

Paskos, DB

Pelling, W

Pianko, I

Pilley, AB

Plunkett, JM

Potter, M

Poulton, S

Probert, JKS

Pryde, AD

Punshon, KJ

Ranken, JB

Rathbone, P

Ray, J

Reid, MC

Rice, T

Riddell, P

Riddiford, ESR

Riley, GA

Roberts, J

Roberts, M

Robertson, JM

Robinson, I

Rodgers-Wilson, SJ

Rogers, DW

Rogers, JJ

Rowley, P

Saddington, AR

Sanderson, JG

Sawyer, B

Schwab, D

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Bikram Yoga Fitzroy
Cakes by Francesca
Eureka Skydeck
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Mighty Music Machine
Musiki Manjaro
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Paladarr – Thai Restaurant
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Werribee Open Range Zoo
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THOMAS HEYWOOD CONCERT

Thomas Heywood
Simone O'Loughlin
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Blake Dawson
Professor Tim Flannery
Lynne Haultain
Zinc, Federation Square

BURNET ORATION

The Hon Justice Michael Kirby, AC

Our organisational structure

One of the major developments over the past year has been a substantial restructure of the Burnet’s scientific and public health programs. These changes were made in response to a rapid growth of the Institute, due in part, to the 2006 merger between the Burnet and the Austin Research Institutes.

The clarity of purpose and the focus on excellence and high quality outcomes that this new structure provides, lays a solid foundation for the Institute’s future. A future that marries laboratory research, population studies, public health intervention and capacity building programs to address major health problems in Australia and in our region. Our special emphasis on the specific health needs of disadvantaged communities in Australia and overseas remains the central platform of the Institute.

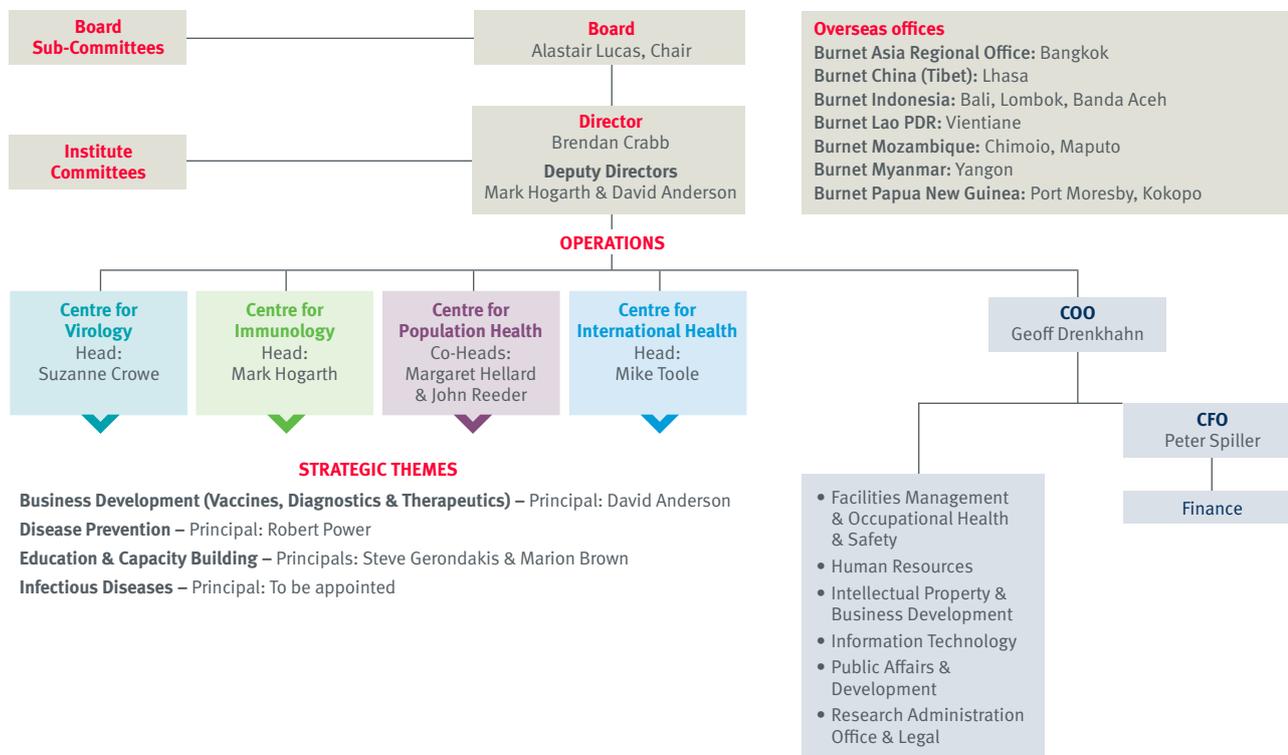
With these issues in mind, the Institute has been reorganised into a structure that is appropriate for the effective operation of an organisation of this scale and complexity.

The cornerstone of this restructure is the creation of four Centres of excellence. The Centres – Virology, Immunology, Population Health and International Health – are all new, including to some

degree the Centre for International Health, which, although pre-existing, now incorporates harm reduction into its infectious disease programs. The Centres represent Burnet’s key areas of research and public health strength, and are led by the Institute’s most experienced and highly credentialed scientists.

Two new mechanisms have also been created to foster cross-institute activities and to promote attention to our central themes. The first is the formal recognition of crosscutting themes and the appointment of Burnet Principals to represent them. The second approach to ensuring cross-institute thinking is the creation of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) which comprises Centre Heads and Principals together with the Director and Deputy Directors.

While reform to the scientific leadership has been achieved with the restructure diagrammatically represented below, Burnet Institute administration and corporate services will be reviewed and overseen by the newly created position of Chief Operating Officer with the key purpose of ensuring that the Institute is supported in the most efficient and effective manner.



How you can support the Burnet Institute



Why we need your help

The Burnet Institute receives infrastructure funding from the government but this only covers a part of our total running costs. The remainder is made up of funds raised by the Burnet Institute, competitive grants awarded to our scientists, and competitive contracts won by our public health professionals.

Each year the generosity of the Australian public greatly assists us in our vital work.

Your contribution enables us to:

- Study the prevalence, transmission and impact of serious diseases in the community
- Initiate new research programs into HIV/AIDS, hepatitis A, B, C, & E, measles, avian influenza, tuberculosis and malaria
- Investigate new ways of treating and preventing cancers such as breast, ovarian, prostate and lung cancer
- Attract and train the best personnel from Australia and around the world
- Purchase state-of-the-art medical research equipment
- Design, implement and evaluate public health programs in the Asia and Pacific regions and Africa

Types of Support

Donations

All donations over \$2 to the Burnet Institute are tax-deductible.

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The Burnet Institute bequest program continues, and as always we are extremely grateful to those individuals who have been kind enough to remember the Burnet Institute in their Will.

Please be assured that your bequest, no matter what size or in what form, will make a real difference. Below is suggested wording should you wish to leave us a bequest:

I bequeath the sum of \$..... (or, part or all of residue of estate) to the Macfarlane Burnet Institute for Medical Research and Public Health Ltd to be applied for the purposes of the Burnet Institute (or as directed by the donor).

Gifts of Assets or Property

We welcome donors who donate property to the Burnet Institute while retaining its use during their lifetime.

Scholarships

A number of scholarships for Institute staff are available for funding: travel, research scholarships or post graduate scholarships.

Enquiries

If you require more details on any of the above suggestions, would like more information about the Burnet Institute or would like to take a tour of our facilities, please call our Community Relations Officer on (03) 9282 2299 or visit www.burnet.edu.au.

Mailing address for all donations and enquiries:

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Burnet Institute

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Tel: + 61 3 9282 2111

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Email: info@burnet.edu.au

www.burnet.edu.au

A.B.N. 49 007 349 984

Overseas Offices

The Burnet Institute has offices in Africa, South East Asia, the Pacific region and China (Tibet). For more information about our work overseas or to contact our international offices please email info@burnet.edu.au or call us on + 61 3 9282 2111.

MOZAMBIQUE

Maputo

Praceta Tomã Ndude No 22
1st floor, Maputo Mozambique

Chimoio

Rua 16 de Junho,
360 Chimoio/Manica, Mozambique

THAILAND – BURNET INSTITUTE

ASIA REGIONAL OFFICE

Bangkok

United Center, Level 43,
323 Silom Road,
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CHINA (TIBET)

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FIJI

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