

ANNUAL REPORT

2016



The Judith Lumley Centre is a multidisciplinary public health research centre in the School of Nursing & Midwifery within the College of Science, Health and Engineering at La Trobe University. Established in 1991, it has built a strong program of research addressing issues of major public health importance for mothers and infants and families.

The research focus areas at the Judith Lumley Centre include

- Mother and infant health
- Transition to contemporary parenthood
- Maternity care and family services in the early years
- Planned parenthood and reproductive rights
- Breastfeeding
- Reducing violence against women and children.

The Judith Lumley Centre aims to

- Undertake and interpret research in our focus areas
- Contribute to policy and practice development
- Be involved in postgraduate and continuing education
- Provide advice and resources to researchers in related fields.

We have a broad public health and population focus and an inclusive approach to the social and medical aspects of health and care for parents and infants. A wide range of disciplines contribute to our research.

We emphasise the need for research, service development, evaluation and policy to be linked. We support testing interventions in randomised trials, research translation into clinical practice, and implementation of effective and cost-effective interventions.



Rhonda Small at her farewell celebrations:
with grandchildren,
holding a picture of herself and Judith Lumley
at Judith's farewell party – see also photo above



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Director's Report



This year has been one of solid JLC achievements in a dynamic university context. JLC staff were investigators on two new NHMRC Centres for Research Excellence and attracted several new grants in midwifery. I was fortunate to lead a successful team (with staff from the new Centre for Alcohol Policy Research) to attract significant university funding to develop a leading national program on alcohol-related domestic violence. Dr Leesa Hooker graduated with her PhD and won the university Nancy Millis award for research excellence. Anna Frangkoudi received her Masters in Applied Science.

Research highlights

There have been several research milestones this year. The first was the successful completion of the DAME (Diabetes and Milk Expressing) trial. This unique trial has established for the first time the impact of expressing milk during pregnancy on diabetic women and whether this common clinical recommendation is harmful. The trial has attracted a lot of clinical interest, given the prevalence of diabetes in the community. The results are eagerly awaited.

A second was the completed recruitment and follow-up for the RUBY (Ringling Up about Breastfeeding) trial. This study is the first to investigate the impact of peer support to encourage and sustain breastfeeding in Australia.

We consolidated our growing work in a neighbouring low-income country when Kayli Wild undertook a fascinating exploration of midwives' attitudes and practices around gender-based violence in Timor Leste to develop resources and a new curriculum, in partnership with the Midwifery Department, National University of Timor Leste. She was awarded an ARC Discovery Early Career Award (DECRA) in 2016 to continue this work for the next three years. Heather Wallace's excellent research capacity-building study with Timorese colleagues from Marie Stopes on emic understanding of pregnancy, contraception and birth spacing by Timorese men and women complements this work.

Publications

We have sustained an impressive publications record, so that at the end of 2016, we published 59 new peer-reviewed

articles, seven commentaries, two book chapters and three reports. We also have 24 publications in press.

Public health advocacy

One of the highlights of 2016, was our hosting of the International Nursing Network on Violence Against Women conference in Melbourne in November. This small but prestigious nursing research conference attracted participants from twelve different countries and most of Australia's states and territories. Dr Claudia Garcia-Moreno, who has driven the World Health Organization's program of work on violence against women delivered the keynote plenary. This allowed our staff and students to present their work and develop good relationships with nursing and other leading scholars in this field.

Vale Rhonda Small

Sadly, we also bid farewell to Professor Rhonda Small, who retired at the end of 2016. Rhonda was a founding JLC staff member, when Professor Judith Lumley first established the Centre for the Study of Mothers' and Children's Health. Rhonda remained at the Centre to build a strong research program commencing with her contribution to the Survey of Recent Mothers - the pioneering statewide study of women's perspectives on their childbirth experiences. Rhonda led a parallel study of women from three migrant communities (Turkish, Vietnamese and Philippine) to ensure the voices of migrant and refugee women were included in this population wide feedback. This has been a major contribution to JLC's research program - to drive rigorous methods to study migrant and refugee experiences in pregnancy and childbirth. From translating important research tools (e.g. Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale) to investigating migrant and refugee women's birthing experiences in the Reproductive Outcomes and Migration (ROAM) collaboration herself or with her PhD students, she has ensured that diverse communities are represented in our work and student populations. Rhonda took on the role of Director in 2009, after Judith's retirement, and served the Centre very well for five years, leading us to an expanded staff and student group with the new Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program. She maintained the Centre's reputation as one of rigorous achievements and a supportive and enabling culture.

In a similar vein, I have stepped down from my privileged role as Director after three years, to refocus on my program of research and reduce my hours and workload. I would like to thank JLC staff and students for their wonderful work and support to me. I have great confidence that Professor Jan Nicholson, Acting Director, will ensure JLC's continued reputation for excellence going forward.

Angela Taft, Director

May 2017



MOTHER AND INFANT HEALTH

DIABETES AND ANTENATAL MILK EXPRESSING (DAME): A RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIAL



Della Forster, Lisa Amir, Anita Moorhead; in collaboration with Susan Jacobs, Peter Davis and Amanda Aylward, Royal Women's Hospital; Susan Walker, Kerri McEgan and Gillian Opie, Mercy

Hospital for Women; Susan Donath, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute; Rachael Ford, Royal Women's Hospital; Catherine McNamara, Mercy Hospital for Women; Christine East, Monash Medical Centre; Lisa Gold, Deakin University

Recruitment to the DAME trial commenced at the Royal Women's Hospital on 6 June 2011, Mercy Hospital for Women on 13 July 2011, Monash Health on 23 October 2012, Barwon Health on 22 April 2012, The Women's at Sandringham (part of the Royal Women's Hospital) 15 September 2014 and Peninsula Health (Frankston Hospital) 1 November 2014.

Recruitment was completed on 23 October 2015, with 777 women consenting to participate, and 635 (of the 777) randomised. There was 100% follow up for the primary outcome, with response rates of 96% at two-week data collection point and 91 % at 12 weeks. The primary outcomes paper has been submitted to a peer reviewed journal. The DAME trial results have been presented at several national and local conferences and a member of the team has accepted an invited plenary at the International Lactation Consultants Conference, in Toronto, Canada in July 2017.

A sub-study titled *Exploring mothers' perceptions of their experience of antenatal milk expressing* commences in early 2017.

FUNDING: NHMRC, La Trobe University

STATUS: Data analysis and paper preparation

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/jlc/research/breastfeeding/dame>

OBSTETRIC OUTCOMES FOR IMMIGRANT WOMEN

Rhonda Small, Mary-Ann Davey, Fetene Belihu; in collaboration with the Victorian Perinatal Data Collection Unit and Paul Agius, Burnet Institute

This project continues earlier work investigating identified problems of public health importance in relation to obstetric outcomes and experiences of maternity care for immigrant women of non-English speaking (NES) backgrounds in Australia. These include a range of unexplained variations by maternal country of birth (e.g. in caesarean section and other obstetric procedures); evidence for higher standardised perinatal mortality ratios among well grown term infants of women born in NES-countries (suggesting possible cause for concern about the role of communication difficulties in decision-making during labour and birth in these poorer outcomes); and consistently poorer ratings of maternity care by immigrant women from NES-countries.

Analyses investigating mode of birth outcomes for Vietnamese-born women over time (1984-2007) have been completed with findings presented at two conferences; and a paper submitted.

A further project utilising these VPDC data was completed in 2016 by Doctor of Public Health candidate, Fetene Belihu. He investigated a range of perinatal outcomes for East African born women and their infants, supervised by Rhonda Small and Mary-Ann Davey.

FUNDING: none

STATUS: Vietnamese outcomes paper under review; East African project: three papers published or in press, one submitted

PUBLICATIONS:

Belihu FB, Davey MA, Small R. Perinatal health outcomes of East African immigrant populations in Victoria, Australia: A population based study. *BMC Pregnancy Childbirth* 2016; 16:86

Belihu FB, Small R, Davey MA. Episiotomy and severe perineal trauma among Eastern African immigrant women giving birth in public maternity care: A population based study in Victoria, Australia. *Women Birth* 2016 (in press). Epub 2016 Nov 23

Belihu FB, Small R, Davey MA. Variations in first-time caesarean birth between Eastern African immigrants and Australian-born women in public care: A population-based investigation in Victoria. *Aust NZJ Obstet Gynaecol* 2016 (in press). Epub 2016 Jun 24

2016 Research Program

COLLABORATIVE WORK

THE CROSS COUNTRY ULTRASOUND STUDY (CROCUS)

Kristina Edvardsson, Umeå University, Sweden/Judith Lumley Centre, Rhonda Small; in collaboration with Ingrid Mogren, Sophia Holmlund and Annika Åhman, Umeå University, Sweden, Hussein Lessio Kidanto and Mathilda Ngarina, Muhimbili National Hospital, Tanzania, Pham Thi Lan, Hanoi Medical University, Vietnam, Joseph Ntaganira and Jean Paul Semasaka Sengoma, University of Rwanda, Rwanda, Tove Fagerli and Elisabeth Darj, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway

The CROss Country Ultrasound Study (CROCUS) is an international research project with the purpose to explore midwives' and obstetricians' experiences and views on the use of ultrasound in pregnancy management in low-, middle-, and high-income countries (Rwanda, Tanzania, Vietnam, Australia, Norway and Sweden).

The CROCUS project is built on three phases: Phase 1 (Qualitative), Phase 2 (Quantitative), and Phase 3 (Intervention). Phase 1 was completed in 2015 in all participating countries. In total, interviews were held with 99 obstetricians/physicians and focus group discussions were held with 172 midwives/nurses. The results informed the development of a questionnaire (Phase 2), and data collection for phase 2 was completed in 2016 in Norway and Rwanda. Data collection in Australia, Tanzania, Vietnam and Sweden will be undertaken in 2017-2018.

The experiences gained from the qualitative and quantitative studies have led to the initiation of an intervention project in Rwanda (Phase 3), where the inclusion of ultrasound in standard maternity care at health centre level will be evaluated in relation to pregnancy and delivery outcomes in parallel with a health economic evaluation and investigations of women's and health care professionals' experiences. The CROCUS project in Rwanda has been formally approved and supported by the Minister of Health.

FUNDING: Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare (FORTE), FORTE Marie Curie International Postdoc Fellowship (Ref. 2013-2699), Swedish Research Council (Ref. 2014-2672)

STATUS: The project has to date resulted in eight publications, four submitted manuscripts, and 12 conference abstracts/presentations. One doctoral student is currently working within the project (Sophia Holmlund, Umeå University, Sweden). Data collection ongoing.

PUBLICATIONS:

Edvardsson K, Lalos A, Åhman A, Small R, Graner S, Mogren I. Increasing possibilities – Increasing dilemmas: A qualitative study of Swedish midwives' experiences of ultrasound use in pregnancy. *Midwifery* 2016; 42:46-53

Edvardsson K, Ntaganira J, Åhman A, Sengoma JP, Small R, Mogren I. Physicians' experiences and views on the role of obstetric ultrasound in rural and urban Rwanda: a qualitative study. *Trop Med Int Health* 2016; 21(7):895–906

Åhman A, Lesio Kidanto H, Ngarina M, Edvardsson K, Small R, Mogren I. 'Essential but not always available when needed' - An interview study of physicians' experiences and views regarding use of obstetric ultrasound in Tanzania. *Glob Health Action* 2016; 9:31062

PREGNANCY AND INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

Kristina Edvardsson, Umeå University, Sweden/Judith Lumley Centre; in collaboration with Anna Axmon and Anna Rignell-Hydbom, Lund University, Sweden, Jessica Arvidsson, Halmstad University, Sweden

This project takes a life course approach to exploring associations between pregnancy and intellectual disability (ID). The project consists of two parts: the first part will focus on risk factors for ID starting from conception (IDconc), and the second part will focus on ID as a risk factor for adverse pregnancy outcomes (IDpreg).

The overall aim of IDconc is to investigate potential seasonality in ID births based on month of conception, whereas the overall aim of IDpreg is to investigate pregnancy related outcomes among women with ID in comparison with women from the general population.

The study will be based on Swedish national registers, both to establish study cohorts and to determine outcomes and potential pathways between exposure and outcome. In IDconc, we will collect information on all pregnant women during a specified time period. Their infants will be categorised as having or not having ID based on diagnoses made during their first years of life, and seasonality in ID births will be investigated. Maternal illness and use of prescribed drugs prior to and during the pregnancy will be assessed as potential pathways.

In IDpreg, women with ID will be identified through three different Swedish registers, and data on all their pregnancies will be collected. All other pregnancies during the same period will be used as referents. As women with ID are prone to use prescribed drugs, relevant drugs will be assessed as potential pathways.

FUNDING: Applications for funding submitted to the Swedish Research Council and the Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare

STATUS: Ethics application, data retrieval and initiation of analyses scheduled for 2017



Rwanda images by Kristina Edvardsson

PREGNANCY-RELATED COMPLICATIONS IN RWANDA: PREVALENCE, ASSOCIATED RISK FACTORS AND HEALTH ECONOMIC IMPACT, AND MATERNAL EXPERIENCES

Kristina Edvardsson, Umeå University, Sweden/Judith Lumley Centre; in collaboration with Paul Semasaka Sengoma, Umeå University, Sweden/University of Rwanda, Ingrid Mogren, Umeå University, Sweden, Gunilla Krantz, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, Cyprien Munyanshongore and Manasse Nzayirambaho, University of Rwanda

Since 2013, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) has been supporting a large research project on maternal health care in Rwanda. The project includes four PhD projects with the common aim of investigating various aspects of Rwanda's antenatal care and delivery services. This includes quality and utilisation of antenatal care and delivery services, pregnancy complications and their impact on health and family circumstances, with analyses of cost effectiveness. Rwanda is a low-income country, with approximately 61% of the 11,000,000-person population classified as poor. The maternal mortality has been estimated to be 201 per 100,000 live births, and the prevalence and impact of obstetric complications are largely unknown.

As part of his PhD, Dr Jean Paul Semasaka is focusing on determining the prevalence of pregnancy-related complications, their associated risk factors and their consequences to the woman and her family. The thesis includes population-based as well as health-facility based studies in combination with a qualitative study involving women who have experienced pregnancy-related complications. Dr Semasaka visited JLC in January 2016 to present his PhD work in a seminar.

FUNDING: The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)

STATUS: Data collection completed, data preparation and analyses ongoing; one paper published, one paper under peer-review, and two papers in preparation

PUBLICATION: Semasaka JPS, Krantz G, Nzayirambaho M, Munyanshongore C, Edvardsson K, Mogren I. Self-reported pregnancy-related health problems and self-rated health status in Rwandan women postpartum: a population-based cross-sectional study. *BMC Pregnancy Childbirth* 2016; 16:340

REPRODUCTIVE OUTCOMES AND MIGRATION (ROAM): AN INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

Rhonda Small, Touran Shafiei, Mary-Ann Davey

ROAM Steering Group: Birgitta Essen, Uppsala University, Sweden, Rhonda Small, La Trobe University, Australia, Mika Gissler, Institute of Health, Finland, Lisa Merry, McGill University, Canada, Jennifer Zeitlin, INSERM, France and EURO-PERISTAT, Marcelo Urquia, University of Manitoba, Canada, Sarah Villedsen, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

The collaboration aims to undertake comparative work on migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women's reproductive health outcomes and their views of maternity care in Europe, North America and Australia. The collaboration began with an initial grant awarded from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) International Opportunity Development Grant Scheme to establish research links between Canada and Australia for comparing reproductive health outcomes of immigrant and refugee women. The first meeting of a wider collaborative network with researchers from the UK, Italy, France, Belgium, and Finland was held at the European Congress of Epidemiology in Porto, Portugal in September 2004. Since then collaborators from a range of other countries have joined the collaborative network and annual meetings have been held.

ROAM collaborators met in Miami. Completed work was presented and further collaborative research was discussed. Projects with involvement from the Judith Lumley Centre in 2016 included:

- Participation in ROAM Special Issue, Migration – Impact on Reproductive Health, *Best Practice & Research: Clinical Obstetrics & Gynecology*.
- Cross-national comparison of offspring birthweight according to maternal country of birth and country of destination.

FUNDING: Expression of interest submitted for EU funding for multi-country intervention studies to improve migrant perinatal health

STATUS: Special Journal issue published: Migration – Impact on Reproductive Health. *Best Pract Res Clin Obstet Gynaecol* 2016;32

PUBLICATION:

Merry L, Vangen S, Small R. Caesarean births among migrant women in high-income countries. *Best Pract Res Clin Obstet Gynaecol* 2016; 32:88-99

2016 Research Program

LABOUR COMPANION EDUCATION (LACE): ESTABLISHING A BEST PRACTICE SUPPORT MODEL DURING CHILDBIRTH FOR MIGRANT AND REFUGEE WOMEN

Rhonda Small, Della Forster, Touran Shafiei; in collaboration with Tanya Farrell, Royal Women's Hospital; and in partnership with the Multicultural Centre for Women's Health (MCWH)

In every study conducted to date, migrant women have rated their maternity care much less positively than Australian-born women and problems with communication and being left alone and unsupported during childbirth are key reasons. Interpreters are rarely available for women during labour, except when a medical decision is being made, and very often only by telephone. Some migrant groups are also known to have high rates of caesarean section, even when clinical risk is taken into account, and communication problems may be implicated. We also know that continuous support during childbirth promotes shorter labour and is associated with lower rates of intervention, including caesarean sections.

This project aimed to pilot the establishment of a pool of bilingual women to act as labour companions to support migrant and refugee women who are not fluent in English and who are not able to bring someone with them in labour to help with communication.

In partnership with Multicultural Centre for Women's Health, a small number of women were appointed and trained for the role of bilingual labour companions to support 12 women from Ethiopia, Lebanon and Vietnam who were recruited from the antenatal clinics of the Royal Women's Hospital. Each woman and her appointed labour companion participated in a midwife-led education session at around 35 weeks' gestation where the focus was on how to provide continuous physical and emotional support during labour. Women contacted their labour companions when they went into labour and were supported by them during labour and birth. Follow-up interviews with women showed that they viewed the support they received as very positive.

FUNDING: Ian Potter research grant September 2014

STATUS: Project completed in 2016; final report submitted to funding body and project partners; manuscripts in preparation



TRANSITION TO CONTEMPORARY PARENTHOOD

EHLS (EARLY HOME LEARNING STUDY) AT SCHOOL

Jan Nicholson, Elizabeth Westrupp, Naomi Hackworth, Shannon Bennetts, Meabh Cullinane, Clair Cullen, Jasmine Love; in collaboration with Sheena Reilly, Fiona Mensah and Penny Levikis, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute; Donna Berthelsen, Queensland University of Technology; Lisa Gold, Deakin University

This project is a school-age follow-up of the Early Home Learning Study (EHLS), which was a large randomised controlled trial of a community-based parenting program for parents experiencing social disadvantage, called 'smalltalk'. Findings from EHLS showed that children who attended the smalltalk program showed benefits in the short-term. In this follow-up study, we hope to find out whether these benefits last into the school years, when children are 7-8 years old. Data are collected from parents and children during a home visit. If parents agree, data are also collected from the child's teacher via a brief online questionnaire, and will link to the child's school data (including NAPLAN results).

In March 2016 we began booking home visit assessments and have successfully collected data from over 300 families, with many more visits to be completed over the next two years. The EHLS at School team will grow in 2017 to accommodate the increased number of home visits. We have also commenced contacting schools, and data collection from teachers is currently underway.

FUNDING: NHMRC Partnership Grant 2014–2019

STATUS: Data collection and home visit assessments underway

PUBLICATION: Hackworth NJ, Berthelsen D, Matthews J, Westrupp EM, Cann W, Ukoumunne OC, Bennetts SK, Phan T, Scicluna A, Trajanovska M, Yu M, Nicholson JM. Impact of a brief group intervention to enhance parenting and the home learning environment for children aged 6–36 months: a cluster randomised controlled trial. *Prev Sci* 2016 (in press)

Research Program 2016

Nicholson JM, Cann W, Matthews J, Berthelsen D, Ukoumunne OC, Trajanovska M, Bennetts SK, Hillgrove T, Hamilton V, Westrupp E, Hackworth NJ. Enhancing the early home learning environment through a brief group parenting intervention: study protocol for a cluster randomised controlled trial. *BMC Pediatr* 2016; 16:73

EVALUATION OF THE GROWING TOGETHER PARENTING KIT: A MIXED METHODS STUDY

Della Forster, Jan Nicholson, Helen McLachlan, Michelle Newton, Heather Grimes, Fiona McLardie-Hore, Touran Shafiei and Sarah Hay

The Royal Women's Hospital has developed an educational kit for pregnant women about early parenting, known as *Growing Together*, with funding from the Victorian State Government. The kit has three components – an information book for parents that covers the journey from conception to one year of age, an 'App' that has been specifically designed for the project, and a children's book that parents are encouraged to read to their infants.

We are evaluating the kit using mixed methods, measuring various outcomes including parents' views and experiences of the care and information, women's experience of motherhood, attachment, infant development, and parental knowledge and confidence as well as the views and experiences of health professionals.

The evaluation consists of three components:

- Component A: a cluster randomised controlled trial including 1000 English-speaking first time mothers (500 of whom receive the Growing Together kit and 500 of whom receive the usual information book provided by the Women's). We followed women up at several times via telephone and post.
- Component B: an evaluation of the views and experiences of midwives and medical staff.
- Component C: an exploration of a broader rollout of the kit to 1500 pregnant women (including all women booking for maternity care at the Women's during the rollout period).

FUNDING: Royal Women's Hospital

STATUS: Data collection for all components completed; data analysis under way; one Higher Degree (Research) candidate (SH)



FAMILIES AT WORK: AN ONLINE SURVEY OF EMPLOYED AUSTRALIAN PARENTS

Amanda Cooklin, Jan Nicholson, Naomi Hackworth, Cattram Nguyen, Sharinne Crawford, Shannon Bennetts, Stacey Hokke; in collaboration with Liana Leach and Lyndall Strazdins, Australian National University

This is a brief prospective study of employed Australian parents, recruited via social media platforms. Data were collected online. We address the following research questions:

- What supports do parents need at work - are they the same for mothers and fathers?
- Are there differences in parents' support needs at different child ages and stages?
- Which supports and strategies are associated with low work-family conflict, high work-family enrichment, reduced perceived discrimination and overall mental health (i.e. low distress, fatigue, anxiety and burnout)?

The method used to collect data (via Facebook advertising) will also be systematically evaluated as a methodological sub-study for feasibility and cost. The sample will be compared to a national cohort of Australian parents to assess the generalisability of study findings; and the feasibility of this method for use in future studies.

FUNDING: Transforming Human Societies Research Focus Area 2016–2018

STATUS: In progress, data collected from over 5000 employed mothers and fathers nationally

PARENTING, PARENT WELLBEING AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN AUSTRALIA

Jan Nicholson, Amanda Cooklin, Cattram Nguyen, Elizabeth Westrupp; in collaboration with Stephanie Brown, Rebecca Giallo, Fiona Mensah, Melissa Wake, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, Royal Children's Hospital and the University of Melbourne; Donna Berthelsen, Kate Williams, Sue Walker, Queensland University of Technology; Rachel Feeney, University of Queensland

Growing Up in Australia, the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC) collects data every two years on 10,000 Australian children and their parents. The study is funded by Commonwealth Department of Social Services, managed by the Australian Institute of Family Studies, with data collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Jan Nicholson is one of the founding members of the LSAC Research Consortium, leading the parenting and family content collected at each wave.

2016 Research Program

This ongoing program of analytic work uses LSAC data to build our understanding of the contemporary issues affecting the health and wellbeing of mothers and fathers, and how this affects family functioning and shapes children's development. We examine a range of common child outcomes including socio-emotional adjustment, self-regulation, language, cognitive development and weight.

FUNDING: Australian Communities Foundation (Coronella sub-fund)

STATUS: Ongoing

PUBLICATIONS: Robson S, Vally H, Abdel-Latif M, Yu M, Westrupp E. Childhood health and developmental outcomes 9 years after cesarean delivery in an Australian birth cohort. *Pediatrics* 2016 (in press)

Hayes N, Berthelsen DC, Nicholson JM, Walker S. Trajectories of parental involvement in home learning activities across the early years: associations with socio-demographic characteristics and children's learning outcomes. *Early Child Development and Care* 2016 (in press). Epub 2016 Nov 30

POVERTY REDUCTION FOR SINGLE MOTHERS: THE ROLE OF CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS

Amanda Cooklin, Jan Nicholson; in collaboration with Kay Cook, Sarah Sinclair, RMIT; Huong Dinh, Australian National University

This new collaboration will investigate the role of child support payments as one policy measurer aimed at poverty reduction for single mothers and their children. Using data from the the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC) we address the following research questions: How robust are child support payments as a poverty reduction intervention for single mothers? Do child support payments promote single mothers' wellbeing, and support optimal parenting behaviours, independently of other related 'protective' socio-demographic and family factors? Does this policy intervention show measurable benefits to children's social, academic and health outcomes, at key ages and stages of children's development?

FUNDING: Building Healthy Communities Research Focus Area 2016–2017

STATUS: Ongoing

RECRUITING, RETAINING AND TRACING RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS VIA SOCIAL MEDIA: FEASIBILITY AND ETHICS

Naomi Hackworth, Sharinne Crawford, Jan Nicholson, Stacey Hokke, Shannon Bennetts; in collaboration with Jayne Lucke, ARCSHS, Patrick Keyzer, La Trobe Law School and Lawrie Zion

Department of Communications and Media, La Trobe University

The ability to effectively recruit, retain and trace families from diverse backgrounds is one of the greatest challenges to parenting and intervention research, and successful project completion. Traditional approaches to engage families in research are increasingly ineffective in light of contemporary communication patterns and mobile populations. Social media is a potentially useful recruitment and retention tool, particularly for 'hard-to-reach' populations who are under-represented in parenting research (fathers, disadvantaged families).

Despite increasing use of social media to recruit, retain and trace participants in research, current ethical guidelines in Australia provide little or no guidance to inform researchers' or Human Research Ethics Committees decisions around its use. This project aims to identify effective and ethical strategies to engage research participants using social media, and to build the scientific evidence base to inform ethical decision-making.

This is a four-phase project:

- i. review of academic and grey literature;
- ii. interviews with researchers and members of Australian HRECs;
- iii. online survey of researchers and HREC members; and
- iv. development of a set of guidelines for researchers and HREC members regarding the ethical use of online technologies in research.

This project will be instrumental in building the capacity of researchers and HREC members to make sound ethical decisions regarding social media-based research, and will benefit La Trobe University and the broader research community. Additionally, the study findings will directly inform strategies for use in two current parenting projects conducted by the Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program.

FUNDING: Transforming Human Societies Research Focus Area

STATUS: Ongoing; data collection complete; three papers in preparation

Research Program 2016

WORK FAMILY BALANCE, PARENTING AND FAMILY WELLBEING

Amanda Cooklin, Jan Nicholson, Cattram Nguyen, Elizabeth Westrupp; in collaboration with Lyndall Strazdins, Huong Dinh, Liana Leach, Australian National University; Angela Martin, University of Tasmania; Rebecca Giallo, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

This study uses national, longitudinal (2004–present) cohort data from over 5,000 employed parents and their children (Longitudinal Study of Australian Children) to identify the adverse effects of poor quality jobs and high work-family conflict on parents and children. Recent analyses have found, that for mothers and fathers both, entering into work-family conflict is associated with a corresponding decrease in their mental health, and parents with persistent work-family conflict show the poorest mental health of all employed parents. When work-family conflict is relieved, parents show improved mental health. These findings lend urgent impetus to improve the work conditions of employed parents in Australia.

Two symposia arising from this work were presented at the leading international Work and Family Researchers Network Conference in Washington, 2016. We also presented this work nationally in a symposium at the National Longitudinal Data Conference (Canberra, 2016).

FUNDING: Australian Communities Foundation through the Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

STATUS: Ongoing

PUBLICATION: Cooklin AR, Westrupp EM, Strazdins L, Giallo R, Martin A, Nicholson JM. Fathers at work: Work–family conflict, work–family enrichment and parenting in an Australian cohort. *J Fam Issues* 2016; 37(11):1611-35

Cooklin AR, Westrupp EM, Strazdins L, Giallo R, Martin A, Nicholson JM. Fathers at work: Work–family conflict, work–family enrichment and parenting in an Australian cohort. *J Fam Issues* 2016; 37(11):1611-35

Joss N, Cooklin A, Oldenburg B. A scoping review of end user involvement in disability research. *Disabil Health J* 2016; 9(2):189-96

Leach LS, Poyser C, Cooklin AR, Giallo R. Prevalence and course of anxiety disorders (and symptom levels) in men across the perinatal period: A systematic review. *J Affect Disord* 2016; 190:675-86

Westrupp EM, Strazdins L, Martin A, Cooklin A, Zubrick SR, Nicholson JM. Maternal work-family conflict and psychological distress: reciprocal relationships over 8 years. *J Marriage Fam* 2016; 78(1):107-26

Cooklin AR, Joss N, Husser E, Oldenburg B. Integrated approaches to occupational health and safety: A systematic review of outcomes and effectiveness. *Am J Health Promot* 2016 (in press). Epub 2016 Jan 5

Joss N, Dupré-Husser E, Cooklin A, Oldenburg B. The emergence of integrated approaches to worker health, safety and wellbeing in Australia. *Aust J Prim Health* 2016 (in press). Epub 2016 Sep 8

CROSS NATIONAL VALIDATION OF CHILD LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENTAL TRAJECTORIES

Naomi Hackworth and Shannon Bennetts; in collaboration with Jay Buzhardt, Charles Greenwood, Dale Walker & F. Jai, Juniper Gardens Children's Research Project, University of Kansas and Jan Matthews, Parenting Research Centre

In Australia about one quarter of children entering primary school have not achieved the necessary developmental milestones to succeed within the school environment. Identifying which children are at risk of poor developmental outcomes and intervening early is crucial to ensuring that all children have the best opportunity for optimal development and long term academic achievement. This study involves the validation of the Early Communication Indicator (IECI) for use in Australia. The ECI is an assessment tool being used widely in the US for monitoring the developmental progress of pre-school age children. It harnesses interactive technology to support data-driven child and family assessment in the field. The study compares developmental trajectories of Australian and US infants and toddlers using data from the Early Home Learning Study and the Early Head Start cohorts, and will inform future implementation of the ECI in Australia.

FUNDING: Transforming Human Societies Research Focus Area Visiting Fellowship Grants Scheme

STATUS: Analysis complete and paper in preparation

COLLABORATIVE WORK

ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN PARENTING STYLE, FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS, PSYCHOLOGICAL FLEXIBILITY, AND WELLBEING IN PARENT-YOUNG ADULT DYADS

Naomi Hackworth; in collaboration with Lorraine Fleckhammer, Swinburne University of Technology; Meredith Rayner, Murdoch Children's Research Institute

With more young people over the age of 18 remaining at home with their parents, the transition into adulthood has become an extended developmental period of emerging or young adulthood. The effect of this trend has yet to be thoroughly investigated, particularly, in terms of the potential impact of parenting style (a child rearing style laid down early in the parent-child relationship) on both the parent's and the young adult's psychological functioning. Through online surveys of young adults and their parents this study aims to examine the associations between parenting, the quality of family relationships, psychological flexibility, and the wellbeing of parents and their young adult children.

FUNDING: None

STATUS: Data collection complete; data analysis is in process and publication to be completed in 2017

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CENTRE OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE IN CHILD LANGUAGE

Jan Nicholson and Elizabeth Westrupp; in collaboration with Sheena Reilly, Griffith University; Melissa Wake, Angela Morgan, Sharon Goldfeld and Fiona Mensah, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute; Lisa Gold, Deakin University; James Law, Newcastle University, UK

The Centre of Research Excellence in Child Language (CRE-CL) links a number of Australian and international studies with the aim of advancing the science of how language develops, what goes wrong and when and how to intervene. It brings together a multi-disciplinary team of senior and emerging researchers to build research capacity and generate new knowledge. The CRE-CL brings together some of the best research, and leading researchers in the world incorporating the following organisations - MCRI, Deakin University and the Parenting Research Centre (all Melbourne based) - and international collaborators at the University of Newcastle (UK), and University of Iowa (USA).

FUNDING: NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence in Childhood Language grant 2011–2016

STATUS: Ongoing

PUBLICATION: Bennetts SK, Mensah FK, Westrupp EM, Hackworth NJ, Reilly S. The agreement between parent-reported and directly measured child language and parenting behaviors. *Frontiers in Psychology* 2016; 7:1710

Bennetts SK, Mensah FK, Westrupp EM, Hackworth N, Nicholson JM, Reilly S. Establishing agreement between parent-reported and directly measured behaviours. *AJEC* 2016 (in press)

King T, McKean C, Rush R, Westrupp E, Mensah F, Reilly S, Law J. Acquisition of maternal education and its relation to single word reading in middle childhood: an analysis of the millennium cohort study. *Merrill Palmer Quarterly* 2016 (in press)

Law J, Rush R, King T, Westrupp E, Reilly S. Early home activities and oral language skills in middle childhood: A quantile analysis. *Child Dev* 2016 (in press)

CHILDREN'S ATTENTION PROJECT: LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF CHILDREN WITH AND WITHOUT ADHD

Jan Nicholson; in collaboration with Emma Sciberras, Deakin University; Daryl Efron, Vicki Anderson, Tim Silk, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, Royal Children's Hospital and the University of Melbourne; Phillip Hazel, University of Sydney; Obi Ukuommune, University of Exeter, UK; Brad Jongeling, Joondalup Child Development Centre, Perth

The Children's Attention Project is a longitudinal study of a community sample of children with and without ADHD, examining the long-term effects of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder on children's behaviour, learning and

day-to-day living. It includes an assessment of the influence of parenting and parent wellbeing on outcomes for these children. Children have been tracked from ages 6-8 to 10-11 years, with a subgroup currently participating in a nested neuroimaging study.

FUNDING: NHMRC Project Grants 1065895, 2014-2018; 1008522, 2011-2015

STATUS: Ongoing

PUBLICATIONS: Mulraney M, Schilpzand EJ, Hazell P, Nicholson JM, Anderson V, Efron D, Silk TJ, Sciberras E. Comorbidity and correlates of disruptive mood dysregulation disorder in 6–8-year-old children with ADHD. *Eur Child Adolesc Psychiatry* 2016; 25(3):321-30

Sciberras E, Bisset M, Hazell P, Nicholson JM, Anderson V, Lycett K, Jongeling B, Efron D. Health-related impairments in young children with ADHD: a community-based study. *Child Care Health Dev* 2016; 42(5):709-17

Silk TJ, Genc S, Anderson V, Efron D, Hazell P, Nicholson JM, Kean M, Malpas CB, Sciberras E. Developmental brain trajectories in children with ADHD and controls: A longitudinal neuroimaging study. *BMC Psychiatry* 2016; 16:59

Mulraney M, Schilpzand EJ, Anderson V, Nicholson JM, Efron D, Hazell P, Sciberras E. Correlates of anxiety in 6- to 8-year-old children with ADHD. *J Atten Disord* 2016 (in press). Epub 2016 Mar 28

Bhide S, Sciberras E, Anderson V, Hazell P, Nicholson JM. Association between parenting style and socio-emotional and academic functioning in children with and without ADHD. A community-based study. *J Atten Disord* 2016 (in press). Epub 2016 Jul 28

Green JL, Rinehart N, Anderson V, Efron D, Nicholson JM, Jongeling B, Hazell P, Sciberras E. Association between autism symptoms and family functioning in children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder: a community-based study. *Eur Child Adolesc Psychiatry* 2016; 25(12):1307-18

COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING FOR HEALTHY LIFESTYLES (CBHL) INITIATIVE: ENGAGING COMMUNITIES IN CHILDHOOD OBESITY PREVENTION IN DISADVANTAGED AREAS

Jan Nicholson; in collaboration Andre Renzaho, Michael Polonsky, David Mellor, Julie Green, Brian Oldenburg, Kellie Horton; partners: VicHealth, Raising Children Network

Childhood obesity occurs most commonly among disadvantaged populations, a sub-population underrepresented in traditional prevention approaches. This project employs community engagement methodologies, to develop and focus-test new approaches to enable disadvantaged communities to more effectively address childhood obesity in their communities.

FUNDING: ARC Linkage Grant (LP130133485) 2013–2016

STATUS: Completed

PUBLICATIONS: Cyril S, Green J, Nicholson J, Agho K, Renzaho A. Exploring service providers' perspectives in improving childhood obesity prevention among CALD communities in Victoria, Australia. *PLoS One* 2016; 11:e0162184

Research Program 2016

EVALUATION OF SUPPORTED PLAYGROUPS IN QUEENSLAND

Jan Nicholson; in collaboration with Kate Williams, Donna Berthelsen, Queensland University of Technology

Supported playgroups are an important family policy strategy to support families with young children and funded through national, state, and local governments. This evaluation aims to establish evidence for the efficacy of supported playgroups in relation to child development and the wellbeing, capacity and social connectedness of parents. Mixed methods will be used including a systematic literature review, analysis of existing population datasets, collection of data from current playgroups and in-depth case studies.

FUNDING: Department of Education, Training and Employment Queensland 2014-2016

STATUS: Completed

PUBLICATIONS: Williams KE, Berthelsen D, Viviani M, Nicholson JM. Participation of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in a parent support programme: longitudinal associations between playgroup attendance and child, parent and community outcomes. *Child Care Health Dev* 2016 (in press). Epub 2016 Oct 13

Williams KE, Berthelsen D, Viviani M, Nicholson JM. Queensland supported playgroup evaluation: Final report for Queensland Department of Education and Training; 2016.

'TAKE A BREATH': VIDEOCONFERENCING GROUP INTERVENTION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH LIFE-THREATENING ILLNESS AND INJURY

Jan Nicholson; in collaboration with Vicki Anderson, Frank Muscara, Meredith Rayner, Maria McCarthy, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute and Royal Children's Hospital; Kylie Burke, University of Queensland; Robyn Walser, University of California, Berkeley

Parents of a child diagnosed with a life threatening illness or injury often experience debilitating stress and anxiety. When this persists it is associated with a range of difficulties for both parent and child. Building on findings from a longitudinal study of parents of these children, the *Take A Breath* program seeks to prevent or reduce parent traumatic symptoms. Using a videoconferencing format, parents take part in a brief group intervention, from the comfort of their home.

FUNDING: Royal Children's Hospital Foundation

STATUS: Ongoing

PUBLICATIONS: Rayner M, Dimovski A, Muscara F, Yamada J, Burke K, McCarthy M, Hearps SJC, Anderson VA, Coe A, Hayes L, Walser R, Nicholson JM. Participating from the comfort of your living room: Feasibility of a group videoconferencing intervention to reduce distress in parents of children with a serious illness or injury. *Child Fam Behavior Therapy* 2016; 38(3):209-24

Rayner M, Muscara F, Dimovski A, McCarthy MC, Yamada J, Anderson VA, Burke K, Walser R, Nicholson JM. Take A Breath: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial of an online group intervention to reduce traumatic stress in parents of children with a life threatening illness or injury. *BMC Psychiatry* 2016; 16:169

TEN-YEAR FOLLOW-UP OF THE MATERNAL HEALTH STUDY

Jan Nicholson; in collaboration with Stephanie Brown, Kelsey Hegarty, Deirdre Gartland, Hannah Woolhouse, Rebecca Giallo, Fiona Mensah, Harriet Hiscock, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute and University of Melbourne

Led by Stephanie Brown, the *Maternal Health Study* is a multi-wave, prospective cohort study investigating the health and well-being of over 1500 first-time mothers recruited from six Melbourne hospitals between 2003-2005. Jan Nicholson provides advice around measures and data collection methods for the 10-year follow-up which involves greater focus on parenting and child outcomes.

FUNDING: NHMRC Project Grant APP1048829, 2013-2017

STATUS: Ongoing

WHO ARE TODAY'S DADS? FATHERS OF CHILDREN GROWING UP IN NEW ZEALAND

Jan Nicholson; in collaboration with Susan Moreton, University of Auckland; Polly Awatere-Carr, University of Waikato; Jan Pryor, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

Growing Up in New Zealand is New Zealand's contemporary longitudinal study tracking the development of approximately 7,000 children from before birth until they are young adults. It seeks to provide unique information about what shapes children's early development and how interventions might be targeted to give every child the best start in life. Jan Nicholson is a member of the study's External Scientific Advisory Group, advises on the selection of parenting measures, and is co-investigator on the fathers' study collecting data at age 5 years.

FUNDING: New Zealand Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Science Investment Grant 2013-2016

STATUS: Completed

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MATERNITY CARE AND FAMILY SERVICES IN THE EARLY YEARS

COMPARING STANDARD MATERNITY CARE WITH ONE TO ONE MIDWIFERY SUPPORT (COSMOS): A RANDOMISED TRIAL



Helen McLachlan, Della Forster, Mary-Ann Davey, Michelle Newton; in collaboration with Lisa Gold, Deakin University; Mary Anne Biro, Monash University; Tanya Farrell and Jeremy Oats, Royal Women's

Hospital; Ulla Waldenström, Karolinska Institute; Leah Albers, University of New Mexico

Continuity of carer in the provision of maternity care has been strongly recommended and encouraged in Victoria and throughout Australia. Many hospitals responded by introducing caseload midwifery, a one to one midwifery model of care in which women are cared for by a primary midwife throughout pregnancy, birth and the early postnatal period. However, this model of care had not been subjected to rigorous evaluation.

The COSMOS trial compared caseload midwifery care with the standard options of care for women at low risk of medical complications at the Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne. The trial which recruited over 2,300 women, found that women who were randomly allocated to receive caseload midwifery care (compared with women allocated to standard care), were less likely to have a caesarean birth, more likely to have a normal birth, and less likely to have epidural pain relief during labour. The study also found that babies of women who had caseload midwifery care were less likely to be admitted to the special care nursery or neonatal intensive care. Women allocated to caseload midwifery were also more satisfied with their care during pregnancy, birth, and after the birth in hospital and at home. They also had more positive experiences of labour and birth.

The study is the first randomised controlled trial of caseload midwifery in Australia and only the fourth internationally. It is

also the largest study of its kind in the world. The results have assisted policy-makers and maternity services in planning for future models of maternity care in Australia and internationally.

FUNDING: NHMRC project grant 2007-2010

STATUS: 8 publications to date; 1 in draft

PUBLICATIONS:

McLachlan HL, Forster DA, Davey MA, Farrell T, Flood M, Shafiei T, Waldenström U. The effect of primary midwife-led care on women's experience of childbirth: results from the COSMOS randomised controlled trial. *BJOG* 2016; 123(3):465-74

Forster DA, McLachlan HL, Davey M-A, Biro MA, Farrell T, Gold L, Flood M, Shafiei T, Waldenström U. Continuity of care by a primary midwife (caseload midwifery) increases women's satisfaction with antenatal, intrapartum and postpartum care: results from the COSMOS randomised controlled trial. *BMC Pregnancy Childbirth* 2016; 16:28

ECO – EXPLORING THE INTRODUCTION, EXPANSION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF CASELOAD MIDWIFERY IN AUSTRALIA



Michelle Newton, Kate Dawson, Della Forster, Helen McLachlan

Caseload midwifery is a maternity model of care, which aims to provide women with continuity of carer from a known midwife. There is strong evidence that caseload care decreases interventions (e.g. caesarean births, analgesia in labour) as well as increasing women's satisfaction with care. Infant outcomes are also improved – our recent randomised controlled trial of caseload care compared with standard care found infants whose mothers were allocated to caseload were less likely to be admitted to the special care nursery and be low birthweight, and more likely to commence breastfeeding (McLachlan, Forster et al. 2012). In the caseload model woman have a primary midwife, and each midwife carries a 'caseload' of women, to whom she provides care throughout the antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal periods. When the woman is in labour, the midwife comes to provide care, unless she is on leave, on a scheduled day off, or if she has already worked the maximum hours in a 24-hour period. The midwife usually works with two or three other midwives to form a small group, with each providing back up care for the others, to maintain care by known care givers. A study we undertook in Victoria found that midwives working in caseload were more satisfied and less burnt out than their standard care counterparts, however there was some evidence that not all midwives want to work in this way, suggesting that the sustainability of the model needs exploration.

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The ECO study aims to explore the sustainability of caseload midwifery in Australia. This model of care is being promoted by many levels of government throughout Australia and an increasing number of hospitals are introducing the model. However, very little is known about the workforce implications of the model and therefore the possible scale and sustainability of this style of care.

This cross-sectional study involved contacting all public maternity hospitals in Australia to invite management and midwives to participate in the study. An online survey was sent to maternity managers of participating hospitals and then online or hard copy surveys were supplied to midwives around Australia. A survey of Victorian graduating midwifery students was also conducted to elicit their intent to work in a caseload model. We received responses from 149 maternity managers, 542 midwives from throughout Australia and from 129 graduating midwifery students from Victoria.

FUNDING: Nil

STATUS: Data collection complete; two papers published, one currently under review, two others in preparation

PUBLICATION: Dawson K, McLachlan H, Newton M, Forster D. Implementing caseload midwifery: Exploring the views of maternity managers in Australia - A national cross-sectional survey. *Women Birth* 2016; 29(3):214-22

EVALUATION OF VICTORIAN HOMEBIRTHING PILOTS

Helen McLachlan, Della Forster, Heather McKay, Rhonda Small, Mary-Ann Davey, Ya-Seng (Arthur) Hsueh, and Michelle Newton, in collaboration with Fiona Cullinane, the Royal Women's Hospital, Colleen White, Southern Health, and Susan Gannon, Western Health.

In most developed countries, including Australia, women usually give birth in hospital. Until recently, women in Australia who wanted to choose homebirth could only access this option privately, with most having care provided by midwives in private practice. In recent years however there have been a small number of publicly-funded homebirth models set up across the country. In Victoria, following consultation with key stakeholder groups, the Department of Health identified an opportunity to provide women with greater choice in place of birth through the introduction of a publicly funded homebirth model of maternity care. This led to the establishment of a homebirthing pilot program offering midwife-led homebirths through two Melbourne metropolitan hospitals – Sunshine Hospital and Casey Hospital.

This project aimed to evaluate the two homebirthing pilot programs. At each pilot/program site (hospital) there was a survey of new mothers who participated in the homebirth program, surveys of midwives and obstetric medical staff,

consultation with key stakeholders, an audit of relevant medical record data, an economic evaluation, and a review of relevant policies and procedures.

The evaluation was conducted on behalf of the Hospital and Health Service Performance Division, Department of Health (Victoria). The results of the evaluation formed a report submitted to the Department of Health; and has been used by government in decision making about the future operation and possible expansion of the homebirthing option in Victoria.

FUNDING: Victorian Department of Health

STATUS: Report completed; one paper published and one in preparation

PUBLICATION: McLachlan H, McKay H, Powell R, Small R, Davey MA, Cullinane F, Newton M, Forster D. Publicly-funded home birth in Victoria, Australia: Exploring the views and experiences of midwives and doctors. *Midwifery* 2016; 35:24-30



Improving The Health Of Aboriginal Mothers And Babies research team

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF ABORIGINAL MOTHERS AND BABIES THROUGH CONTINUITY OF MIDWIFE CARE: A MIXED METHODS TRANSLATIONAL STUDY

Baggarrook Yurrongi (Woiwurrung language of the Wurundjeri people) meaning *Woman's Journey*

Nuraagh Manma Buliana (Yorta Yorta language) meaning *All of us working together in pregnancy*

Helen McLachlan, Della Forster, Michelle Newton, Catherine Chamberlain, Belinda O'Connor, Fiona McLardie-Hore, Pamela McCalman; in collaboration with Sue Kildea, University of Queensland, Brisbane; Jane Freemantle and Karyn Ferguson, The University of Melbourne, Shepparton; Jennifer Browne and Simone Andy, Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation, Collingwood; Jeremy Oats and Ngaree Blow, Melbourne Health; Marika Jackomos, Mercy Hospital

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for Women, Heidelberg; Jacqueline Watkins, Western Health, St Albans; Sue Jacobs, Helena Maher and Jenny Ryan, The Royal Women's Hospital, Parkville; Susan Donath, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, Parkville; Lisa Gold, Deakin University, Burwood

Indigenous Australians have significantly poorer health than non-Indigenous Australians. Maternal mortality, low birthweight babies, preterm births, perinatal death and infant mortality are substantially higher for Indigenous mothers and babies. In partnership with the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO), the Royal Women's Hospital, the Mercy Hospital for Women, Sunshine Hospital and Goulburn Valley Health, this 5-year National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) funded study will evaluate the effect of continuity of midwifery care in pregnancy, labour, birth and the postnatal period (called caseload midwifery) on perinatal outcomes for Aboriginal women and their infants. Our previous randomised controlled trial of caseload midwifery for women at low risk of complications (which largely excluded Aboriginal women), the COSMOS trial, demonstrated substantial benefits for both mothers and babies, e.g. improved rates of low birthweight, preterm birth, special care and/or neonatal intensive care admissions for infants, improved breastfeeding initiation, more positive experiences of birth, increased satisfaction with care and fewer childbirth interventions.

We will explore the research translation capacity of maternity services to embed and sustain caseload midwifery care for Aboriginal women, and measure clinical outcomes to ascertain if the benefits of the caseload model are sustained for Aboriginal women. We will determine the acceptability of the model to Aboriginal women, and investigate the sustainability in partner organisations, including exploring the views of Koori Maternity Service (KMS) workers and midwives. Aboriginal methodologies, which recognise the importance of narratives and women's voices, will be integral to the study. By complementing existing services for Aboriginal women, we aim to bridge the gap between the current largely community-based care and the care women receive in hospital. The knowledge generated in this prospective mixed methods study will contribute to 'closing the gap' for Aboriginal people.

FUNDING: NHMRC, with partner funding from the five organisations with whom we are conducting the study

STATUS: Ethics approval has been received from St Vincent's HREC (multi-site approval) and La Trobe University HEC

PUBLICATION: Poster presentation at the Lowitja Conference 2016

VALIDATION STUDY OF DATA IN THE 2011 VICTORIAN PERINATAL DATA COLLECTION

Mary-Ann Davey, Maggie Flood, Sue McDonald, Wendy Pollock

In order to quantify the accuracy of data in the Victorian Perinatal Data Collection we conducted a validation study of the 2011 Perinatal Data. The study was conducted in collaboration with the Clinical Councils Unit, Victorian Department of Health, and the Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity.

Data collection for the validation study of a random sample of 1% of births in Victoria was completed on September 2014. 737 mother/baby pairs of records at the 3 tertiary hospitals and a random sample of other hospitals were checked and validated.

The audit included 15 hospitals and 2 homebirths at 7 rural sites, 4 inner metropolitan and 4 outer metropolitan sites. The research team comprised Maggie Flood (PhD scholar) and research assistants Rosemary Warren and Sonia Palma.

FUNDING: La Trobe University Faculty of Health Sciences Research Grant, Australian College of Midwives Victorian Branch Higher Degree Research Scholarship, Nurses Memorial Scholarship

STATUS: Data collection completed, data cleaning completed, reports and papers being prepared

PUBLICATIONS:

Flood M, McDonald S, Pollock W, Davey MA. Data accuracy in the Victorian Perinatal Data Collection: results of a validation study of 2011 data. *HIM J* 2016. Epub 2017 Jan 27

Flood M, Pollock W, McDonald S, Davey M-A. Trams, trains, planes and automobiles: logistics of conducting a statewide audit of medical records. *Aust N Z J Public Health* 2016; 40:448-50

COLLABORATIVE WORK

BIRTHPLACE IN AUSTRALIA: A PROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY

Helen McLachlan and Della Forster; in collaboration with Caroline Homer, University of Technology Sydney; David Elwood, Canberra Hospital; Jeremy Oats, Royal Women's Hospital; Maralyn Foureur, University of Technology Sydney; David Sibbritt, University of Technology Sydney; Hannah Dahlen, University of Technology Sydney

More than 7,500 babies are born outside conventional labour wards, either in birth centres or at home in Australia each year. However, there is limited evidence on the safety of these alternative settings, with concerns being raised about increased risk of stillbirth, early neonatal death, neonatal encephalopathy, meconium aspiration, brachial plexus injury, and fractured humerus or clavicle. High quality evidence

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about the risks and benefits associated with giving birth in different settings should be available to women, policy makers and those responsible for service provision.

Birthplace in Australia is a prospective cohort study which aims to compare the safety of planned birth at home, in birth centres and in stand-alone midwifery units with standard labour wards in Australia, for women at 'low risk' of complications at labour onset.

FUNDING: NHMRC Project Grant 2012-2015

STATUS: Data collection



PLANNED PARENTHOOD AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

IMPROVING MATERNITY CARE FOR MIGRANT WOMEN IN SWEDEN

Rhonda Small in collaboration with Erica Schytt and Ewa Andersson, Karolinska Institute, Sweden, Ulrika Byrskog and Birgitta Essen, Uppsala University, Sweden

This program of work aims to develop and test innovative models of maternity care for migrant women in an effort to improve their experiences of antenatal and intrapartum care, their knowledge about childbearing and the health care system, their emotional wellbeing and ultimately, their pregnancy outcomes.

In 2016, the first planned study commenced with the aim of assessing the acceptability and feasibility of group-based antenatal care, supported by childbirth-trained interpreters, for Somali women in the regional city of Borlänge and in a suburb of Stockholm, Spånga-Tennsta. Focus group discussions with Somali women and with antenatal care midwives are being undertaken to assist with designing an appropriate group antenatal care model which will be evaluated in a before and after design using historical controls. Evaluation questionnaires have been developed, translated and pilot-tested; and recruitment of the historical controls is under way.

FUNDING: Swedish Research Council

STATUS: Ethics approvals obtained; group antenatal care project under way

AN EVALUATION OF ACCESS AND EQUITY IN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL ABORTION FOLLOWING THE INTRODUCTION OF MIFEPRISTONE ON THE AUSTRALIAN PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS SCHEME

Angela Taft and Mridula Shankar; in collaboration with Philip Goldstone, Marie Stopes International Australia; Jayne Lucke, La Trobe University; Kirsten Black, University of Sydney; Kerry Petersen, La Trobe University; Danielle Mazza and Safeera Hussainy, Monash University

The inclusion of mifepristone, a safe and effective abortifacient, on the Australian Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme in 2013, has provided women in Australia with a non-surgical option for early pregnancy termination. Presently national data on abortion, including on availability and access, is unavailable. This study was conceived to provide new and up-to-date data on (a) the proportion of intended and unwanted pregnancies amongst women of reproductive age, (b) preferences for type of termination method, the direct and indirect costs, the challenges in seeking and obtaining an abortion, and key measures of access; and (c) geographical distribution of medical abortion services, and the challenges in the provision of these services.

Data collection for the project was completed in 2015 and involved three separate components:

- a) An online survey of registered medical abortion providers
- b) Computer assisted telephone interview (CATI) surveys with a random sample of 2013 women aged 18-45, and
- c) a self-completed survey of 2326 abortion clients in 14 Dr Marie clinics across Australia.

FUNDING: Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program, Marie Stopes International Australia, Women's Health Around Victoria

STATUS: Data analysis completed and the Marie Stopes client survey paper accepted

PUBLICATION: Shankar M, Black KI, Goldstone P, Hussainy S, Mazza D, Petersen K, Lucke J, Taft A. Access, equity and costs of induced abortion services in Australia: A cross-sectional study. *Aust N Z J Public Health* 2016 (in press)

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COLLABORATIVE WORK

ACCESSING CONTRACEPTION FOR EMERGENCY SUPPLY (ACCESS)

Angela Taft; in collaboration with Safeera Hussainy, Danielle Mazza, Kevin McNamara, Ayesha Ghosh and John Jackson, Monash University; Kirsten Black, University of Sydney; Rhonda Clifford and Sajni Gudka, University of Western Australia

Access to emergency contraception is essential as it helps prevent unwanted pregnancies. The levonorgestrel emergency contraceptive pill has been available over the counter since 2004 through community pharmacies without prescription. There are significant barriers to pharmacy access in Australia and overseas. This research project involves conducting a comprehensive barriers analysis to design pilot studies and ultimately evidence-based interventions to promote increased adherence with pharmacy guidelines and improve access for women.

FUNDING: Monash University, Bayer and Marie Stopes
STATUS: ongoing

THE AUSTRALIAN CONTRACEPTIVE CHOICE PROJECT (ACCORD)

Angela Taft; in collaboration with Danielle Mazza, Monash University; Kevin McGeechan, Kirsten Black, University of Sydney; Jayne Lucke, ARCSHS, La Trobe University; Marion Haas, University of Technology Sydney; Jeffrey Peipert, Washington University, USA

The primary aim of our study is to increase the uptake of LARCs amongst Australian women by trialling a complex intervention that involves training General Practitioners to provide “LARC First” structured contraceptive counselling and implementing rapid referral pathways to LARC insertion. In 2015, staff were employed, training materials and the referral pathway developed. In 2016, 46 GPs have been recruited and the trial commenced. The protocol was published.

FUNDING: NHMRC project grant

PUBLICATION: Mazza D, Black K, Taft A, et al. Increasing the uptake of long-acting reversible contraception in general practice: The Australian Contraceptive Choice Project (ACCORD) cluster randomised controlled trial protocol. *BMJ Open* 2016; 6:e012491



BREASTFEEDING

MILC (MOTHERS AND INFANTS LACTATION COHORT): A MULTI-SITE STUDY

Della Forster, Lisa Amir, Helen McLachlan, Anita Moorhead, Helene Johns; in collaboration with Rachael Ford, Royal Women's Hospital; Kerri McEgan, Mercy Hospital for Women

A high proportion of women in Australia initiate breastfeeding but many stop in the early months. In many developed countries, expressing breast milk has become increasingly prevalent. Little is known about the effect of early and longer-term breast milk expression on breastfeeding duration and on other factors such as maternal fatigue, stress and anxiety.

In this prospective cohort study exploring the frequency of breast milk expressing and the effect of expressing on breastfeeding outcomes and other factors, we recruited 1000 mothers of healthy term infants who planned to breastfeed from three hospitals (Mercy Hospital for Women, Frances Perry House and Royal Women's Hospital) prior to hospital discharge. The study involved completion of three structured interviews, face to face at recruitment and by telephone three and six months later. The primary outcome for comparison was feeding any breast milk at six months. Secondary outcomes included exclusive breastfeeding, maternal confidence and satisfaction with infant feeding.

Breast pump uptake at recruitment and subsequent use was high. Early breastfeeding problems were common and less than half of the infants had fed only at the breast in the first days of life. Feeding only at the breast prior to recruitment was associated with increased odds of receiving any breast milk at six months. Freedom to go out and leave the baby was the most commonly identified reason for expressing, with concern about milk supply the second most common reason. Adverse effects of breast pump use included pain and tissue damage.

Research Program 2016

FUNDING: Faculty of Health Sciences Research Grant; PhD scholarship

STATUS: Four papers published, main outcomes paper published in 2015; further analysis and dissemination underway, five conference presentations in 2016

PUBLICATIONS: Johns HM, Amir LH, Forster DA, McLachlan HL. Breast pump use amongst mothers of healthy term infants in Melbourne, Australia: A prospective cohort study. *Midwifery* 2016;33:82-9.

STATUS: Recruiting completed; protocol published; main outcomes paper published; further analysis and dissemination underway

PUBLICATION: Payne MS, Cullinane M, Garland SM, Tabrizi SN, Donath SM, Bennett CM, Amir LH. Detection of *Candida* spp. in the vagina of a cohort of nulliparous pregnant women by culture and molecular methods: Is there an association between maternal vaginal and infant oral colonisation? *Aust N Z J Obstet Gynaecol* 2016 56(2):179-84

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/jlc/research/breastfeeding/castle>

THE ROLE OF MICRO-ORGANISMS (*S. AUREUS* & *C. ALBICANS*) IN THE PATHOGENESIS OF BREAST PAIN AND INFECTION IN LACTATING WOMEN (CASTLE STUDY)



Lisa Amir and Méabh Cullinane; in collaboration with Suzanne Garland and Sepehr Tabrizi, Bio21 Molecular Science & Biotechnology, University of Melbourne; Susan Donath, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute; Catherine Bennett, Deakin University

This project is a descriptive study of 360 breastfeeding women, recruited from the Royal Women's Hospital and Frances Perry House. The aim of the study was to investigate the role of microorganisms in nipple and breast pain in breastfeeding women. At present, there is controversy about whether burning nipple pain associated with radiating breast pain is caused by fungal infection (*Candida albicans*, known as "thrush") or bacterial infection (*Staphylococcus aureus*, known as "golden staph").

For this study, at the time of recruitment, swabs were collected from mothers' noses, nipples and vagina and a questionnaire asking about previous staphylococcal and candida infections was completed. Following birth, the participating mothers were followed up six times: while still in hospital and then weekly at home until four weeks postpartum. At each of these follow-up meetings participants filled out a questionnaire and swabs were taken from the mother's nose and nipple as well as the baby's nose and mouth. Breast milk samples were also taken. At eight weeks postpartum a final telephone interview was held, collecting further information about breastfeeding problems such as nipple and breast pain.

The main outcomes paper was published in 2013 in *BMJ Open*. There was strong evidence of an association between the presence of *Candida* and nipple and breast pain, while *Staphylococcus aureus* was present in both women with and without pain. One further paper was published in 2016.

FUNDING: NHMRC Health Professional Research Fellowship 2006–2010 (LA); NHMRC Project Grant 2009–2010; NHMRC Equipment Grant 2009–2010; Helen Macpherson Smith 2011–2012



RUBY focus group with Sarah Hay, Lisa Amir and volunteers

RUBY: RINGING UP ABOUT BREASTFEEDING: A RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIAL EXPLORING EARLY TELEPHONE PEER SUPPORT FOR BREASTFEEDING



Della Forster, Helen McLachlan, Lisa Amir, Anita Moorhead, Touran Shafiei, Rhonda Small, Heather Grimes and Fiona McLardie-Hore; in collaboration with Mary-Ann Davey, Monash University; Cindy-Lee Dennis, University of Toronto, Canada; Christine East, Monash Health; Lisa Gold, Deakin University; Kate Mortensen and Nanette Shane, Australian Breastfeeding Association

The RUBY study is the first Australian randomised controlled trial (RCT) to test the effectiveness, including cost effectiveness, of a proactive approach to peer support for breastfeeding. The mother-to-mother peer support was provided in a proactive manner for mothers who may not easily have had access to, nor readily sought, such support themselves, with the aim of increasing the proportion of women breastfeeding for at least six months. It targeted women with low rates of breastfeeding, recruiting women from three Victorian hospitals, the Royal Women's Hospital, Monash Health and Sunshine Hospital (Western Health) whose catchments included areas with some of the lowest breastfeeding rates in the state.

The project has been collaboration between the university and hospital sectors and the Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA), the peak community advocacy group for breastfeeding. The two arms of this trial were 1) standard

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care or 2) standard care plus telephone support from another mother up to 6 months postpartum. Peer volunteers attended one training session to provide empathy, encouragement and social support to the women by telephone, as well as information and suggestions about existing clinical and support services for participants. In total 1152 participants were recruited to the study between February 2013 and December 2015, with 233 volunteers providing telephone support to women allocated to the intervention. Follow up interviews of participants (primary outcome) were conducted at 6 months' post birth, and 1016 interviews were completed. In total, 359 mail out surveys were returned from women who received the peer support intervention. Two focus groups of volunteers have been conducted and 134 volunteers have completed an on-line survey regarding their experience of supporting a mother. Face to face interviews have been conducted with 10 mothers who received peer support.

FUNDING: Felton Bequest and La Trobe University

STATUS: Primary and secondary outcome data have been collected and data analysis has commenced; trial protocol published

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/jlc/research/breastfeeding/ruby>

RURAL AND CITY DESIGN WORKSHOPS TO PROMOTE BREASTFEEDING IN PUBLIC

Lisa Amir and Helene Johns; in collaboration with Julie Rudner, La Trobe University; and in partnership with local government and the Australian Breastfeeding Association

One of the identified barriers to breastfeeding is the current lack of support for women breastfeeding in public. Women who are not comfortable breastfeeding outside their home are likely to breastfeed for a shorter duration than women who breastfeed in public spaces. We used an innovative design workshop (charrette) method to address the current stigma associated with breastfeeding in public. After meetings with key stakeholders in rural, regional and urban Victoria in late 2015, we met with mothers in the first half of 2016. We held workshops and consultations in settings identified by local stakeholders as areas where mothers faced particular barriers to breastfeeding outside the home, and received input from over 50 mothers, as well as health professionals and council planning staff in three local government areas (Rural City of Swan Hill, City of Greater Bendigo and City of Melbourne). Urban designer, Jenny Donovan, prepared a range of designs based on the workshops, which has been shared with stakeholders at each council. The project was short-listed for a VicHealth 2016 Award for Research into Action.

FUNDING: Building Health Communities Research Focus Area, La Trobe University, 2015

STATUS: Project complete, report and publication in preparation

SUPPORTING BREASTFEEDING IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES (SILC)

Helen McLachlan, Della Forster, Lisa Amir, Rhonda Small, Méabh Cullinane, Touran Shafiei, Lyn Watson, Rhian Cramer in collaboration with Lael Ridgway, School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University



Breastfeeding provides infants with the optimal start to life, yet despite recommendations from the World Health Organization and high rates of breastfeeding initiation, exclusive breastfeeding for six months is uncommon in Australia. Increased breastfeeding support early in the postpartum period may improve breastfeeding maintenance. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) provided funding to trial interventions aimed at increasing breastfeeding duration in Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Victoria. This trial, called SILC (Supporting breastfeeding In Local Communities), was a three-arm cluster randomised controlled trial evaluating whether two specific community-based interventions increase breastfeeding maintenance in Victorian LGAs. Ten LGAs with a lower than average rate of any breastfeeding at hospital discharge and more than 450 births per year agreed to participate and were randomly allocated to one of three trial arms. These trial arms were: 1) standard care; 2) early postnatal home-based breastfeeding support visits to women at risk of breastfeeding cessation or 3) home-based breastfeeding support visits plus access to community-based breastfeeding drop-in centres. Home visits were conducted by experienced Maternal and Child Health Nurses (SILC-MCHNs). Breastfeeding drop-in centres were staffed by SILC-MCHNs. The interventions ran for a nine-month period from July 2012 to March 2013.

The primary outcome was the proportion of infants receiving any breast milk at four months of age. The secondary outcomes were the proportion of infants receiving any breast milk at three months and six months; the exploration of early breastfeeding problems and women's satisfaction with breastfeeding support; the investigation of SILC-MCHN and MCH co-ordinator satisfaction with SILC; and the comparison of pre-intervention and post-intervention breastfeeding rates in each LGA. Breastfeeding outcomes were obtained from routinely collected Maternal and Child Health (MCH) centre data, including a new question collecting infant feeding 'in the last 24 hours'. Information was also obtained directly from women via a postal survey when their infants were six months of age.

We found no difference in breastfeeding at four months in either the home visit or home visit plus drop-in compared with the comparison arm, no difference in breastfeeding at

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three or six months, nor in breastfeeding in any LGA before or after the intervention.

Early home-based and community-based support proved difficult to implement. Interventions to increase breastfeeding in complex community settings require sufficient time and partnership building for successful implementation.

FUNDING: Department of Education and Early Childhood Development 2011–2014

STATUS: Final report submitted to DEECD; trial protocol published; primary outcomes paper published, another paper published and three in preparation

PUBLICATIONS:

McLachlan HL, Forster DA, Amir LH, Cullinane M, Shafiei T, Watson LF, Ridgway L, Cramer RL, Small R. Supporting breastfeeding in Local Communities (SILC) in Victoria, Australia: a cluster randomised controlled trial. *BMJ Open* 2016; 6:e008292

Ridgway L, Cramer R, McLachlan HL, Forster DA, Cullinane M, Shafiei T, Amir LH. Breastfeeding support in the early postpartum: Content of home visits in the SILC trial. *Birth* 2016; 43(4):303-12

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/jlc/research/breastfeeding/silc>



REDUCING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

BUILDING A PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: THE KNOWLEDGE AND NEEDS OF MIDWIVES IN THREE MUNICIPALITIES OF TIMOR-LESTE

Kayli Wild, Angela Taft, Susan McDonald; in collaboration with Lidia Gomes, Angelina Fernandes, Guilhermina de Araujo, Isabelita Madeira, Livio da Conceicao Matos, the National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL)

In Timor-Leste around half the women of reproductive age (47%) have experienced physical or sexual violence in the past 12 months. As front-line health providers for women across the country, midwives are a key access point in rural and remote areas. This research explores midwives' knowledge and needs in responding to violence against women in three districts of Timor-Leste. Funded by a La

Trobe Transforming Human Societies Research Focus Area grant, interviews were conducted from May to July 2016, and included 48 midwives and community leaders in a variety of health care settings in Timor-Leste.

The findings provide rich insights into midwives' current practices that can be used to tailor training materials which build on midwives' strengths and help fill gaps in knowledge. A further analysis of factors which enable or constrain the ability of midwives to respond to cases of violence reveals critical health system supports which should be implemented alongside a national training program. This research highlights the potential of a 'whole health facility' approach which addresses the capacity of all health centre staff and managers to respond appropriately, supports leadership and links health services with wider social change processes.

FUNDING: La Trobe Transforming Human Societies Research Focus Area grant

STATUS: Completed, report published, video made

PUBLICATIONS:

Wild K, Taft A, Gomes L, Madeira I, Matos LdC, de Araujo G, Fernandes A, McDonald S. Building a primary health care response to violence against women: The knowledge and needs of midwives in three districts of Timor-Leste. Dili, Melbourne: National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL), La Trobe University; 2016

Wild K, Taft A, Gomes L, McDonald S, Madeira I, Matos LdC, de Araujo G, Fernandes A. Parteiros Kontra Violensia (Midwives Against Violence: A video to promote discussion amongst health services in Timor-Leste) [Tetun language midwifery education video]. Dili, Melbourne: Universidade Nacional Timor Lorosa'e (UNTL) in collaboration with La Trobe University; 2016

Wild K, Taft A, McDonald S, Fernandes A, Gomes L, Madeira I, Matos LdC, de Araujo G. Midwives Against Violence: Discussion questions to accompany video. Dili, Melbourne: National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL), La Trobe University; 2016

HARMONY: A WHOLE OF GENERAL PRACTICE INTERVENTION WITH BILINGUAL GPS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATES TO IMPROVE IDENTIFICATION AND REFERRAL OF WOMEN EXPERIENCING FAMILY VIOLENCE, ESPECIALLY SOUTH ASIAN COMMUNITIES – A FEASIBILITY STUDY

Angela Taft, Rhonda Small and Mridula Shankar; in collaboration with Kelsey Hegarty, University of Melbourne; Gene Feder, Bristol University, UK, Douglas Boyle, Melbourne University; Roshan Bhandary and Purnima Katnas, InTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence

The Australian government has identified the crucial role of an effective primary care system to reduce the health damage caused by domestic/family violence (DFV). However, evidence of effective intervention is limited, and there have been no intervention studies in healthcare settings that focus

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on the needs of immigrant communities. The Harmony pilot study conducted in collaboration with Melbourne and Bristol (UK) Universities and InTouch family violence services, is a cultural adaptation of a highly successful UK trial (IRIS) to increase clinicians' rates of identification and referral of women patients experiencing DFV.

The primary aim of the pilot project is to test the feasibility and effectiveness of a program of specialist DFV training and referral support in increasing the rates of identification, documentation and referrals made by general practice clinicians of women patients experiencing DFV. A secondary aim is to evaluate the use and expanded application of a GP systems software developed to anonymously collect aggregated patient data on identification and referral of DFV incidents.

Four general practices located in Melbourne's North West with large South Asian populations were recruited in mid-2015, and two clinics were randomly assigned to the intervention, with the remaining two clinics providing standard care. Whole of practice specialist DFV in-clinic trainings were conducted in October 2015 by a GP trainer and DFV case worker/advocate. These sessions were attended by approximately 35 clinical and administrative staff across the two intervention clinics. At the end of the intervention period (February 26), data were analysed to assess and compare the rates of DFV identification and referral across intervention and comparison sites.

FUNDING: Transforming Human Societies and Building Healthy Communities RFA grants

STATUS: Completed, NHMRC project grant application made in 2016 to scale up to full trial

IMPROVING MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH NURSE CARE FOR VULNERABLE MOTHERS (MOVE): A CLUSTER RCT OF MCH SCREENING FOR FAMILY VIOLENCE



Angela Taft, Rhonda Small, Leesa Hooker; in collaboration with Cathy Humphreys and Kelsey Hegarty, University of Melbourne; Catina Adams, Hume City Council; Ruby Walter, Victoria University, Paul Agius, Burnet Institute

Evidence for effectiveness and sustainability of intimate partner/family violence (FV) screening in health care settings is limited. In 2009–10, the Victorian Government introduced a mandatory MCH nurse FV screening policy when babies are four weeks old. We tested whether a theory-informed, MCH nurse-designed model of screening and care increased screening, disclosure, safety planning and referral rates of mothers experiencing FV compared with usual care.

MOVE was a cluster RCT involving eight MCH nurse teams. Normalisation Process Theory (NPT) was incorporated into the design, implementation and evaluation of the MOVE trial to enhance its sustainability. Following 12 months' implementation, we assessed the primary outcomes of FV inquiry, disclosure/safety planning and referral using data from MCHN routine data and a survey to 10,472 women who gave birth ≤ 8 months. We also undertook process and impact evaluation using online surveys of all nurses and stakeholder interviews. In 2013, we undertook a two-year follow-up collecting all routine data for 2012 and 2013 and process evaluation involving online MCH nurse surveys and stakeholder interviews.

During the intervention year, MCH nurses ($n \sim 160$) saw 15,546 infants ≤ 12 months. From routine data, MOVE teams did not screen at significantly higher rates at scheduled four-month visits (IG 36.5% versus CG 23.5%). However, when non-routine three-month checklist rates/consultations were added intervention screening rates averaged 63.1%. Safety planning rates were threefold higher (IG 4.2% versus CG 1.42%), but referral rates were negligible. 25% mothers returned surveys, 6.8% reported violence in previous 12 months and 2.8% reported abuse in pregnancy. No adverse events were recorded.

Two years following the intervention, safety planning rates had increased from 4.2% to 5.9% compared with 1.4% in the comparison arm. There were no differences in referral rates. From nurse surveys, MOVE nurses are still using the MOVE resources. Nurse-centred screening models can increase discussions with post-partum mothers, leading to more disclosure and safety planning in this vulnerable period.

In 2016, we have continued to publish and analyse data from this study

FUNDING: ARC Linkage Project 2009–2011

STATUS: Intervention and two-year follow-up complete; two further papers published

PUBLICATIONS:

Hooker L, Taft A. Using theory to design, implement and evaluate sustained nurse domestic violence screening and supportive care. *J Research in Nursing* 2016; 21(5-6):432-42

Hooker L, Samaraweera NY, Agius PA, Taft A. Intimate partner violence and the experience of early motherhood: A cross-sectional analysis of factors associated with a poor experience of motherhood. *Midwifery* 2016; 34:88-94

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/ilc/research/reducing-violence-against-women-and-children/move>

TACKLING ALCOHOL-RELATED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (ARDV): BIG BID

Angela Taft, Ingrid Wilson, Robin Room, Ann-Marie Laslett, Sarah McLean, with Gail Gilchrist (Kings College, UK) and Kate Graham (CAMH, Canada)

The aim of this program of work is to:

- a) analyse the complex relationship between alcohol misuse and domestic violence across the life cycle and among diverse family models;
- b) assess the effectiveness of current policies, programs and front line responses to respond to ARDV; and
- c) propose strategies at individual, relationship, family, community and societal levels to prevent and reduce alcohol-related domestic violence

Following the announcement of the Big Bid funding, Ingrid Wilson was appointed as a Research Fellow and coordinator of this work. The project group has held eight development meetings and the focus has been on strengthening the collaboration between JLC and the Centre for Alcohol Policy Research and international colleagues. Together the group has produced a joint submission to the review of the Victorian Liquor Control Reform Act, submitted six grant applications, several joint papers and presented a symposium on alcohol-related family violence at the World Congress on Public Health in Melbourne.

FUNDING: La Trobe Big Bid funding 2016-2018

STATUS: Ongoing

INFLUENCE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ON SEVERE ACUTE MATERNAL MORBIDITY (VAWAMM)

Beatriz Paulina Ayala Quintanilla, Angela Taft, Susan McDonald, Wendy Pollock

Violence against women (VAW) is a major public health problem and a violation of human rights worldwide. Many women endure this abuse usually exerted by their intimate partners (IPV). The lifetime prevalence estimates of IPV have ranged from 15% to 71%, and many studies have reported adverse repercussions of IPV on women's health including during pregnancy period.

Similarly, maternal mortality is a catastrophic event, which has a dramatic negative impact on families and surviving children. Maternal mortality is only a small proportion of the global burden of maternal morbidity because for one maternal death there are many women affected by pregnancy-related complications (severe acute maternal morbidity, SAMM).

Thus, studying SAMM, which is the stage before maternal death, can provide valuable information about critically ill patients who are an important component of maternal

morbidity spectrum. However, little is known about the underlying factors that undermine maternal health and most studies have no focus on the impact of VAW (particularly intimate partner violence) affecting critically ill obstetric patients. Therefore, this project is a case-control study, which aims to investigate the influence of violence against women on severe acute maternal morbidity in a tertiary health care facility in Lima-Peru.

FUNDING: None

STATUS: Data collection commenced in October 2015; sample size of 218 participants (109 cases, 109 controls); face to face interviews of the 218 participants were completed; working on extracting information from the medical records of each participant

COLLABORATIVE WORK

I-DECIDE: AN INTERNET-BASED SAFETY DECISION AID FOR WOMEN EXPERIENCING INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE: A RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIAL

Angela Taft; in collaboration with Kelsey Hegarty, Cathy Humphreys and Lorna O'Doherty, University of Melbourne; Elizabeth Murray, University College London; Nancy Glass, Johns Hopkins Centre for Global Health

The I-DECIDE project aims to develop and evaluate an online intervention enabling women experiencing domestic violence to consider the health of their relationships, their safety planning and support options, reach a carefully thought through decision that reflects their personal priorities, and make appropriate plans safely for themselves and their children.

The project is now nearing completion. The third phase of the project, which is the evaluation of the I-DECIDE online intervention through a randomised controlled trial, was completed in September 2016 with a total of n=422 women participating. We achieved approximately 80% retention between baseline and 12 month follow up across the two arms of the study. Analysis of primary outcome data has been completed, and journal articles are being prepared for publication. We are currently conducting process evaluation interviews with women from both the intervention and control arms to better understand their experiences using the websites. We are also exploring various options for conducting implementation trials in 'real world' settings to examine appropriateness, feasibility and uptake.

FUNDING: ARC Discovery Grant 2013-2016

STATUS: All data collected, analysis complete and outcomes paper underway

PUBLICATION: Tarzia L, Murray E, Humphreys C, Glass N, Taft A, Valpied J, Hegarty K. I-DECIDE: An online intervention drawing on the psychosocial readiness model for women experiencing domestic violence. *Womens Health Issues* 2016; 26(2):208-16

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WOMEN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY STUDY: FERTILITY, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND WOMEN'S EXPERIENCES OF HEALTH SERVICES IN TIMOR LESTE

Kayli Wild, Angela Taft; Linda Kelly, Institute for Human Security and Social Change, La Trobe University; in collaboration with Lidia Gomes, Joao Martins, Angelina Fernandes and Guilhermina de Araujo, the National University of Timor-Leste (UNTL)

This study builds on our recent research with midwives in Timor Leste, on their knowledge and needs in responding to violence against women. This study extends this work by bringing the voices of women who have experienced violence to further understand the relationship between fertility and violence, how women keep themselves safe and what type of information and help from health providers women find most useful. In-depth audio interviews with women will be used to construct a series of audio-visual narratives to be included in health provider training and to inform the development of models of care which are based on the health, wellbeing and family planning needs of vulnerable women in Timor Leste.

FUNDING: ARC DECRA 2016–2019

STATUS: In progress



Kayli Wild and midwifery students at UNTL
(Women's health and safety study: fertility, domestic violence and women's experiences of health services in Timor Leste)

Education and Capacity Building



POSTGRADUATE STUDY

Higher degree candidates at the Judith Lumley Centre come from a wide range of backgrounds – including midwifery, nursing, medicine, pharmacy, social science – to work on projects related to infant and family health.

Congratulations to Leesa Hooker who graduated in 2016, her thesis was titled *Strengthening Maternal and Child Health Nursing Practice for Women and Children Experiencing Family Violence*. Leesa was awarded the Nancy Millis Award for the exceptionally high quality of her thesis.

Ingrid Wilson won the best student poster award at the 21st International Nursing Network on Violence Against Women conference, hosted by the Judith Lumley Centre in Melbourne in October 2016. The title of her poster was *“As soon as there was no alcohol it was just like it never happened.” Women’s experience of fear and harm from an alcohol-affected intimate partner.*

Congratulations to Fiona McLardie-Hore, Charlene Smithson and Anita Moorhead who were upgraded to PhD in 2016.

Congratulations to Anna Fragkoudi who received her Masters in Applied Science.

Fiona Burgemeister, Mercy Otsin, Belinda O’Connor, Catina Adams, Nawal Abdulghnai and Sara Stelfox commenced their PhDs in 2016.

Monthly postgraduate meetings give students the opportunity to present their work in progress, as well as to participate in educational sessions on literature searching, research methods, statistical analysis, and other relevant topics.

Postgraduate coordinators: Touran Shafiei and Amanda Cooklin.

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

Developing and testing an online moderated peer support intervention to prevent postnatal depression

Sara Stelfox, supervised by Helen McLachlan, Della Forster and Touran Shafiei

Breastfeeding practices and experiences of women requiring medicines during lactation

Moni Rani Saha, supervised by Lisa Amir and Kath Ryan (School of Pharmacy, University of Reading, UK)

Clinical reasoning: adopting and adapting a simple tool for capturing the complexities of pain

Lester Jones, supervised by Rhonda Small

Diabetes and Antenatal Milk Expressing (DAME): a randomised controlled trial

Anita Moorhead, supervised by Della Forster and Lisa Amir

How does the Enhanced Maternal and Child Health Service in Victoria support vulnerable families, in particular those experiencing family violence?

Catina Adams, supervised by Angela Taft and Leesa Hooker

Evaluating a new Parenting Kit designed by the Royal Women’s Hospital: a mixed methods study

Sarah Hay, supervised by Helen McLachlan, Michelle Newton, Della Forster and Touran Shafiei

Evaluation of area-based initiatives to improve outcomes in children from disadvantaged families

Fiona Burgemeister, supervised by Jan Nicholson, Naomi Hackworth and Sharinne Crawford

Exploring hospital practices immediately after birth in Saudi Arabia: A mixed method study

Nawal Abdulgani, supervised by Lisa Amir, Kristina Edvardsson and Della Forster

Exploring the introduction, expansion and sustainability of caseload midwifery: A national cross sectional study

Kate Dawson, supervised by Della Forster, Michelle Newton and Helen McLachlan

Exploring the prevalence and experiences of women with disabilities that use maternity services at the Royal Women’s Hospital in Victoria

Charlene Smithson, supervised by Helen McLachlan, Della Forster and Michelle Newton

Improving health of Aboriginal mothers via continuous midwife care

Belinda O’Connor, supervised by Helen McLachlan, Della Forster and Michelle Newton

Education and Capacity Building

A mixed methods evaluation of the PANDA Perinatal Anxiety and Depression Australia National Perinatal Depression Helpline

Laura Biggs, supervised by Helen McLachlan, Della Forster, Touran Shafiei and Pranee Liamputtong

Nipple pain in early motherhood

Miranda Buck, supervised by Lisa Amir and Karalyn McDonald (Monash University)

Non-medical reasons for caesarean section – factors influencing decision-making in Australian women

Sarmin Sayeed, supervised by Rhonda Small, Mary-Ann Davey and Karalyn McDonald (Monash University)

Optimal method to express, store and transport breast milk from home to hospital in two settings: a developed and a developing country

Ranmali Rodrigo, supervised by Lisa Amir and Della Forster

A mixed methods study of post abortion women and service providers in Ghana

Mercy Otsin, supervised by Angela Taft, Leesa Hooker and Kirsten Black (Sydney University)

Perinatal and obstetric health outcomes of Eastern African immigrant women in Victoria, Australia: a population based study

Fetene Berhanu Belihu, supervised by Rhonda Small and Mary-Ann Davey (Monash University)

Fearing the “changed” man: Women’s experience of alcohol-related intimate partner violence. A constructivist grounded theory study

Ingrid Wilson, supervised by Angela Taft and Kathryn Graham (Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Ontario, Canada)
Submitted October 2016

The experience of labour pain

Laura Whitburn, supervised by Rhonda Small, Mary-Ann Davey (Monash University) and Lester Jones

Pass it on: implementing a breastfeeding peer support program

Heather Grimes, supervised by Della Forster, Helen McLachlan and Touran Shafiei

Reproductive health decision-making in Municipio Viqueque, Baucau, Dili and Ermera, Timor-Leste

Heather Julie Wallace, supervised by Angela Taft, Susan McDonald and Suzanne Belton (Charles Sturt University)

RUBY - Ringing up about breastfeeding early - a randomised controlled trial

Fiona McLardie-Hore, supervised by Della Forster, Helen McLachlan and Touran Shafiei

SILC – Supporting infant feeding in local communities – evaluation of SILC processes

Rhian Cramer, supervised by Helen McLachlan, Della Forster and Touran Shafiei

Strengthening Maternal and Child Health nursing practice for women and children experiencing family violence

Leesa Hooker, supervised by Angela Taft and Rhonda Small

Violence against women, maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity

Beatriz Paulina Ayala Quintanilla, supervised by Angela Taft, Susan McDonald and Wendy Pollock

What is the relationship between self-efficacy and position in the stages of change (or other) pathway for women experiencing intimate partner violence?

Sonia Reisenhofer, supervised by Angela Taft, Mary-Ann Davey and Kelsey Hegarty (University of Melbourne)

STUDENTS CO-SUPERVISED BY JLC STAFF

Examining postpartum haemorrhage: risk factors, data quality and reporting

Maggie Flood, supervised by Mary-Ann Davey (Monash University), Sue McDonald and Wendy Pollock

Fathers’ work-family conflict and children’s developmental outcomes: mental and physical health and cognitive outcomes of children aged 4-5 years (MPH Project)

Shakun Sharma, supervised by Amanda Cooklin, Catram Nguyen, Jan Nicholson and Hassan Vally

Factors associated with infant formula supplementation in hospital for late preterm infants (MPH Project)

Champamunny Ven, supervised by Lisa Amir, Anita Moorhead and Della Forster

Family Conflict and Adolescents’ Diabetes Specific Quality of Life: the mediation effect of illness perceptions among adolescents with Type 1 diabetes. (MPH Project)

Hnin Yee Win, supervised by Naomi Hackworth, Catram Nguyen, and Hassan Valley

Parent-reported and directly measured child language and parenting behaviours: Agreement, socio-demographic factors and parent perspectives.

Shannon Bennetts, supervised by Fiona Mensah (University of Melbourne), Sheena Reilly (Griffith University), Elizabeth Westraupp and Naomi Hackworth

Education and Capacity Building

GRADUATED IN 2016



Dr Leesa Hooker
Strengthening maternal & child health nursing practice for women and children experiencing family violence
supervised by Angela Taft and Rhonda Small



Leesa was one of the 2016 recipients of the Nancy Millis award for theses of exceptional merit.



Anna Fragkoudi
was awarded a Masters in Applied Science. Her thesis was titled *Childbirth education and women's experiences of labour and birth*, supervised by Rhonda Small, Michelle Newton and Lester Jones

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

LUNCHTIME SEMINARS

To showcase the work of our colleagues and of national and international academics and researchers visiting the Judith Lumley Centre we hold Lunchtime Seminars every first Wednesday of the month from February to December, as well as out-of-session seminars.

Seminar convenors: Elizabeth Westrupp and Heather Wallace

We thank the 2016 speakers for their interesting presentations and lively discussions.

JANUARY

Jean Paul Semasaka, Umeå University, Sweden / University of Rwanda: Pregnancy-related complications in Rwanda: prevalence, associated risk factors, health economic impact, and maternal experiences

FEBRUARY

Professor Cindy-Lee Dennis, University of Toronto: Mothering transitions research program. How to develop an international program of research

MARCH

Michelle Schwensen and Helena Maher, Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne: Strengthening hospitals responses to family violence project

APRIL

Miranda Buck, Judith Lumley Centre: Women's experiences of becoming a breastfeeding mother

MAY

Professor Jane Koziol-McLain, Interdisciplinary Trauma Research Centre, Auckland University of Technology: A study of the effectiveness of a web-based decision aid for abused women: The New Zealand *isafe* trial

JUNE

Professor Della Forster, Judith Lumley Centre, Royal Women's Hospital: Findings from the DAME (Diabetes and Antenatal Milk Expression) trial

JULY

Professor Brian Oldenburg, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, The University of Melbourne: What can technology-delivered interventions can do better than human-delivered interventions to improve health outcomes?

AUGUST

Laura Biggs, Judith Lumley Centre: 'I need help': A mixed methods evaluation of the PANDA Perinatal Anxiety and Depression National Helpline

SEPTEMBER

Dr Carla Pascoe, Historical and Philosophical Studies, The University of Melbourne: Memories of maternal transition: the history of becoming a mother in Australia since 1945

OCTOBER

Dr Kay Cook, Centre for Applied Social Research, RMIT University: Impact of social policy on relationships between the state, individuals and families

NOVEMBER

Associate Professor Lisa Amir, Judith Lumley Centre, Breastfeeding in public

Associate professor Jay Buzhardt, (University of Kansas, United States) Technology to support progress

Education and Capacity Building

monitoring and data-based decision making practices by parents and infant-toddler service providers

Professor Erica Schytt (Karolinska Institute, Stockholm),
Improving maternity care for migrant women in Sweden

JOURNAL CLUB

Journal Club presents an opportunity for research staff and postgraduate students to engage in dynamic discussion about relevant research publications. Each month two participants select a paper that is relevant to the Centre's work or of interest methodologically. Journal club offers postgraduate students a chance to discuss questions and concerns with more experienced researchers in a supportive, collegial environment.

Co-ordinator: Laura Biggs

METHODS JOURNAL CLUB

Methods Journal Club met five times in 2016 covering a broad range of topics including:

- Research dissemination via social media
- Research with migrant populations
- Questionnaire design and coding
- Design of participant materials
- Reviewing a paper for a journal

We will be offering Methods Journal Club monthly in 2017.

Co-ordinator: Kate Dawson

THE NUTS & BOLTS CLUB

This is a monthly informal get-together for postgraduates, co-ordinated by Maggie Flood and Laura Biggs, with assistance and support of colleagues. Topics are chosen by students themselves, as an adjunct to the official postgraduate seminar program. The lunchtime gatherings offer:

- Information about the basics of undertaking higher degree research not covered elsewhere
- An opportunity to get to know other JLC students and staff; make friends, establish networks and to
- Find out who's the 'go-to' person for individual areas of interest/need

Session topics included ethics committees, writing for publication, using new IT software and wellbeing. They were well attended and continue in 2017 with a new name and new co-ordinators.

SHUT UP AND WRITE!

The University Research Education and Development Unit run weekly facilitated writing sessions designed to help researchers get their writing done at several sites. *Shut up and write!* uses the *Pomodoro* method of focused writing interleaved with short breaks.

At the Franklin Street Campus *Shut up and write!* is run by Lisa Amir and Amanda Cooklin.

USING SOCIAL MEDIA IN PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH: EXPERIENCES, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The aim of this workshop hosted by Jan Nicholson was to showcase and discuss the valuable experiences of researchers who are using social media to engage, recruit and retain participants in research. It brought together researchers and government agency staff conducting national cohort studies – Australian Longitudinal Study of Women's Health; Longitudinal Study of Australian Children; Growing up in New Zealand – and researchers planning future data collection. La Trobe researchers presented recent findings from a study on the ethical implications of using social media, from both researchers' and ethics committees' perspectives. There was also lots of interactive opportunities for discussion, lessons learned and refining future strategies.



Kylie Hesketh, Deakin University, Jan Nicholson

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and Naomi Hackworth presenting at the Social Media Workshop

Marysville Marathon – an impressive achievement despite an abundance of JLC cake!



Jay Buzhardt, Naomi Hackworth, Jan Nicholson, Lael Ridgway

VISITING ACADEMICS

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JAY BUZHARDT

In October, TCPP had the pleasure of hosting A/Professor Jay Buzhardt from Juniper Gardens Children's Project, University of Kansas, United States, a visiting fellow funded by the Transforming Human Societies Research Focus Area. Dr Jay Buzhardt's collaborative research program focuses on investigating factors that impact the implementation, usability and effectiveness of technology-supported evidence-based practices, assessment, and training. His work in this area targets parents, teachers, and service providers who struggle to provide or access evidence-based practices for children with disabilities due to limited training, geographic remoteness, or lack of local expertise.

During his four-week visit, Jay gave two seminars at JLC and the Olga Tennison Autism Research Centre discussing different aspects of his work supporting early childhood practitioners to conduct 'real time' assessments of child outcomes to inform discussions with parents about their children's developmental outcomes. Jay also ran two one-day workshops with Early Childhood Intervention Australia, to certify early educators, service providers, and early intervention professionals on the Early Communication Indicator (ECI), one of four Infant-Toddler Individual Growth & Development Indicators.

Together with Lael Ridgway, Jay visited Whittlesea Council Maternal and Child Health Service and Tweddle Child and Family Health Service, and presented to the National Community Child Health, the Department of Education and Training and the Victorian Maternal and Child Health Coordinators Group. Together with the Early Home Learning Study team, Jay is preparing a paper comparing the early child language development trajectories of Australian and US children. In addition to all these activities, Jay ran the

PROFESSOR CINDY LEE DENNIS

Professor Cindy-Lee Dennis visited the Centre for 2 weeks in early 2016. During her visit, she worked with Touran Shafiei and the research team from JLC to develop research proposals and grant applications about peer support intervention to prevent perinatal depression and anxiety. She also presented two seminars, titled *Mothering transitions research program* and *How to develop an international program of research*.

Cindy-Lee is an international leader in maternal mental health. She is a Professor at the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto. She holds a Canada Research Chair in Perinatal Community Health at the University of Toronto and the Chair in Women's Health Research at the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute at St. Michael's Hospital, and in partnership with the University of Toronto. Her research focus areas include: detecting, preventing and treating perinatal depression and anxiety; examining the health of immigrant mothers and infants; developing postpartum interventions that include fathers and improving breastfeeding outcomes.



Lisa Amir, Della Forster, Angela Taft, Jan Nicholson (sitting); Cindy Lee Dennis, Fiona McLardie-Hore, Helen McLachlan, Touran Shafiei (standing)

Education and Capacity Building

PROFESSOR JANE KOZIOL-MCLAIN

Professor Jane Koziol-McLain is Professor of Nursing, and Director of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Trauma Research, Auckland University of Technology. Her internationally renowned research focuses on improving the health system response to violence against women and children, especially among culturally diverse communities. Professor Koziol-McLain has led research documenting the prevalence of partner violence among women in the New Zealand health care setting and consulted for the UNFPA on violence against women in the Asia-Pacific, including Vanuatu, Kiribati, Marshall Islands and Fiji. She has worked in teams that have investigated health care site-based partner violence screening acceptability and effectiveness, measured nursing professional family violence curriculum in the tertiary sector, and evaluated policy and employers' responses to family violence. Jane visited the JLC for several weeks in May, gave seminars at Franklin St and Bundoora and met with scholars interested in family violence and health system research. Jane returned to the JLC in October to further this developing work and gave a plenary presentation at the Nursing Network on Violence International (NNVAWI) conference, hosted by La Trobe University School of Nursing and Midwifery.

PROFESSOR ERICA SCHYTT

In November, Professor Erica Schytt visited the Centre and the School of Nursing and Midwifery. Erica was an invited visiting academic representing the 'Healthy Families' cluster of the School. Professor Schytt is a leading Swedish midwifery researcher who currently leads a program of research with the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm and in collaboration with Rhonda Small at the Centre, designed to improve maternity care and outcomes for migrant women in Sweden. She presented this work at a well-attended lunchtime seminar during her visit.

Erica also met with researchers and midwife academics on the Bundoora campus. As a result of these meetings, progress has been made on extending the already successful midwifery student exchange between La Trobe and the Karolinska, to establish a similar program with the Bergen University College in Norway, where Erica has a part-time appointment. A further outcome of these meetings was to jointly progress new work in relation to simulated learning in midwifery.

Other meetings during Erica's two weeks included a gathering of researchers from the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, the Royal Women's Hospital and the Centre who are all involved in developing and evaluating group pregnancy

care in Melbourne and in Sweden. This proved to be a very productive sharing of ideas about the group pregnancy models being established, evaluation methods, key outcomes and implementation. Erica also engaged with some of the School's key clinical partners at the Royal Women's Hospital and a range of possibilities for future collaboration were discussed.



Erica Schytt, centre back, with staff and visitors at lunchtime seminar

DR JEAN PAUL SEMASAKA

Dr Semasaka holds a Bachelor in General Medicine with Distinction (2008) and MPH (2013) from University of the Western Cape (South Africa). He also has completed a number of in-service trainings and in 2014 he started the PhD program at Umeå University, Sweden. Dr Semasaka's PhD project is about determining the prevalence of pregnancy-related complications in Rwanda, their associated risk factors and their consequences to the woman and her family.

DR MARCOS SIGNORELLI



Marcos Signorelli is a lecturer and supervisor in Public Health at the Federal University of Parana (UFPR), Brazil. After ten years of work, he was granted a one-year sabbatical leave for a post doctorate at the JLC under the supervision of Angela Taft. Marcos

has a PhD in Collective Health and his research interests include the interfaces of gender-based violence (GBV) with health systems and intersectoral approaches, particularly addressing developing countries. He has been awarded a scholarship from CAPES Foundation from the Brazilian Federal Government to design an intervention in collaboration with JLC to prevent/reduce GBV to be developed in Brazil.

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ANNOTATIONS, COMMENTARIES, EDITORIALS AND OTHER INVITED CONTRIBUTIONS IN REFEREED JOURNALS

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85. Ayala Quintanilla BP, Taft A, McDonald S, Pollock W. An examination of femicides in Peru between 2009 and 2014 [Brief Communication]. *Int J Gynaecol Obstet* 2016; 134(3):342-3
86. Graham K, Wilson I, Taft A. The broader context of preventing alcohol-related intimate partner violence [Commentary]. *Drug Alcohol Rev* 2016 (in press). Epub 2016 Jun 28
87. Hegarty K, Tarzia L, Hooker L, Taft A. Interventions to support recovery after domestic and sexual violence in primary care [Review]. *Int Rev Psychiatry* 2016; 28(5):519-32
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89. Jones LE, Whitburn LY, Davey MA, Small R. Numeric scoring of pain still has value [Letter]. *Ann Emerg Med* 2016; 67(5):679-80

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OTHER

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PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCACY

FAMILY VIOLENCE AND ALCOHOL: WHERE TO FROM HERE?

La Trobe University is running a series of high profile public forums called the 'Bold Thinking' series at the Clemenger Auditorium of the National Gallery on St. Kilda Road. The intent is to showcase the progressive and relevant up-to-date thinking of La Trobe academics.

On Thursday 19th May Prof Angela Taft joined social commentator and feminist writer Clementine Ford, Police Deputy Commissioner Capability Wendy Steendam APM and Dr Anne Marie Laslett from the Centre for Alcohol Policy and Research, in a forum entitled *'Family Violence and Alcohol: where to from here?'* The event was opened by the Vice Chancellor Professor John Dewar, chaired by Frances Leach and well attended with lively debate and discussion about this 'wicked' combination of social problems.



To watch live streams of the *Thinking Series*, follow the link below: <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/bold-thinking/stream>

NNVAWI CONFERENCE 2016

Angela Taft and Leesa Hooker, La Trobe University (Judith Lumley Centre) hosted the 21st Nursing Network on Violence against Women International (NNVAWI) conference in Melbourne, 26-28 October.

The conference theme was: Strengthening healthcare systems to promote safety and health of women and families. Dr Claudia Garcia-Moreno (World Health Organization), Professor Jacquelyn Campbell (Johns Hopkins School of Nursing), Professor Jane Koziol-McLain (Auckland University of Technology), Professor Kelsey Hegarty (University of Melbourne) and Ms Rosie Batty (Family violence campaigner) were the invited plenary speakers.



Ms Rosie Batty delivering the opening address at the NNVAWI Conference 2016

They addressed the role of the health system in tackling family violence from global, regional and national perspectives but in Rosie Batty's case, from direct and moving personal experience. La Trobe's Vice Chancellor Professor John Dewar welcomed the delegates on the university's behalf. Delegates from over twelve countries came together to share their violence against women (VAW) research, with around 170 delegates. For the first time, the NNVAWI conference included two pre-conference workshops on violence and abuse research methods and cultural responsiveness, Indigenous people and violence. Other sessions included a higher degree research student breakfast, four streams of concurrent sessions over two days, symposia on a range of VAW topics and appointment of the new NNVAWI board. Congratulations to our own Ingrid Wilson who was awarded best student poster presentation (Women's experiences of fear and harm from an alcohol affected intimate partner), and Laura Biggs on her appointment as the new NNVAWI board student representative for 2017-2018. Feedback from delegates has rated it among the best NNVAWI conferences ever held.



Sonia Reisenhofer, Rosa Gonzales-Guarda, Dr Claudia Garcia-Moreno (WHO), Beatriz Quintanilla and Angela Taft

People

LA TROBE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN RESEARCH NETWORK (LAVAWN)

Violence against women (VAW) is a global public health issue. In 2015, the Judith Lumley Centre established the La Trobe Violence Against Women research Network (LAVAWN) drawing together current VAW research expertise University-wide. Led by Professor Angela Taft, Director JLC and coordinated by Ingrid Wilson, HDR student, LAVAWN's objectives are to:

- Strengthen collaboration and partnerships on VAW research internally and externally;
- Foster innovation in VAW research, evaluation and knowledge translation;
- Build the capacity of HDR students and ECRs through support and mentorship; and
- Facilitate the open exchange of ideas and resources.

In November 2016, the Judith Lumley Centre hosted a LAVAWN forum. Around 25 postgraduate student and staff researchers attended and participated in an exciting discussion around research strengths, collaboration and funding opportunities. In April 2017, LAVAWN jointly hosted with the Melbourne Research Alliance to End Violence against women and their children (MAEVe) a research and practitioner forum "Early Intervention: Changing the trajectory to prevent violence against women and their children."

SIGNIFICANT PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

The dissemination of research findings to consumers, clinicians and policy-makers is an important objective at the Judith Lumley Centre. Our staff and students delivered presentations and lectures to a variety of national and international audiences in 2016, many as invited speakers. Listed here are some of the more significant presentations / lectures.

Ingrid Wilson: "As soon as there was no alcohol it was just like it never happened." A qualitative study exploring women's experience of fear and harm from an alcohol-affected intimate partner (invited speaker). Men, Substance Use & Relationships Study Findings Conference, Kings College London, UK, February 2016

Ingrid Wilson: *Departmental Seminar* (invited speaker). National Addictions Centre, Kings College London, UK, March 2016

Shannon Bennetts: *Comparing parent-reported and directly-observed child language and parent-child interactions* (invited presentation). Speech and Language Sciences group, Newcastle University, UK, June 2016

Amanda Cooklin: *What matters for working fathers? Job characteristics, work-family conflict and enrichment and fathers' postpartum mental health* (invited paper). Symposium Work and family in relation to health and wellbeing, Work and Family Research Network Conference, Washington DC, USA, June 2016

Kayli Wild: *Building a primary health care response to violence against women in Timor-Leste* (invited presentation). National stakeholder workshop, Timor-Leste Institute of Health, Dili, November 2016

Kayli Wild: *Launch of report Building a primary health care response to violence against women: The knowledge and needs of midwives in three districts of Timor-Leste*. Timor-Leste National University, Dili, November 2016

CONFERENCE AWARDS

Helen McLachlan and SILC team: *Supporting breastfeeding In Local Communities (SILC) in Victoria, Australia: a cluster randomised controlled trial*. Lactation Consultants of Australia and New Zealand conference, Melbourne, October 2016 – best poster

Ingrid Wilson: "As soon as there was no alcohol it was just like it never happened." *Women's experience of fear and harm from an alcohol-affected intimate partner*. 21st International Nursing Network on Violence Against Women conference, Melbourne October 2016 – best student poster

Ingrid Wilson: People's Choice Award and University Finalist 3MT (Three Minute Thesis competition), La Trobe University Final

Kristina Edvardsson: Physicians' experiences and views on the role of obstetric ultrasound *in rural and urban Rwanda: a qualitative study*. PSANZ (Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand) 2016 20th Annual Congress, Townsville, Australia, May 2016 – PSANZ New Investigator Award, best poster presentation, Epidemiology and Public Health



Ingrid Wilson in front of her winning poster

JUDITH LUMLEY CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Professor Annette Street

Emeritus Professor, La Trobe University

Associate Professor Bill McGuinness

Head, School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University

Professor Angela Taft

Director, JLC

Dr Méabh Cullinane

Early Career Researcher, JLC

Professor Rhonda Small

Senior Researcher, JLC

Ms Leesa Hooker

Postgraduate Student, JLC

Ms Tanya Farrell

Executive Director Nursing and Midwifery, Director Maternity Services, The Royal Women's Hospital

Dr Jenny Proimos

Principal Medical Advisor, Early Childhood and School Education Group, DEECD

Professor Euan Wallace

Director, The Ritchie Centre, Monash Medical Centre, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Ms Rita Butera

Executive Director, Women's Health Victoria

Professor Katie Holmes

La Trobe University, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Professor Jennifer Bowes

Institute of Early Childhood, Macquarie University

Dr Daryl Higgins

Research Director, Australian Institute of Family Studies

COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY GROUPS

Staff and students of the Judith Lumley Centre participate on a number of committees and advisory groups. These committees deal with professional, educational, policy and social and ethics issues.

Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine, Chair of Abstract Committee, Annual Conference 2016 (Lisa Amir)

Australian Pain Society, Relationships Committee (Lester Jones, APA representative)

Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA), National Pain Group (Lester Jones, Chair)

Commonwealth Department of Employment Panel for Research and Evaluation Services (RES Panel) (Amanda Cooklin)

Commonwealth Department of Social Services, Panel to Support Organisations Funded under Families and Children Activity (Amanda Cooklin, Member)

Department of Social Services, selection of measures of family and domestic violence for Departmental data collections (Jan Nicholson, Consultation)

First 1000 Days Australia, The University of Melbourne, Scientific Advisory Group (Jan Nicholson, Co-Chair)

Growing Up in New Zealand: the Longitudinal Study of New Zealand Children (Jan Nicholson, External Scientific Advisory Committee member)

International Confederation of Midwives - Education Standing Committee (Michelle Newton)

International Work and Family Researcher's Network (Amanda Cooklin, Member)

Kolling Institute, Population Perinatal Health Research, University of Sydney, Research Advisory Committee (Rhonda Small)

Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (Jan Nicholson, Consortium Advisory Group member)

Midwifery Academics Victoria (MIDAC) (Helen McLachlan)

Milk Bank Cross Jurisdictional Advisory Committee, Australian Red Cross Blood Service, 2016 – (Lisa Amir)

National Work and Family Policy Roundtable (Amanda Cooklin, Member)

Paternal Postnatal Depression Initiative, University of Newcastle (Jan Nicholson, Steering Committee member)

Primary Care and Population Health Committee, The Royal Women's Hospital (Helen McLachlan)

Royal Women's Hospital Aboriginal Nursing and Midwifery Reference Group (Helen McLachlan)

Royal Women's Hospital Research Committee (Della Forster)

Royal Women's Hospital, Research Ethics Committee (Touran Shafiei)

School of Nursing & Midwifery Executive (Michelle Newton)

Women's Health Australia Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Special Interest Group (Helen McLachlan)

People

MEMBERSHIP OF EDITORIAL BOARDS

American Journal of Health Promotion, Editorial Board Member (Amanda Cooklin)

BMC Public Health Associate Editor (Angela Taft)

Breastfeeding Review (Lisa Amir)

International Breastfeeding Journal, Editor-in-Chief (Lisa Amir)

International Breastfeeding Journal (Della Forster, Helen McLachlan)

Journal of Family Studies, A/Editor (Amanda Cooklin)

Journal of Human Lactation (Lisa Amir)

RESEARCH STAFF

The Centre brings together a team of researchers with qualifications and experience in: epidemiology, women's health, education, social research, public health, biomedical research, criminology, statistics, pharmacy, medicine, nursing and midwifery.

DIRECTOR

Professor **Angela Taft** – Centre Director and Professor.

SENIOR RESEARCHERS

Associate Professor **Lisa Amir** – Principal Research Fellow and also Medical Officer, Breastfeeding Service, Royal Women's Hospital and GP in private practice

Professor **Della Forster** – Professor of Midwifery and Maternity Services Research in a joint appointment at the Judith Lumley Centre, the School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University and the Royal Women's Hospital

Dr **Naomi Hackworth** – Senior Research Fellow, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

Professor **Susan McDonald** – joint Professor of Midwifery (Women's and Infants Health) at La Trobe University and the Mercy Hospital for Women

Professor **Helen McLachlan** – joint appointment at the Judith Lumley Centre and the School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University

Professor **Jan Nicholson** – Inaugural Roberta Holmes Professorial Chair, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

Professor **Rhonda Small** – also Foreign Adjunct Professor at the Karolinska Institute, Sweden

RESEARCHERS

Dr **Shannon Bennetts** – Research Officer, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

Dr **Amanda Cooklin** – Research Fellow, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

Dr **Sharinne Crawford** – Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

Ms **Clair Cullen** – Research Assistant

Dr **Méabh Cullinane** – Research Fellow

Dr **Kristina Edvardsson** – Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

Dr **Stacey Hokke** – Research Officer, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

Dr **Helene Johns** – Research Fellow (casual staff)

Ms **Jasmine Love** – Research Assistant, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

Dr **Michelle Newton** – Lecturer in Midwifery

Dr **Cattram Nguyen** – Statistician, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

Ms **Anita Moorhead** – Project Coordinator (casual staff)

Ms **Lisa Pascoe** – Research Assistant, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

Dr **Touran Shafiei** – Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

Ms **Mridula Shankar** – Research Fellow

Dr **Elizabeth Westrupp** – Research Fellow, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

Dr **Kayli Wild** – Research Fellow (casual staff)

HIGHER DEGREE BY RESEARCH STUDENTS

Nawal Abdulghani

Catina Adams

Beatriz Paulina Ayala Quintanilla

Fetene Berhanu Belihu

Laura Biggs

Miranda Buck

Fiona Burgemeister

Rhian Cramer

Kate Dawson – also Lecturer in Midwifery, LTU

Maggie Flood

Anna Frangkoudi

Heather Grimes – also Lecturer, Midwifery, Rural Health

Sarah Hay – Course Coordinator for the Bachelor Nursing / Bachelor Midwifery, LTU

Leesa Hooker – Lecturer, Nursing & Midwifery, Rural Health

Lester Jones

Fiona McLardie-Hore

Anita Moorhead

Belinda O'Connor

Mercy Otsin

Sonia Reisenhofer – also Lecturer in Nursing, LTU

Ranmali Rodrigo

Moni Rani Saha

Sarmin Sayeed

Charlene Smithson

Sara Stelfox

Heather Julie Wallace

Laura Whitburn – also Lecturer in Anatomy, LTU

Ingrid Wilson

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Ms **Simone Pakin** – Administration officer

Ms **Taylyn Hulse** – Administration officer (August – October 2016)

Ms **Olga Tsironis** – Program Administration Officer, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

HONORARY ASSOCIATES

Dr **Paul Agius** – Centre for Population Health, Burnet Institute

Dr **Katherine Carroll** – Centre for Health Communication, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Technology, Sydney

Dr **Kristina Edvardsson** – Department of Public Health and Clinical Medicine, Epidemiology and Global Health, Umeå University, Sweden

Dr **Karalyn McDonald** – Infectious Diseases Unit, Monash University, Melbourne

Dr **Jane Morrow** – Australian Catholic University

Dr **Wendy Pollock** – Mercy Hospital for Women

Dr **Rhonda Powell** (nee Tombros) – School of Law, University of Canterbury, New Zealand

Dr **Renee Rogers**

Dr **Susan Tawia** – Manager, Breastfeeding Information and Research, Australian Breastfeeding Association



Julie Green, Donna Berthelsen, Jan Nicholson and Naomi Hackworth in Stockholm's old town while attending a conference

People

STAFF AND STUDENT PROFILES

Nawal Abdulghani

BNs, RN, MMid, PhD candidate

Nawal is an international student from Saudi Arabia. She is a lecturer at Umm Al-Qura University and a registered nurse in Saudi Arabia. Nawal has a Bachelor of Nursing Sciences from King Abdul-Aziz University in Saudi Arabia and Masters of Clinical Midwifery from Monash University in Australia. Her research interests include maternity care, breastfeeding and clinical education.

Catina Adams

BA (Hons), GradDipEd, BNursing, GradDipMidwifery, MNursingSci (Child Family & Community), PhD candidate



Catina is a Maternal and Child Health nurse and midwife in the second year of her full-time PhD. She is examining the Enhanced Maternal and Child Health Service in Victoria and the support offered to vulnerable families, particularly those experiencing family violence. In 2015, she

undertook a Churchill Fellowship to study sustained home visiting programs for young pregnant women in the US and UK. She works part-time as a maternal and child health nurse in Broadmeadows.

Lisa Amir

MBBS, MMed (WomH), PhD, IBCLC, FABM, FILCA



Lisa Amir is a medical practitioner with a long-standing interest in women's health. Having qualified as a lactation consultant in 1989, Lisa continues to work in breastfeeding medicine at the Royal Women's Hospital and as a private practitioner. She conducts research in the

area of breastfeeding – from rates and determinants of breastfeeding, to nipple and breast pain in breastfeeding women, to use of medicines for breastfeeding women. Lisa is Editor-in-Chief of the online journal *International Breastfeeding Journal*.

Beatriz Paulina Ayala Quintanilla

MBBS, MD, MPH, PhD Candidate



Beatriz is an obstetrician and gynaecologist working on the public health area related to the underlying factors of severe acute maternal morbidity and maternal mortality with a focus on violence against women, particularly intimate partner violence,

social determinants of health and health inequalities. She has a keen interest in the area of improving women's health through the recognition and protection of their sexual, reproductive and human rights, and integrating evidence-based research with policy and practice. She is employed at the General Research Office and Technological Transference of the National Institute of Health in Lima, Peru.

Fetene Berhanu Belihu

BSc, MPH, PhD candidate



Fetene is an international doctoral student from Ethiopia, supervised by Professor Rhonda Small and Dr Mary-Ann Davey. Previously, Fetene has worked as technical capacity builder (maternal & child health), project coordinator and health officer in

public and non-governmental organisations in Ethiopia. Fetene is generally interested in researching reproductive health and birth outcomes post migration using epidemiological methods. Fetene's doctoral project is focused on perinatal and obstetric outcomes of East African immigrant women in Australia.

Shannon Bennetts

BA (Hons), PhD candidate



Shannon is a Research Officer with the TCPP, working on the VicHealth-funded project on 'Parental fear as a barrier to children's independent mobility and resultant physical activity', as well as the Families at Work project. Shannon is an Associate Investigator on an NHMRC

Partnerships project, *EHLS at School*, a school-age follow-up of the Early Home Learning Study which evaluated an early childhood parenting program. Shannon recently submitted her PhD (Murdoch Childrens Research Institute / The University of Melbourne), which compared parent-reported and directly measured child language and parenting behaviours.

Laura Biggs

RM, BMid (Hons), PhD Candidate



Laura is a midwife who joined the centre in 2013 as a full time PhD Candidate. Laura holds a La Trobe University Postgraduate Research Scholarship and is conducting a mixed methods evaluation of the PANDA Perinatal Anxiety and Depression Australia National Perinatal Depression Helpline.

Her other research interests include women's experiences of maternity care, midwifery care in vulnerable populations, and midwifery education. Laura also teaches undergraduate midwifery students.

Miranda Buck

RN(Paed), BA, MPhil, PGCert TertTeach, PGCertLact, IBCLC, PhD Candidate



Miranda is a neonatal nurse and International Board Certified Lactation Consultant. She also has a BA in Architecture and an MPhil in Sustainable Design. She holds a Dean's Scholarship and is researching nipple pain in breastfeeding women for her PhD by publication. Her

research interests include breastfeeding problems, the transition to parenthood and the relationship between the environment and wellbeing.

Fiona Burgemeister

BA (hons), BMus, PhD Candidate



Fiona is a PhD student with the Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program. She joined JLC in 2016 after more than 20 years working in the public health sector in strategy, planning and governance roles. Her research area is examining the approaches to evaluating complex area-

based interventions to improve outcomes in children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Amanda Cooklin

BA(Hons), MPH(WomH), PhD



Amanda is a Research Fellow in the TCPP. A common theme in Amanda's research is identifying over-arching social and structural factors that affect parents, parenting and children's outcomes. Her research has focused on employment characteristics and the work-family

interface as sites of practice and policy interventions to reduce work-family conflict, promote parents' mental health, parenting practices and children's outcomes.

Rhian Cramer

RN, RM, MMid, PhD Candidate



Rhian is a midwife based in Ballarat. She has a Bachelor of Nursing and Bachelor of Midwifery and a Masters of Midwifery Science from La Trobe University. She holds a La Trobe University Post Graduate Research Scholarship to undertake her doctorate full-time.

Sharinne Crawford

BAppSci (Hons), PhD



Sharinne is a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the TCPP. In 2015, she completed coordinating the VicHealth-funded project on 'Parental fear as a barrier to children's independent mobility and resultant physical activity'. She is currently managing the project 'Recruiting and

tracing research participants via social media: feasibility and ethics'. Her previous research has focused on program implementation and evaluation research using mixed methods across fields such as health promotion, community health, nursing and community development. Sharinne also teaches into the undergraduate unit 'Nursing & Midwifery Research' at La Trobe.

Clair Cullen

BA (Hons), DPsych (Clinical) Candidate



Clair is a Research Assistant with the Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program (TCPP). She works on the NHMRC Partnerships project examining the school-age outcomes of an early childhood parenting program. She is also currently completing her Doctorate in Clinical

Psychology. Her research interests include emotion-focused parenting approaches and adolescent mental health.

Méabh Cullinane

BSc, PhD



Méabh has a background in microbiology and is currently involved in parenting research with the Transition to Contemporary Parenting Program at the Judith Lumley Centre, employed as a research assistant on the EHS at School

Study. She also has an interest in breastfeeding research and has co-ordinated breastfeeding studies at the Judith Lumley Centre.

People

Kate Dawson

BSc, RN, RM, GradDipEd, PhD candidate



Kate is currently working as a Lecturer in Midwifery at La Trobe University. She has a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Nursing and has worked in oncology. After obtaining a Post Graduate Diploma in Midwifery in 2004 she has worked in midwifery across a broad range of clinical models (including caseload midwifery). She completed a Graduate Diploma in Education (Secondary) in 2011.

Kristina Edvardsson

RN, MSc, PhD



Kristina is a postdoctoral researcher working on the CROss-Country Ultrasound Study (CROCUS), which is an international study aimed at investigating midwives' and obstetricians' experiences and views of the use of ultrasound and maternal/fetal role and rights. The participating countries are Australia, Norway, Sweden, Rwanda, Tanzania and Vietnam. She is also involved in a large research project on maternal health care in Rwanda. Kristina is supported by a 3-year Forte Marie Curie International Postdoc Fellowship from the Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare (Forte).

Maggie Flood

RN, RM, GradCertHSc, DipWrit&Editing, PhD candidate



Maggie is an Early Career Researcher who has a nursing and midwifery background with a particular interest in maternal health and wellbeing. Most recently she was project co-ordinator on the COSMOS trial. Projects she has worked on previously at the Centre (from 2000–07) include SRM 2000, PRISM, the Health and Recovery After Birth (HARP) project and the Maternal Health Study. For her PhD, Maggie is researching the quality of data in the Victorian Perinatal Data Collection and postpartum haemorrhage in births in Victoria 2003–2013.

Della Forster

RN, RM, DipAppSc, BHSc, MMid, PhD



Della has been a midwife since 1989. She joined JLC in April 1999 as joint project co-ordinator of the ABFAB breastfeeding trial, which also formed the basis of her PhD (completed in 2005). She has a joint appointment as the Professor of Midwifery and Maternity Services Research at JLC, the School of Nursing and Midwifery and the Royal Women's Hospital.

Anna Fragkoudi

BSc, BMid, MAppSci



Anna is a scholarship awarded international student at JLC, Melbourne. Her Master's project is on women's experiences of labour and birth. She holds a Bachelor of Midwifery completed at Alexander Technological Educational Institute in Greece.

Heather Grimes

BHSc(Nurs), GradDipClinEd, MMid, RM, RN, PhD Candidate



Heather has a background in nursing and midwifery and is currently co-ordinator of the Graduate Diploma in Midwifery at La Trobe University Rural Health school. She is undertaking her PhD part time at the Judith Lumley Centre and is being supervised by Professor Della Forster, Professor Helen McLachlan and Dr Touran Shafiei. Heather's research focuses on the experiences of volunteers providing peer support to breastfeeding mothers in the RUBY randomised controlled trial.

Naomi Hackworth

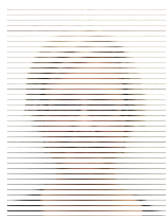
BSc BA(Hons) DPsych (Health)



Naomi is a Senior Research Fellow in the Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program at the Judith Lumley Centre. She commenced working at the centre in early 2015 and has over 10 years' experience in research, evaluation, knowledge translation, community consultation and program development. Naomi is an investigator on a number of research projects relating to the psychosocial influences on parenting, early childhood development, child and adolescent chronic health, engagement of vulnerable families in face-to-face and online interventions, and ethical issues surrounding the use of online technologies in research.

Sarah Hay

BAppSc (Health Promotion), BN, GDipMidwifery, MMid Sci



Sarah is currently in her 3rd year of a part time PhD titled *Evaluating a new Parenting Kit designed by the Royal Women's Hospital: a mixed methods study*. Sarah completed her Masters of Midwifery Science in 2009 investigating; *Emergency antenatal transfer of women*

from regional and rural Victoria, to a city based maternity hospital. She currently also works for the La Trobe University School of Nursing and Midwifery as the Course Coordinator for the Bachelor Nursing / Bachelor Midwifery.

Stacey Hokke

BBiomedSc (Hons), PhD



Stacey is a Research Officer in the Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program (TCPP). She is involved in a project investigating the use of social media to recruit, retain and trace participants in parenting research, and the ethical concerns associated with online research

methods. She is also involved in a project assessing work-family balance in an online survey of employed Australian parents, which aims to identify the support needs of working mothers and fathers to reduce work-family conflict.

Leesa Hooker

RN, RM, CertCritCare, PGDipPH(ChildFamHealthNurs), MHSc, PhD



Leesa is a nurse academic with the La Trobe Rural Health School based in Bendigo. She has extensive clinical experience in Maternal & Child Health nursing in both rural and metropolitan settings. She has been at the Centre since late 2011 when she commenced work on

the MOVE project. Her PhD titled *Strengthening Maternal and Child Health nursing practice for women and children experiencing family violence* was awarded in April, 2016. She was subsequently awarded the La Trobe University, Nancy Millis Medal for a thesis of exceptional merit, in December 2016. Her research interests include rural women's health, implementation science and intimate partner violence.

Taylyn Hulse

BA Psych



Taylyn has a background in psychological research administration within American Universities. She filled the position of administrator at JLC for several months in 2016 and then went back studying for her Masters in Learning Sciences and Technology with a focus on Mathematics

Education at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute near Boston.

Helene Johns

RN, RM, DipAppSc, BAppSc, MEd, IBCLC, PhD



Helene continues to work in Midwifery and Maternal & Child Health with a particular focus on breastfeeding. Her research interests reflect aspects of her clinical practice and include pregnancy care, perinatal mental health, breastfeeding and early parenting. Since

completion of her PhD in 2015 she has worked on several projects which are relevant to her current clinical roles.

Lester Jones

BBsc BAppSc (Physio), PostGradDip BehavStdsHlthCare, PostGGradCertT&L (HE), MScMed (PM), PhD candidate



Lester is an experienced academic and physiotherapist. He has postgraduate qualifications in *Teaching and Learning* and *Pain and Pain Management*. He is an active member of the Australian Physiotherapy Association, the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (UK), the International Association for the Study of

Pain and the Australian Pain Society. He is the inaugural Chair of the Australian Physiotherapy Association's National Pain Network.

Jasmine Love

BPsych(Hons)



Jasmine is a research assistant with the Transition to Contemporary Parenting Program (TCPP). She works on the EHLS at School Study examining school age outcomes of the parenting support program *Smalltalk*. Prior to this role Jasmine worked with the Murdoch

Children's Research Institute on an early language research project called the Language for Learning Study.

People

Susan McDonald

RN, BAppSc, MMedSc, PhD



Susan has a joint position as Professor of Midwifery (Women's and Infants' Health) at La Trobe University and the Mercy Hospital for Women to provide professional leadership and head the Mercy/La Trobe Midwifery Professorial Unit. She is strongly committed to the promotion of midwifery education, research and practice and to ensuring that nurses and midwives are assisted to work at the highest level across the broadest possible scope of practice within maternal and infant health services.

Helen McLachlan

RN, GradDipAdvNurs(Mid), MNursStud, PhD



Helen has a clinical and research background in midwifery. She is Professor in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, and the Judith Lumley Centre. Her research interests include models of maternity care, Aboriginal maternal and child health, breastfeeding, postnatal depression and postnatal care. She has conducted studies using a variety of research designs (e.g. RCTs, surveys, focus groups). Her major teaching area is postnatal care.

Fiona McLardie-Hore

RN, RM, PhD Candidate



Fiona has a nursing and midwifery background and is the Research Coordinator for Midwifery and Maternity Services Research at the Royal Women's Hospital. She is currently the project coordinator of the RUBY trial as well as a higher degree student at the Judith Lumley Centre.

Anita Moorhead

RN, RM, Neonatal Cert, GradCert HServMgt, IBCLC, PhD Candidate



Anita is the project coordinator of the DAME Trial and Clinical Midwife Consultant (Lactation) at the Royal Women's Hospital. She has a nursing and midwifery background with a particular interest in breastfeeding. She was previously part of the Centre's team responsible for writing *Breastfeeding in Victoria: A Report*, and the *Victorian Breastfeeding Guidelines*.

Michelle Newton

GradDipAppSc(Nursing), PGradDip H Ed, MMed, PhD



Michelle is a Lecturer in the Midwifery Programs at La Trobe University in Melbourne, and is the Course Coordinator in the Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Midwifery. Her current research activities are focusing on further understanding issues of sustainability in caseload models and introduction of models designed to meet the needs of specific groups of women. Michelle is the current Vice President of the Australian College of Midwives, a member of the Victorian Perinatal Services Advisory Committee, and the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council Midwife Accreditation Committee.

Cattram Nguyen

BA, BSc(Hons), MBiostat, PhD



Cattram is a Research Fellow/ Biostatistician in the Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program (TCPP). Cattram provides statistical input on a number of parenting research projects within the TCPP, and she also collaborates with colleagues across the Judith Lumley Centre. Prior to joining the TCPP in 2014, she completed a PhD in biostatistics, which focused on a statistical technique called multiple imputation.

Jan Nicholson

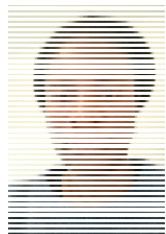
BSc(Hons), MSc, PhD



Jan was appointed as the Inaugural Roberta Holmes Professor in 2014 to establish the Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program (TCPP). She brings extensive experience in longitudinal studies of the effects of family, socioeconomic and institutional (services, school and workplace) influences on the health and wellbeing of parents and children, and has played a leading role in the development and evaluations of programs for enhancing parent and child wellbeing.

Mercy Otsin

BA, MPhil, PGradDip Ed, PhD Candidate



Mercy is a Ghanaian international doctoral student on a La Trobe Post Graduate Research Award scholarship. She is researching induced abortion in Ghana and is supervised by Angela Taft, Leesa Hooker (La Trobe University) and Kirsten Black (Sydney University). Professor Elis Owusu-Dabo (KCCR-Ghana) is the field work supervisor of the research. Mercy, has a social science background in population and family life studies. Mercy used to teach undergraduate students at the Population and Health Department, University of Cape Coast-Ghana. Her research interests include reproductive health, commercial sex work and gay and lesbian issues in Ghana.

Simone Pakin

MagPhil, GradDiplInfoMgt



Simone has degrees in Psychology and Information Management and has worked in administration, research, information management and IT. She joined the Centre in 2011 to support all activities of the Centre.

Lisa Pascoe

RN, RM, PgDAdNsg (Child, Family & Comm)



Lisa is a member of the EHLS at School team. Lisa is based in Wodonga and is responsible for data collection in the Albury-Wodonga area. She has a background in Maternal and Child Health, with a Masters of Child, Family and Community Nursing from La Trobe University.

Sonia Reisenhofer

RN, BN, PGDip, MCN, PhD Candidate



Sonia is a Lecturer in the School of Nursing and Midwifery at La Trobe University, Course Coordinator of the Bachelor of Nursing Degree programs conducted in Hong Kong and Singapore and manages the International Activities within the School. She is also the Subject Chair for Medications in Nursing. She has a strong background in acute and emergency care. Her current research interests include the areas of family violence, acute care and international education.

Ranmali Rodrigo

MBBS, MRCPCH, MD, PhD Candidate



Ranmali is a postgraduate trainee in Neonatology at Mercy Hospital for Women, Melbourne and a Lecturer in Paediatrics at University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka. She obtained her MBBS in 2003 and holds postgraduate paediatric qualifications MRCPCH (UK) and MD (Sri Lanka). Her study aims to explore methods of breast milk transport from home to hospital when babies are long-term inpatients.

Moni Rani Saha

MPharm, PhD Candidate



Moni is an international PhD student from Bangladesh. She is a registered pharmacist in Bangladesh with more than 5 years teaching experience at the department of Pharmacy at Stamford University, Bangladesh. She graduated with a Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons) and a Master of Pharmacy. She holds a La Trobe University Post Graduate Research Scholarship and La Trobe University Full Fee Research Scholarship.

Sarmin Sayeed

MBBS, MHServMgt, PhD Candidate



Dr Sarmin Sayeed is a PhD student from Bangladesh. Alongside her PhD, Sarmin is a part time academic at Monash University and a registered General Practitioner in Australia. Before coming to Australia, Sarmin worked in the government health services and at UNICEF, Bangladesh to implement maternal and child health programs. In 2008, she completed her Masters in Health Services Management at Monash University under an Australian Leadership Award Scholarship. Currently she holds a La Trobe University Post Graduate Research Scholarship and a La Trobe University Full Fee Research Scholarship.

People

Touran Shafiei

BMid, PhD



Touran is an early career research with a clinical and research background in midwifery. Since completion of her PhD in 2010, she has worked at JLC on a number of projects. Her research interests include maternal health, perinatal mental health, maternity care and immigrant women's health.

Touran has a two-year RFA Building Healthy Communities Postdoctoral Fellowship to build on her research strengths and profile, with a focus on perinatal mental health. She is currently the project coordinator of an RCT funded by the Victorian State Government, to explore the impact of a new 'Parenting Kit' for new mothers on a range of outcomes, including maternal mental health.

Mridula Shankar

BA, MPH (Maternal and Child Health)



Mridula is a research fellow at the Centre, and project coordinator for the Harmony and medical termination studies. She has a special interest in the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of women, and her current and past work has focused on the role of structural and

health system factors in impacting access to and equity in the utilisation of quality SRH services. She has previously worked in the area of maternal safety and rights in Southern India on projects assessing primary level provider obstetric competencies, and community monitoring of obstetric risks during pregnancy.

Rhonda Small

BA, DipEd, GradDipLib, GradDipEpid, PhD



Rhonda has worked at the Centre since its foundation in 1991 and was the Director from 2009 until the end of 2013. Her research interests include women's views and experiences of maternity care; cross-cultural issues in perinatal research and

birth outcomes for immigrant and refugee women; promoting normal birth; maternal depression and women's health after birth; breastfeeding; and intimate partner violence. Rhonda also holds an appointment as Foreign Adjunct Professor with the Karolinska Institute in Sweden (2014–).

Charlene Smithson

RN, RM, PhD candidate



Charlene completed her Bachelor of Nursing and Bachelor of Midwifery degrees at La Trobe University in 2010. In 2016 she commenced her PhD on a part-time basis. Her research aims to explore the prevalence and identification of women with disabilities within maternity services.

Sara Stelfox

BNurs, GradDipMid, MMid and GradCertHighEd, PhD candidate



Sara has a nursing and midwifery background and is experienced in both undergraduate and postgraduate education. Sara's current role is as an Associate Director of Accreditation at ANMAC and she is completing her PhD part time at the Judith Lumley Centre, supervised by Helen McLachlan, Della Forster and Touran Shafiei. Sara's research interests focus on transition to parenting, particularly mental health and midwifery education.

Angela Taft

BA, DipEd, MPH, PhD



Angela has been at the Centre since 2000 and was its Deputy Director (2009-13). From 2014 she has been the Director of the Centre. She is a social scientist and over the last ten years she has led a major competitively funded program of research at the Centre on intimate partner (IPV) / gender-based violence, primary care responses to IPV and planned parenthood and reproductive rights. She is also the former national convenor of the Women's Health Special Interest Group and a Fellow of the Public Health Association of Australia.

Olga Tsironis

BA



Olga is the Program Administration Officer for the TCPP. Olga has over eight years' experience working in a range of sectors including IT, academic and research. In her current role, she manages a range of general administrative and specialised tasks to support the TCP Program.

Heather Julie Wallace

BNurs, PGradDip Mid, MPH, PhD Candidate



Heather has a nursing and midwifery background and completed her MPH in 2014. Her research to date has focused on maternal health in Timor-Leste. Her PhD candidature is being supported by an Australian Postgraduate Award Scholarship.

Elizabeth Westrupp

BA, BSc (Hons), PhD



Elizabeth is a Research Fellow based part-time in the TCPP and part-time at Murdoch Childrens Research Institute. Her research examines the biological, parent, family and social environmental factors influencing children's development and wellbeing. At TCPP she

will take a leading role on an NHMRC Partnerships project looking at the school-age outcomes for children whose parents participated in an early childhood program that sought to strengthen the home learning environment.

Laura Whitburn

BPhty, PhD Candidate



Laura is a Lecturer of Human Anatomy within the School of Life Sciences, College of SHE. Her teaching interests include neuroanatomy of the brain and nervous system, as well as the neuroscience of pain. Laura's research focuses on the

neuroscience of labour pain and aims to better understand what shapes a woman's perception of pain during childbirth. Laura has a background in physiotherapy.

Kayli Wild

BSc (Anthropology), MPH, PhD



Kayli has been awarded an ARC Discovery Early Career Research Award to examine health sector responses to violence against women in low-resource settings (2017–2019). She is a medical anthropologist and health systems researcher who specialises in qualitative

and mixed-methods in cross-cultural contexts. Kayli's research interests span reproductive health, gender and social change, with a specific focus on Timor-Leste, the Pacific and with Australian Aboriginal communities.

Ingrid Wilson

BA(Hons), GradDipLaw, PhD Candidate



Ingrid has a strong interest in gender-based violence and the impact on women and children. She has a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Criminology and a Postgraduate Diploma in Law (UK). She has extensive experience working in privacy and human rights policy in Australia and in the UK.

She has advised on alcohol policy issues for the Victorian State Government and the Australian Drug Foundation. Ingrid holds an *Australian Postgraduate Award* and is the inaugural winner of the *Judith Lumley PhD Scholarship*. In November 2016 she was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship as part of the La Trobe University Big Bid development scheme. She is the Chair of *WIRE, Women's Information* and is a graduate of the *Australian Institute of Company Directors*.

Current Grants, Scholarships and Awards

GRANTS

Improving the health of Aboriginal mothers and babies through continuity of midwife care

Helen McLachlan

2016–2020: \$1,496,531.75

NHMRC PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Longitudinal follow up of the Early Home Learning Study cohort

Jan Nicholson, Elizabeth Westrupp, Sheena Reilly, Naomi Hackworth, Donna Berthelsen, Fiona Mensah, Penny Levickis, Shannon Bennetts

2014–2019: \$650,000

NHMRC PROJECT GRANTS HELD EXTERNALLY

Increasing the use of long-acting reversible contraception: the Australian Contraceptive Choice Project (ACCORD)

Danielle Mazza, Kirsten Black, Angela Taft, Jayne Lucke, Kevin McGeechan, Marion Haas, Jeffrey Piepert.

2015–2019; \$701,847

Fetal lactate measurement to reduce caesarean sections during labour: a randomised trial

Christine East, Shaun Brennecke, Mary-Ann Davey, Omar Kamlin

2012–2016: \$369,900

Trajectories in brain structure and function for children with and without ADHD: Associations with academic, cognitive, social, and mental health outcomes

Tim Silk, Vicki Anderson, Emma Sciberras, Jan Nicholson, Daryl Efron, Philip Hazell

2014–2018: \$1,174,958

Turning points: breaking intergenerational cycles of intimate partner abuse and social adversity

Stephanie Brown, Jan Nicholson, Kelsey Hegarty, Deirdre Gartland, Hannah Woolhouse, Fiona Mensah, Harriet Hiscock

2013–2017; \$1,267,769

NHMRC CRE HELD EXTERNALLY

Centre for Research Excellence in Stillbirth (The Stillbirth CRE)

CI's: Flenady V, Elwood, Middleton P, Morris J, Wallace E, Kumar S, Boyle F; (AI's: Gardener G, Clifton V, Callender E, McDonald SJ, Wojcieszek A, Wilson T, Vlack VS, Kent A, Oats J, Khong Y.

2016–2020: \$2,496,348.00

Centre for Research Excellence in Child Language

Sheena Reilly, Melissa Wake, James Law, Fiona Mensah,

Angela Morgan, Jan Nicholson, Lisa Gold, Sharon Goldfeld
2012–2016: \$2,485,324

Safer Families: Tailoring early identification and novel interventions for intimate partner violence

Kelsey Hegarty, Stephanie Brown, Cathy Humphries, Angela Taft, Kerry Arabena, Lena Sanci, Harriet MacMillan, Gene Feder, Karen Glover, Peter Anderson

2016–2022: \$2,497,801

ARC DISCOVERY GRANT HELD EXTERNALLY

Development and evaluation of a web-based decision and safety planning aid for women experiencing domestic violence (I-DECIDE)

Kelsey Hegarty, Cathy Humphreys, Elizabeth Murray, Angela Taft, Nancy Glass, Lisa Gold

2013–2016: \$717,831

ARC LINKAGE GRANT HELD EXTERNALLY

Community Capacity Building for Healthy Lifestyles (CBHL) initiative: Engaging communities in childhood obesity prevention in disadvantaged areas

Andre Renzaho, Michael Polonsky, David Mellor, Julie Green, Jan Nicholson, Brian Oldenburg, Kelly Horton; partners: VicHealth, Raising Children Network

2013/14–2015/16: \$252,000

BETTER CARE VICTORIA

Obstetric Triage Decision Aid

McCarthy M, Simmons S, McDonald SJ, Pollock W, Oliver S.

2016: \$320,000

MERCY HEALTH ACADEMIC RESEARCH FUND

Quality of information and psychological support for women who present to WMH and MHW emergency departments (EDs) following early pregnancy loss

McCarthy M, McDonald SJ.

2016: \$2,500

AUSTRALIAN NURSING AND MIDWIFERY ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

Development of National Practice Standards for Midwives

Nagle, C, Heartfield M, McDonald SJ, et al.

2016: \$750,000

Current Grants, Scholarships and Awards

AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION FOR WOMEN'S SAFETY (ANROWS)

Domestic and family violence and parenting: mixed methods insights into impact and support needs

Rae Kaspiew, Cathy Humphreys, Jan Nicholson, Leesa Hooker, Angela Taft, Lixia Qu

2014–2016: \$249,683

AUSTRALIAN ROTARY FOUNDATION MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH PROJECT GRANTS

The impact of intimate partner violence on child mental health in middle childhood

Stephanie Brown, Jan Nicholson, Deirdre Gartland, Hannah Woolhouse, Helen Herrman, Fiona Mensah, Rebecca Giallo, Elizabeth Westrupp, Emma Sciberras

2014–2016 \$225,990

THE ROYAL WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

A Parenting Kit for Families in Victoria: Pilot Evaluation.

Della Forster, Jan Nicholson, Helen McLachlan, Michelle Newton, Heather Grimes, Fiona McLardie-Hore.

2014–2017. \$175,000

MINISTRY OF BUSINESS, INNOVATION AND EMPLOYMENT, NEW ZEALAND

Who are today's dads? - Understanding the diversity and importance of fathers for children growing up in NZ today

Susan Moreton, Polly Awatere-Carr, Jan Nicholson, Jan Pryor

2013–2016: \$1,237,128 NZD

2013 Science Investment Grants (Health & Society Research Fund)

LA TROBE BIG BID

Tackling alcohol-related domestic violence: A multidisciplinary research program to build strategies to prevent and reduce domestic violence

Angela Taft, Robin Room, Anne-Marie Laslett, Sarah MacLean, Ingrid Wilson, F Kelly, K Graham and G Gilchrist

2016–2018: \$243,253

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FOCUS AREA GRANT SCHEME

Post-doctoral Research Fellowship

Touran Shafiei

2015–2017: \$199,470

Recruiting and tracing participants via social media: feasibility and ethics

Naomi Hackworth, Sharinne Crawford, Jan Nicholson, Jayne Lucke, Patrick Keyzer, Lawrie Zion

2015–2016: \$19,650 (plus \$20,000 from APVC-R and PVC-R)

Midwives' knowledge attitudes and practices in responding to violence against women in Timor-Leste

Angela Taft, Susan McDonald, Kayli Wild

2016: \$48,950

Poverty reduction for single parents: The role of family payments and child support

Amanda Cooklin, Kay Cook, Sarah Sinclair, Jan Nicholson

2016–2017: \$8202

Families at Work: Sustainable strategies to support Australian working parents

Amanda Cooklin, Jan Nicholson, Naomi Hackworth, Angela Martin, Lyndall Strazdins, Rebecca Giallo, Nerida Joss

2016–18: \$94,937

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, HEALTH AND ENGINEERING GRANTS

Telephone peer support to prevent postnatal depression and anxiety

Della Forster, Helen McLachlan, Touran Shafiei, Jan Nicholson

2016: \$32,337

SCHOLARSHIPS / SMALL GRANTS

Shannon Bennetts: Centre for Research Excellence in Child Language (CRE-CL) PhD Scholarship, 2014–2016; Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

Laura Biggs: La Trobe University Postgraduate Research Scholarship

Anna Fragkoudi: La Trobe University Full Fee Research Scholarship; La Trobe University Postgraduate Research Scholarship

Sarmin Sayeed: La Trobe University Full Fee Research Scholarship; La Trobe University Postgraduate Research Scholarship

Current Grants, Scholarships and Awards

Fetene Belihu: La Trobe University Full Fee Research Scholarship; La Trobe University Postgraduate Research Scholarship

Ingrid Wilson: Australian Rechabite Foundation PhD scholarship; Inaugural Judith Lumley Scholarship

Maggie Flood: La Trobe University Postgraduate Research Scholarship; Australian Postgraduate Award (APA)

Heather Julie Wallace: Australian Postgraduate Award (APA)

Fiona Burgemeister: Australian Postgraduate Award (APA)

Beatriz Paulina Ayala Quintanilla: PSANZ Travel Award – 20th Annual Congress of Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand in Townsville, Australia; The Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation of the University of Washington – support for participation in the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Technical Training Workshop in Evia, Greece

Touran Shafiei: Research Focus Area Building Healthy Communities course and travel grant – 7th World Congress on Women's Mental Health (oral presentation), Dublin 2017

AWARDS

Life Membership of the National Tertiary Education Union, October 2016 (Rhonda Small)

Finalist 2016 VicHealth Awards, Research into Action
Breastfeeding in Public (Lisa Amir and Team)



Helene Johns, Jenny Donovan, Julie Rudner, Lisa Amir and Susan Tawia at the 2016 VicHealth awards in the Research into Action category presentation ceremony at Federation Square in December 2016

2016 Funds

FUNDS

Funds received from the sources listed here totalled: **\$2,837,601.47**

The contributors from all granting bodies are gratefully acknowledged.

Australian National Research Organisation women's Safety-Research Priorities

Grant **\$70,552.71**

Domestic and family violence and parenting: mixed method insights into impact and support needs	\$ 70,552.17
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Transition to Contemporary Parenthood **\$921,070.55**

La Trobe University contribution	\$ 270,000.00
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Roberta Holmes	\$ 651,070.55
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Department Education and Training **\$270,120.00**

Reducing the impact of early life disadvantage via the home	\$270,120.00
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Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research **\$268,464.48**

Research Training Scheme	\$125,223.33
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Joint Research Engagement	\$120,526.37
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Research Infrastructure Block Grant	\$22,714.77
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National Health and Medical Research Council **\$391,802.56**

Improving the Health of Aboriginal mothers and babies through continuity of midwife care	\$273,114.22
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Reducing the impact of early life disadvantage via the home	\$118,688.34
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Royal Women's Hospital **\$197,116.00**

A Parenting Kit for families in Victoria	\$81,250.00
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Midwifery and maternity services research and practice	\$115,866.00
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La Trobe Contribution **\$668,099.77**

Operating budget including supervision of students	\$51,638.71
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LTU Internal Contribution	\$424,194.67
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Research Focus Areas

Harmony: Achieving social justice for Indian domestic violence survivors	\$11,920.11
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Rural and city design workshops to promote breastfeeding in public	\$14,202.00
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Midwives' knowledge, attitudes and practices to gender-based violence in Timor-Leste	\$48,950.00
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Families at work: sustainable strategies to support Australian working parents	\$22,128.46
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Recruiting and tracing participants via social media: feasibility and ethics	\$19,650.00
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LAVAWN La Trobe Violence Against Women research Network	\$1,824.07
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Poverty Reduction for Single Parents: The roles of Family Payments and Child	\$8,000.00
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Big Bids

Taft Big Bid	\$37,156.77
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Funds

Research Centre Support	
Research Support	\$28,434.98
Miscellaneous income	
Course fees, royalties and other income	\$50,375.94
	\$50,375.94