The Judith Lumley Centre is a multidisciplinary public health research centre in the Faculty of Health Sciences 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 is now expanding to include research on the transition to contemporary parenthood.

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
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Breastfeeding
- Reducing violence against women and children.

The Judith Lumley Centre aims to

- Undertake and interpret research in our research 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.
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The year 2014 was one of consolidation, expansion and development for the Judith Lumley Centre. Thanks to the generous donation from our benefactor, we established the Inaugural Roberta Holmes Professorial Chair for the new Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program and Jan Nicholson moved to take up this position in April. Jan brings extensive experience in longitudinal studies of the health and wellbeing of parents and children and the development and evaluations of community-based programs for preventing family-related health problems. Jan is also a Chief Investigator with the well-respected cohort study Growing Up in Australia – the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC). Soon after Jan’s appointment and throughout the year, we welcomed seven new members of staff for this exciting new program. Drs Amanda Cooklin and Sharinne Crawford, Research Fellows, joined early in 2014 with Ms Olga Tsironis offering administrative support to the program. Dr Liz Westrupp joined later in a Research Fellow role with Ms Shannon Bennetts, Research Officer. Dr Catrann Nguyen comes part-time to offer statistical support for the program’s ongoing work.

The Parenthood program commenced with a successful 2014 NHMRC grant to extend their previous Early Home Learning Study to children now at primary school, which you can read about in this report. TCPP staff brought with them two other studies: the VicHealth funded Parental Fear project about limits to children’s mobility and Work-family balance, work and family well-being. Planning at the end of 2014 signalled two new flagship TCPP specific programs to be commenced early in 2015. Together with Della Forster and Helen McLachlan, Jan Nicholson was also successfully involved in a tender to evaluate a new Parenting Education kit being trialled at the Royal Women’s Hospital and an Australian National Research on Women’s Safety (ANROWS) collaborative grant led by the Australian Institute of Family Studies about parenting and domestic violence.

In 2014, JLC has been actively extending our work into migrant and refugee and Asia Pacific communities, outlined in the Report. Rhonda Small’s international ROAM collaboration (Reproductive Outcomes and Migration) continues in Australia with an analysis by Fetene Berhanu of birthing among East African immigrant women and a feasibility study of labour companions for migrant women birthing in Victoria (LaCE). HARMONY is a pilot study of bilingual GP and domestic violence advocate partnerships to identify and support women experiencing family violence in the Indian migrant community. Kristina Edvardsson is a Swedish postdoctoral fellow at JLC studying the effects of ultrasound on birthing women (the CROCUS study) in several countries and also studying pregnancy complication in Rwanda. Similarly, the 2013 publication of our secondary analysis of the 2009-10 Timor Leste Demographic Health Survey has been followed by a new contract to analyse Timorese Community Policing Perceptions and Law and Justice surveys of 2008-2013 to examine women’s pathways to justice. These analyses by Lyn Watson and me will underpin planning for the Asia Foundation’s eight-year End Violence Against Women program in Timor Leste funded by the Australian government.

In the pages of this 2014 report, you can read the excellent progress made in the many studies of senior staff and students in programs addressing birthing (COSMOS and ECO) and breastfeeding (DAME, MILC, RUBY, and SILC). The major highlights have included the completion of the SILC trial and results dissemination back to the MCH team participants; the successful expansion of DAME sites to six hospitals; and the fantastic willingness of over 60 mothers to be breastfeeding mentors to other women in RUBY. A further highlight was that in August 2014, during World Breastfeeding week, the first major update of Victorian Breastfeeding Guidelines in 16 years, funded by the Victorian government and written by JLC’s Lisa Amir and Anita Moorhead, were launched.

I spent five weeks in 2014 as Visiting Professor in the Departments of Public Health at the Federal Universities of Sao Paolo and Parana, giving seminars and lectures, teaching and strengthening our collaborations with staff there (including a previous PhD student Dr Marcos Signorelli and his supervisor Dr Pedro Paulo Pereira). While Brazilian studies on violence against women are strong, scholars have little access to funding for intervention studies, so there was considerable interest in our studies in community and primary care settings, MOSAIC, MOVE and WEAVE.

Additionally, as adjunct to the second National Sexual and Reproductive Health Conference, JLC held a Symposium on Preventing and Reducing Unwanted Pregnancies, which brought Associate Prof Diana Greene-Foster from the University of California, San Francisco together with leading scholars in Australia for one day research sharing and planning in November.

In 2014, we were delighted to celebrate the doctoral graduation of Ellie McDonald, Michelle Newton and Zaharah Suleiman. We also celebrated Rhonda Small’s appointment as Foreign Adjunct Professor to the prestigious Karolinska Institute in Sweden.

Finally, we said an interim farewell in March to our highly valued Simone Pakin (Research and Publications Officer) but we are very grateful for the excellent support offered by her locum Dr Daniel Jay Thompson.

Angela Taft, Director
March 2015
Mother and infant health

CROCUS—THE CROSS-COUNTRY ULTRASOUND STUDY
Kristina Edvardsson, Umeå University, Sweden/Judith Lumley Centre; Rhonda Small, Judith Lumley Centre; Ingrid Mogren, Umeå University, Sweden, in collaboration with researchers in Sweden, Norway, Vietnam, Tanzania and Rwanda

Obstetric ultrasound examinations have come to play an increasingly significant role in maternity care, and advances in obstetric ultrasound have led to improvements in pregnancy outcomes. However, it has at the same time been argued that the continuing medico-technical progress has led to an increased medicalisation of pregnancy. The increasing use of obstetric ultrasound has also raised many ethical challenges, especially in relation to its non-medical use, but the ethical discussions and research in this area are still limited. The overall aim of this project is to explore midwives’ and obstetricians’ views and experiences on the use of obstetric ultrasound in relation to clinical management and care, and maternal and fetal roles and rights, in low-income and high-income countries. The project commenced in 2012, and the participating countries are Australia, Norway, Sweden, Rwanda, Tanzania and Vietnam. Qualitative data collection has been completed in five of the six countries via focus group discussions with midwives and individual interviews with obstetricians. Data are analysed using qualitative content analysis.

Kristina Edvardsson, international project coordinator, is supported by a 3-year international Postdoctoral Fellowship from the Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare (FORTE). The project received further funding (Ingrid Mogren) from the Swedish Research Council of approximately 370,000 AUD over 4 years. The project is subject to further applications for funding of a doctoral student position.

FUNDING: Umeå University, Sweden, Swedish Research Council, Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare (FORTE)
STATUS: One paper published, one submitted, three in manuscript form; four conference abstracts accepted; further data analysis and reporting ongoing
PUBLICATION:
Edvardsson K, Small R, Persson M, Lalo A, Mogren I. ‘Ultrasound is an invaluable third eye, but it can’t see everything’: a qualitative study with obstetricians in Australia. BMC Pregnancy Childbirth 2014; 14:363

DIABETES AND ANTENTAL MILK EXPRESSION (DAME)
Della Forster, Lisa Amir, Anita Moorhead; in collaboration with Susan Jacobs and Peter Davis, Royal Women’s Hospital; Susan Walker, Kerri McGegan 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; Amanda Aylward, Royal Women’s Hospital; Christine East, Monash Medical Centre; Lisa Gold, Deakin University

Diabetes is increasing globally and occurs in 8% of pregnancies. These pregnancies are considered to be at high risk of perinatal complications. Infants of women with diabetes in pregnancy have an increased risk of developing diabetes and being obese later in life, and are highly likely to be exposed to cow’s milk protein early, also increasing the risk of diabetes. Many maternity providers encourage these ‘high-risk’ women to express colostrum before birth to have breast milk available should the infant need supplementary feeding to treat hypoglycaemia.

Pilot data from our group and another small study in the United Kingdom found increased special care nursery (SCN) admissions in infants of mothers who expressed antenatally, and the UK study found a one-week reduction in pregnancy gestation. Evidence for this practice is lacking so we are undertaking a multi-site, two-arm randomised controlled trial (RCT) of antenatal expression of colostrum in late pregnancy for women with diabetes in pregnancy to explore the safety
and efficacy for mother, fetus and infant. The trial sites are the Mercy Hospital for Women, the Royal Women’s Hospital, the Women’s at Sandringham, Monash Medical Centre, Geelong Hospital, (Barwon Health), and Frankston Hospital (Peninsula Health).

The primary hypothesis of this study is that infants of women with diabetes in pregnancy, who commence antenatal expressing of colostrum from 36 weeks’ gestation, will be more likely to be admitted to the SCN/NICU after birth compared with infants of women with diabetes in pregnancy that receive standard care. We will also test whether antenatal expressing increases the proportion of infants receiving exclusive breast milk during the hospital stay after the birth and at three months of age, and whether it decreases duration of pregnancy. We are in the process of recruiting 658 women to the study.

**FUNDING:** NHMRC project grant 2011–2014

**STATUS:** Recruitment underway (565 women recruited), Higher Degree (Research) candidate enrolled (AM).

**PUBLICATION:**

**DAME website**

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**EVALUATION OF THE PANDA NATIONAL PERINATAL DEPRESSION HELPLINE**

Helen McLachlan, Della Forster, Rhonda Small, Touran Shafiei, Laura Biggs

In January 2013, Judith Lumley Centre was engaged by PANDA to undertake an independent evaluation of the PANDA National Perinatal Depression Helpline.

The evaluation comprised a number of components including a description of the PANDA caller profile, demand and referral pathways, using routinely collected data; an exploration of the views and experiences of callers to PANDA via an online survey, a hard copy survey or a telephone interview. It also included key informant consultations with PANDA volunteers, PANDA counsellors and key stakeholders via online surveys, focus groups and face-to-face interviews.

**FUNDING:** PANDA 2013

**STATUS:** Report completed; papers in preparation

**PUBLICATION:** Shafiei T, Forster D, McLachlan H, Small R, Biggs L. Evaluation of the PANDA National Perinatal Depression Helpline. Melbourne, Australia: Judith Lumley Centre, La Trobe University; January 2014

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**OBSTETRIC OUTCOMES FOR IMMIGRANT WOMEN**

*Rhonda Small, Mary-Ann Davey, Fetene Berhanu 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 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 is being finalised for submission early in 2015. A further project utilising these VPDC data was commenced in July 2014 by Doctor of Public Health candidate, Fetene Belihu. He is investigating outcomes for East African born women and their infants, supervised by Rhonda Small and Mary-Ann Davey.

**FUNDING:** none

**STATUS:** Vietnamese outcomes paper drafted; East African project ethics approval obtained; data analysis commenced

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**RISK FACTORS AND TRENDS IN POSTPARTUM HAEOMORRHAGE (PPH) IN VICTORIA 2003-2011: HEALTH POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

*Mary-Ann Davey, Maggie Flood; in collaboration with Susan McDonald and Wendy Pollock, School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University; Fiona Cullinane, Royal Women’s Hospital*

This study analyses trends in postpartum haemorrhage (PPH) and associated morbidities using data from the Perinatal Data Collection for all births in Victoria, 2003–2011. The frequency and severity of postpartum haemorrhage are increasing, as are rates of known risk factors. Small increases in rates of postpartum haemorrhage—a continuing major cause of maternal morbidity—may impact heavily on women and their families. This study will provide up-to-date local information on postpartum haemorrhage incidence and risk factors, enabling insights into strategies to reduce these and to inform policy and practice in maternity services to benefit the women of Victoria.

**FUNDING:** none

**STATUS:** analysis in the early stages
COLLABORATIVE WORK

FETAL LACTATE MEASUREMENT TO REDUCE CAESAREAN SECTIONS DURING LABOUR: A RANDOMISED TRIAL (FLAMINGO)
Christine East and Shaun Brennecke, Royal Women’s Hospital; Mary-Ann Davey; Omar Kamlin, Royal Women’s Hospital

There is currently an epidemic of caesarean sections performed in Australia and overseas. Although many caesarean sections are performed for concerns about fetal welfare, the majority of babies are shown to be well at birth, meaning that the operation, with its inherent short- and long-term risks, could have been avoided, without compromising the baby’s health. In this study, half the babies with a non-reassuring heart rate recording during labour will have a blood test to measure lactate and the other half will not. We will then determine whether having a lactate test makes a difference in the number of women having caesarean births.

FUNDING: NHMRC Project Grant 2012–2015, University of Melbourne
STATUS: recruitment underway

IMPACT OF RISK-REDUCING BILATERAL SALPINGOOPHORECTOMY ON NON-CANCER OUTCOMES IN YOUNG HIGH-RISK WOMEN: A MULTICENTRE PROSPECTIVE STUDY (WHAM)
Martha Hickey, Royal Women’s Hospital; Gillian Mitchell, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre; Bettina Meiser, University of New South Wales; John Wark, Royal Melbourne Hospital; Mary-Ann Davey

This study is looking at menopause symptoms, sexual function, bone health and risk factors for cardiovascular disease in women who choose to have surgery to remove their ovaries and fallopian tubes because they are considered high risk for developing ovarian cancer. They will be asked to invite an age-matched friend to take part in the study as part of the “low risk” control group.

FUNDING: NHMRC Project Grant 2013–2015, University of Melbourne
STATUS: recruitment underway

PREGNANCY-RELATED COMPLICATIONS IN RWANDA: PREVALENCE, ASSOCIATED RISK FACTORS AND HEALTH ECONOMIC IMPACT, AND MATERNAL EXPERIENCES
Jean Paul Semasaka Sengoma, University of Rwanda, Ingrid Mogren, Umeå University, Sweden, Gunilla Krantz, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, Cyprien Munyanshongore and Manasse Nzayirambo, University of Rwanda, Kristina Edvardsson, Judith Lumley Centre/ Umeå University, Sweden

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 476 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 will include population-based as well as health-facility based studies in combination with a qualitative study involving women who have experienced pregnancy-related complications.

FUNDING: the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
STATUS: Population-based and facility based data collection completed; data preparation and analyses ongoing

REPRODUCTIVE OUTCOMES AND MIGRATION (ROAM): AN INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION
Rhonda Small, Mary-Ann Davey and Touran Shafiei; ROAM Steering Group: Rhonda Small; Anita Gagnon, McGill University, Canada; Mika Gissler, Institute of Health, Finland; Carolyn Roth, University of Keele, UK; Jennifer Zeitlin, INSERM, France and EURO-PERISTAT

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 Granada, Spain 12-13 April 2014, following the European Public Health Association Migrant Health Conference. Completed work was presented and further collaborative research was discussed. Projects with involvement from the Judith Lumley Centre include:

- A cross-country comparative study of migration and severe maternal morbidity (two papers published)
- Migrant friendly maternity care questionnaire project (paper published, further translation and piloting underway)
- Migrant women’s experiences of maternity care: a systematic and comparative review (paper published)

FUNDING: Canadian Institutes of Health Research International Collaboration grant 2007-2008 and Systematic Review grant 2010
STATUS: fourteen papers published; five submitted; several in preparation

BIRTH COHORT PILOT STUDY
Mary-Ann Davey, Rhonda Small, Lester Jones, Laura Whitburn
Forty women were recruited from the Mercy Hospital for Women and Sunshine Hospital to take part in this pilot study about the factors that shape women’s expectations and experience of care during labour and birth, breastfeeding and transition to parenthood. This longitudinal cohort study will inform the development of a definitive study. It involves completion of questionnaires during pregnancy and in the postnatal period. Half the women will also take part in in-depth interviews before and after birth exploring pain in labour.

FUNDING: Healthy Motherhood Program Grant 2013
STATUS: Data collection and interviews underway

EHLS (EARLY HOME LEARNING STUDY) AT SCHOOL
Jan Nicholson, Elizabeth Westrupp, Naomi Hackworth, Shannon Bennett, in collaboration with Sheena Reilly, Fiona Mensah and Penny Levickis, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute; Donna Berthelsen, Queensland University of Technology; Lisa Gold, Deakin University

This project is a school-age follow-up of the large randomised controlled trial the Early Home Learning Study (EHLS). EHLS aimed to identify the best way to support parents experiencing difficult social circumstances to create a rich home learning environment for their young children. This three-year study was conducted at the Parenting Research Centre, in partnership with and funded by the Victorian Department of Early Education and Childhood Development (now the Department of Education and Training). More than 2000 Victorian parents of a child aged from birth to three years were involved in the randomised controlled trial of the parenting support program.

In May 2014, funding was awarded to track these children into their school years to determine whether the effects of this early childhood intervention resulted in sustained improvements in later childhood and improved academic, behavioural and family outcomes. Since this time, the investigator team has been negotiating institutional agreements, refining the study design and measures, applying for ethics approval, and preparing key papers from the original study.

FUNDING: NHMRC Partnership Grant 2014–2019 (1076857)
STATUS: Ongoing, data collection to commence mid-late 2015
EVALUATING A NEW EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE DEVELOPED BY THE ROYAL WOMEN’S HOSPITAL: 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. We are evaluating the kit using mixed methods, and will follow women up at several times via telephone and post. Staff opinions regarding usefulness of the kit and potential for wider use will be explored.

FUNDING: Royal Women’s Hospital
STATUS: Evaluation designed; ethics applications underway

LABOUR COMPANION EDUCATION (LACE): A FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR A RANDOMISED TRIAL

Rhonda Small, Della Forster, Touran Shafiei, in collaboration with Tanya Farrell, Royal Women’s Hospital; Chris East, Monash Health; and Sue McDonald, Mercy Hospital for Women/La Trobe University; and in partnership with the Multicultural Centre for Women’s Health (MCWH)

Caesarean section rates have climbed to more than 30% in Australia, and are even higher in some groups of immigrant women, suggesting urgent action is required. Continuous support in labour from a trained labour companion has been shown to reduce rates of caesarean section, but testing this evidence in a population-representative sample, inclusive of culturally and linguistically diverse first-time mothers has not been attempted, nor its feasibility investigated.

Initially this project explored the feasibility of conducting a randomised trial of labour companion education at the Royal Women’s Hospital in Melbourne. Interviews and focus groups explored acceptability and feasibility issues with maternity services staff, with women and with immigrant community representatives. During the feasibility study, other maternity hospitals expressed interest in involvement in the proposed trial and a small group of midwives from The Royal Women’s Hospital, Monash Health and The Mercy Hospital for Women participated in a workshop in October 2012 to develop the education module, which was then successfully piloted with 19 women and their labour companions in 2013.

During 2014, philanthropic funding was obtained from the Ian Potter Foundation and ‘Near Miss’ funding was awarded by the University to further develop the LaCE model and the trial proposal. The LaCE education manual was completed for use by midwives, who will participate in the future trial, and a pilot of the bilingual labour companion pool is currently being conducted in partnership with MCWH.

FUNDING: Faculty of Health Sciences Research Grant 2011; LTU Institutional Near Miss Funding 2014; Ian Potter Research Grant 2014
STATUS: Initial feasibility and piloting completed; education manual developed; bilingual labour companion pool piloting underway; paper describing development work in preparation

PARENTAL FEAR AS A BARRIER TO CHILDREN’S INDEPENDENT MOBILITY AND RESULTANT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Jan Nicholson, Amanda Cooklin, Sharinne Crawford, Shannon Bennetts, Naomi Hackworth; in collaboration with Julie Green, Jan Matthews, Fabrizio D’Esposito, Parenting Research Centre; Stephen Zubrick, University of Western Australia; Lyndall Strazdins, the Australian National University; Guy Parcel, University of Texas

Parents are the gatekeepers to children’s independence and autonomy across all stages of childhood. The extent to which parents are anxious about their child’s safety (‘parental fear’) has been identified as a potentially critical factor preventing children from travelling and playing independently.

La Trobe University and the Parenting Research Centre received funding from the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth) to investigate barriers that limit children’s independent mobility and physical activity, including parental fear. Commencing in 2012, quantitative and qualitative data are being collected from parents, children and key members of the broader Victorian community, to identify the drivers of parental fear and develop strategies and recommendations for promoting the independent mobility of Victorian primary and secondary school-aged children. In 2014, preliminary findings were released in association with VicHealth’s Walk to School campaign, gaining considerable media attention across print, radio and television. Findings were summarised in the Conversation, and the project was selected as a Finalist in the 2014 Victorian Health Promotion Foundation Awards. The project is due for completion in 2015.

FUNDING: Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth)
STATUS: Data collection to be completed in early 2015; one paper submitted; three papers in preparation
manage the demands of parents’ work and family responsibilities is critical for parents’ mental health, parenting and children’s outcomes. Organisations and workplaces also bear the cost of employees’ high work-family conflict via poor employee mental health, absenteeism and presenteeism.

This program of research aims to build evidence to support workplaces and parents to promote parents’ mental health and reduce work-family conflict.

This study uses national, longitudinal (2004–present) cohort data from over 5,000 employed parents and their children to identify practical ways in which workplaces can prevent the adverse effects of poor quality jobs and high work-family conflict on parents and children. Recent analyses have found that for fathers in the first year of parenthood, poor job conditions (job insecurity, long hours, inflexible work schedules) and high work-family conflict were key factors contributing to psychological distress. Our recently published book chapter posed a multi-level model for workplaces to reduce work-family conflict and enhance work-family enrichment specifically for parents of young children.

Results from this ongoing research will inform workplace interventions to promote parents’ mental health, reduce work-family conflict and reduce the costs to organisations of absenteeism and high employee turnover.

**FUNDING:** Australian Rotary Health Research Project Grant (2014–2015); Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program funding  
**STATUS:** Ongoing, 5 relevant publications in submission  
**PUBLICATIONS:**  


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 reduction in caesarean births and associated reduction in length of stay may also yield some cost savings. A full cost analysis and cost-effectiveness analysis will be completed based on these birth outcomes and data on service use and costs over the first six months after birth.

The study is the first randomised controlled trial of caseload midwifery in Australia and only the third 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: NHRMC Project grant 2007-2010
STATUS: Three papers published, one in 2013; three in preparation
COSMOS website

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 Cullinan, Royal Women’s Hospital, Colleen White, Southern Health, and Susan Gannon, Western Health

The care women receive after having a baby is likely to have a significant impact on their health and well-being. With the rising number of births, many health services in Victoria (including tertiary referral hospitals) have had to respond by discharging women much earlier than planned or expected. Women receive one or two home visits by a hospital midwife, yet there has been very little evaluation of the provision of home-based postnatal care in Victoria, and there is very little evidence to guide care. The aim of the project was to explore home-based postnatal care in terms of what is currently provided; what women expect; and how prepared midwives are to provide home-based postnatal care. This project included three components: focus groups (with midwives), semi-structured interviews with postpartum women and a survey of public hospital managers of maternity services.

The project was the first to provide urgently needed information regarding the structure and content of home-based postnatal care. It is our intention that this study will provide valuable data to inform clinical practice as well as policy. It will also guide future research and if appropriate, may inform a future randomised controlled trial to explore the association between different types of postnatal care provision and clinical outcomes.

FUNDING: Victorian Department of Health
STATUS: Report completed; papers in preparation

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 have low birthweight, and more likely to commence breastfeeding (McLachlan 2012).

In the caseload model each woman has 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 known caregivers.

A study we undertook in Victoria found that midwives working in caseload were more satisfied and less burnt out than their standard care counterparts (Newton, Australian Midwifery Models of Care conference, Adelaide 2012), however there was some evidence that not all midwives want to work in this way, suggesting that the sustainability of the model needs exploration.

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 in Australia. 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. 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.

FUNDING: Nil
STATUS: Data collection complete; one paper published, three others in preparation
PUBLICATION:

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**ENHANCED CARE AND SUPPORT IN EARLY LABOUR (ECSEL PILOT STUDY)**

*Mary-Ann Davey, Rhonda Small, Maggie Flood*

This project undertook feasibility work for a proposed randomised controlled trial of modified care in early labour. Women attending the proposed study hospitals for maternity care completed questionnaires regarding their willingness to take part in a study like the one described to them. Key clinical staff were interviewed to identify facilitators and barriers to the introduction of the trial.

FUNDING: Healthy Motherhood Program Grant 2012
STATUS: analysis underway

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**VALIDATION STUDY OF DATA IN THE 2011 VICTORIAN PERINATAL DATA COLLECTION**

*Mary-Ann Davey, Maggie Flood; Sue McDonald, Mercy Hospital for Women/La Trobe University; Wendy Pollock, School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University; Rosemary Warren, Sonia Palma*

This program of research includes a project based on data in the Victorian Perinatal Data Collection. In order to quantify...
the accuracy of the data, we are also conducting a validation study of the 2011 Perinatal Data, 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 three tertiary hospitals and a random sample of other hospitals were checked and validated.

The audit included 15 hospitals and two homebirths at seven rural sites, four inner metropolitan and four outer metropolitan sites. The research team comprised Maggie Flood (PhD candidate) 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 has commenced; reports and papers are being prepared

COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

BIRTHPLACE IN AUSTRALIA: A PROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY

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; Helen McLachlan and Della Forster; 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 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

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

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 Jayne Lucke, Kerry Petersen and Julia Shelley, Deakin University; Danielle Mazza, Monash University; Kirsten Black, University of Sydney; Philip Goldstone, MSH; Safeera Hussainy, Monash University

Mifepristone, a safe and effective abortifacient, was included in the pharmaceutical benefits scheme in 2013, providing women in Australia with a non-surgical option for pregnancy termination. In the absence of national data on abortion, little is known about issues of accessibility to this service, and whether and how the availability of medical abortion impacts access. This baseline collaborative study (with Marie Stopes International Australia) explores:

- The prevalence of unwanted pregnancy in Australia
- Women’s experiences of abortion, including direct and indirect costs, the barriers to seeking and receiving care, preferences for type of procedure, and the information and advice available in assisting women to make informed choices about continuing or terminating an unintended pregnancy
- The geographical distribution of medical abortion services.

Data collection for this study is currently underway and includes:

- A completed survey of providers registered with Marie Stopes Health
- A computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI) survey of a random sample of 2000 Australian women aged 18-45, and
- A self-administered survey of ≈ 3000 abortion clients in all 14 Dr Marie clinics across Australia.

In addition to providing national data on the status of abortion services in Australia, this study will serve as a baseline, against which we will compare changes in measures of access and equity over time through a follow-up study in 2016.

FUNDING: TCPP, MS Health, Women’s Health Association of Victoria

STATUS: Data collection
**BREASTFEEDING**

**IMPROVING MATERNITY CARE AND BREASTFEEDING OUTCOMES FOR ABORIGINAL MOTHERS AND BABIES IN VICTORIA**

Helen McLachlan, Lisa Amir, Della Forster, Michelle Newton, Kate Dawson, Touran Shafiei; in collaboration with Karen Adams, Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO); Helena Maher, Teagan Cornelissen, Royal Women’s Hospital

Breastfeeding provides many benefits for babies and children. Aboriginal women in urban areas are less likely to initiate breastfeeding compared with non-Aboriginal women and the proportion of Aboriginal babies being predominantly breastfed at six months is half the rate of non-Indigenous babies (17% vs 35%). These data point to the need for further research on why Aboriginal women stop breastfeeding (or do not start), and how they can be supported to continue.

A recent report by the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO) identified breastfeeding as a key concern and recommended planning, implementing and evaluating strategies to improve breastfeeding rates for Aboriginal women. The recommendation is consistent with a number of government inquiries and reviews. In partnership with VACCHO, we are exploring a number of strategies that may help increase breastfeeding rates among Aboriginal women in Victoria, including gaining an understanding of the breastfeeding rates in different parts of Victoria using routinely collected data and exploring the feasibility of implementing models of maternity care that provide continuity of midwife care.

**FUNDING:** Building Healthy Communities RFA Grant; Healthy Motherhood Program Grant

**STATUS:** Data collection in progress, paper drafted

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

Della Forster, Lisa Amir, Helen McLachlan, Anita Moorhead, Helene Johns; in collaboration with Rachel 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. Anecdotally expressing breast milk in hospital and after discharge home has increased. Little is known about the effect of early and longer-term breast milk expression on breastfeeding duration.

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**ACCESSING CONTRACEPTION FOR EMERGENCY SUPPLY STUDY (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 Gujda, University of Western Australia; Kath Ryan, La Trobe University

Access to emergency contraception is essential as it helps prevent unwanted pregnancies – an important public health goal. The levonorgestrel containing emergency contraceptive pill (ECP) has been available in Australia since 2004 through community pharmacies without prescription. In 2012 the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA) released a new guideline for levonorgestrel provision that contains the latest scientific evidence regarding its use. While the ECP is extraordinarily safe and has no medical contraindications (International Consortium for Emergency Contraception and International Federation of Gynecology & Obstetrics 2012), there are significant barriers to pharmacy access in Australia and overseas. Pharmacists’ practices in Australia are variable, commonly not meeting evidence-based recommendations in the PSA guideline and resulting in women being unnecessarily declined ECP supply (Hussainy et al. 2011, 2014). Women’s experiences of obtaining the ECP from pharmacies are both positive and negative (Hobbs et al. 2011). This research project involves conducting a comprehensive barriers analysis to confirm findings from earlier studies. Evidence-based interventions will subsequently be designed and piloted in community pharmacy, to promote increased adherence with the PSA guideline and therefore increased supply of, and enhanced access to, the ECP by women.

**FUNDING:** Monash University, Bayer and Marie Stopes

**STATUS:** awarded in 2014, commencing in 2015

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**THE AUSTRALIAN CONTRACEPTIVE CHOICE PROJECT (ACCORD)**

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

The primary aim of this study is to increase the uptake of long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs) amongst Australian women by trialling a complex intervention that involves training GPs to provide “LARC First” structured contraceptive counselling and implementing rapid referral pathways to LARC insertion.

**FUNDING:** NHMRC 2015–2018

**STATUS:** awarded in 2014, commencing in 2015
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 3 and 6 months later. The primary outcome for comparison is 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.

FUNDING: Faculty of Health Sciences Research Grant; PhD scholarship
STATUS: further analysis and writing-up underway, two papers published, one submitted, one pending submission, five conference presentations in 2014

RINGING UP ABOUT BREASTFEEDING – A RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIAL EXPLORING EARLY TELEPHONE PEER SUPPORT FOR BREASTFEEDING (RUBY)

Della Forster, Helen McLachlan, Mary-Ann Davey, Lisa Amir, Rhonda Small, Heather Grimes; in collaboration with Lisa Gold, Deakin University; Anita Moorhead and Fiona McLeod-Hore, Royal Women’s Hospital; Chris East, Monash Health; Patrice Hickey, Sunshine Hospital; Nanette Shone and Kate Mortensen, Australian Breastfeeding Association; Cindy-Lee Dennis, University of Toronto, Canada

In Australia, although most women initiate breastfeeding, only about 60% are giving their infant any breast milk by six months. Furthermore, the gap in rates of breastfeeding between socially disadvantaged and advantaged infants has increased: less advantaged infants are much less likely to continue to be breastfed. Very few interventions have shown to increase breastfeeding maintenance in countries with high initiation of breastfeeding — peer support is one intervention that has shown some promise, but randomised trials have had mixed findings. The only one relevant to the Australian context demonstrated a positive outcome — a Canadian trial by Cindy-Lee Dennis — and it was this trial that formed the basis of our intervention. We received funding to conduct a trial of telephone support for breastfeeding provided by volunteer mothers who have themselves breastfed.

The trial is led jointly by a team from the Judith Lumley Centre and the Royal Women’s Hospital, in collaboration with the Australian Breastfeeding Association, Monash Medical Centre and Sunshine Hospital. We use a two-arm randomised controlled trial to determine whether peer support, provided by telephone during the postnatal period using a proactive approach, increases the proportion of infants who are breastfed for at least six months. We are recruiting first-time mothers from postnatal wards of three Victorian hospitals whose catchments include areas with some of the lowest breastfeeding rates in the state.

- Women randomised to the non-intervention arm receive usual hospital postnatal care and infant feeding support.
- Women randomised to the intervention arm receive usual hospital postnatal care and infant feeding support as well as proactive peer support provided by telephone from a trained volunteer mother (who has breastfed for six months or more).

Training for the volunteer mothers is being conducted in conjunction with the Australian Breastfeeding Association. The peer support mothers are encouraged to provide most of the contact in the important early weeks, when many women cease breastfeeding, with continued contact tapering off up to six months postpartum. Outcome data will be collected at six months by telephone interview.

FUNDING: Felton Bequest; PhD Scholarship
STATUS: Training of volunteer mothers ongoing (115 trained to date); recruitment of participants began February 2013 (266 women to date); trial protocol paper submitted
PUBLICATION:
RUBY website

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 Mélabh Cullinane; in collaboration with Suzanne Garland and Sepehr Tabrizi, 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.


STATUS: Recruiting completed; protocol published; main outcomes paper published in 2013; further analysis and dissemination underway


CASTLE website

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 is 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 that agreed to participate were randomly allocated to one of three trial arms:

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 is the proportion of infants receiving any breast milk at four months of age. The secondary outcomes are 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.

FUNDING: DEECD 2011–2014

STATUS: Final report submitted to DEECD; trial protocol published; primary outcome paper submitted


SILC website

SILC Team, June 2014
**DELPHI STUDY OF PHARMACOLOGY EXPERTS TO DERIVE INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEDICINE USE IN LACTATION**

Lisa Amir, Clare Barnett; Kath Ryan, School of Nursing and Midwifery

Although most medicines are compatible with breastfeeding, pharmaceutical companies often state that a medicine is not recommended during lactation, leading to confusion amongst prescribing clinicians. Our objective was to gain international consensus on the key parameters experts use to inform decisions and to develop a user-friendly, evidence-based safety hierarchy for medicine use during breastfeeding.

We used a three-round web-based Delphi research design. Sixteen experts were identified based on their international prominence in the field, with a further 12 recruited through snowballing. Questionnaires were distributed electronically by a secure program (Qualtrics). Round 1 explored experts’ opinions of current medicines and breastfeeding classification systems and identified key clinical, social and pharmacological parameters used to inform decisions. Rounds 2 and 3 built consensus around these parameters using a five-point Likert scale and prioritisation.

**FUNDING:** School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University, Healthy Motherhood Program Grant

**STATUS:** Results presented at conferences in 2014; paper submitted for publication

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**REDUCING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

**HARMONY: ACHIEVING SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR INDIAN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS – A PILOT STUDY**

Angela Taft, Rhonda Small and Mridula Shankar; in collaboration with Kelsey Hegarty, University of Melbourne; Gene Feder, University of Bristol, UK; Suneeta Krishnan, Research Triangle Institute, International

Harmony is an innovative pilot randomised controlled trial in primary care to reduce harm from and prevent domestic violence in Melbourne’s Indian diaspora communities.

This pilot project aims to:

- Culturally adapt and evaluate a successful UK systems model of identification and referral (Feder et al, *The Lancet* 2011), by training bilingual Indian GPs and all the clinic staff with the support and collaboration of a bilingual advocate based in a diaspora domestic violence advocacy agency, to enhance the support and safety of culturally diverse (especially Indian) women experiencing domestic violence
- Pilot resources and training to build the capacity of a larger number of Indian GPs to initiate a targeted healthcare response to domestic violence in the Indian diaspora community
- Develop and refine violence prevention messages in consultation with key stakeholders, for promotion by Indian doctors within the broader Indian community.

**FUNDING:** Transforming Human Societies RFA

**STATUS:** pilot study successfully funded in October 2014, commencing in 2015

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**IMPROVING MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CARE FOR VULNERABLE MOTHERS (MOVE): AN RCT OF 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 is 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. The intervention included: clinical guidelines; a self-completed maternal health screening checklist at 3–4 month consultation; nurse safety; nurse mentors; and strengthened relationships with FV services.

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=~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 the previous 12 months (CAS≥7) 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.

FUNDING: ARC Linkage Project 2009–2011
STATUS: Intervention and two-year follow-up complete; protocol and one further paper published, primary outcomes and process evaluation paper under review and two further papers drafted
MOVE website

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

Intimate partner violence against women is a major public health problem globally. Interventions for women are urgently needed, with safety planning being one of the most widely recommended. In this study, we test the effectiveness of an interactive internet-based safety decision aid to prioritise safety planning. Three hundred and forty abused women will be assigned by chance to either the safety decision aid or control website. We will measure women’s mental health and exposure to repeat violence three, six and 12 months later.

In 2014, the website was developed, tested and 60 women recruited.

FUNDING: ARC Discovery Grant 2013–2016
STATUS: recruitment underway
I-Decide website

Violence against women team, JLC end of the year picnic in the park
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 maternal and child health.

Congratulations to the students, who graduated in 2014:
Kirstine Hand, Michelle Newton, Ellie McDonald, Kate Williams and Zaharah Sulaiman.

Five new students commenced in 2014: Anna Fragkoudi, Fiona McLardie-Hore, Anita Moorhead, Charlene Smithson, Beatriz Ayala (see below for details of their projects and supervisors).

Monthly postgraduate meetings give students the opportunity to present their work in progress, as well as to participate in educational sessions on research methods, using EndNote and N-Vivo, and other relevant topics.

Postgraduate coordinators: Touran Shafiei and Méabh Cullinane

Méabh started her maternity leave in November. Amanda Cooklin will join Touran for coordination of postgraduate students in 2015. Della Forster and Lisa Amir continue to be involved with the intake of new postgraduate students and are supporting Touran and Amanda.

Breastfeeding practices and experiences of women requiring medicines during lactation
Moni Rani Saha supervised by Lisa Amir, Kath Ryan (School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University)

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, Lisa Amir

Examining postpartum haemorrhage: risk factors, data quality and reporting
Maggie Flood supervised by Mary-Ann Davey, Sue McDonald, Wendy Pollock

Exploring the introduction, expansion and sustainability of caseload midwifery in Australia (ECO)
Kate Dawson supervised by Michelle Newton, Della Forster, Helen McLachlan

The impact of breastfeeding problems on mood and psychological health in the early postpartum period
Jennifer Jarman supervised by Lisa Amir and Della Forster

A mixed methods evaluation of the Post and Antenatal Depression Association (PANDA) National Helpline
Laura Biggs supervised by Della Forster, Helen McLachlan, Touran Shafiei

Mothers and Infants Lactation Cohort (MILC) study
Helene Johns supervised by Della Forster, Lisa Amir, Helen McLachlan

Nipple pain in early motherhood
Miranda Buck supervised by Lisa Amir, Karalyn McDonald

Non-medical reasons for caesarean section – factors influencing decision-making in Australian women
Sarmin Sayeed supervised by Rhonda Small, Mary-Ann Davey; 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, Della Forster

Orgasm during childbirth
Anna Fragkoudi supervised by Rhonda Small

Perinatal and obstetric outcomes of East African immigrant women in Australia: Trends and influencing factors
Fetene Berhanu Belihu supervised by Rhonda Small, Mary-Ann Davey

Reducing alcohol-related violence against women and children – the effectiveness of alcohol prevention interventions that reduce risky drinking
Ingrid Wilson supervised by Angela Taft and Kathryn Graham (Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Ontario, Canada)

The role of cortical processes in the perception of pain during labour
Laura Whitburn supervised by Rhonda Small, Lester Jones (Department of Physiotherapy, La Trobe University)

RUBY (Ringing up about breastfeeding): exploring telephone support in the early postnatal period to increase breastfeeding: an RCT
Heather Grimes supervised by Della Forster, Helen McLachlan, Touran Shafiei

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, Touran Shafiei
Strengthening Maternal & Child Health nursing practices with vulnerable families, especially those experiencing violence
Leesa Hooker supervised by Angela Taft, Rhonda Small

Violence against women, maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity
Beatriz Paulina Ayala Quintanilla supervised by Angela Taft, Susan McDonald, 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)

Web-based support for breastfeeding screening
Charlene Smithson, supervised by Helen McLachlan, Della Forster and Michelle Newton

STUDENTS CO-SUPERVISED BY CENTRE STAFF

How women experiencing depression/anxiety and their doctors communicate while making decisions about antidepressant medication and breastfeeding
Nela Atmaly supervised by Kath Ryan (School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University) and co-supervised by Lisa Amir

Adolescent sexual behaviour in Australia: a longitudinal study of debut, predictors and consequences
Laura Prendergast supervised by John Toumbourou (Deakin University), co-supervised by Angela Taft

Neonatal jaundice – an exploratory study of jaundice-related neonatal morbidity in Australia
Claudia Trasancos supervised by Priscilla Robinson (School of Public Health, La Trobe University) and co-supervised by Mary-Ann Davey

Parent-report and observational measures of child language and parent-child interaction: Agreement, socio-demographic factors and parent perspectives
Shannon Bennetts supervised by Fiona Mensah (University of Melbourne) and co-supervised by Elizabeth Westrupp, Naomi Hackworth and Sheena Reilly

GRADUATED IN 2014

Family structure and change through middle childhood: the impact on children’s adjustment and achievement
Kirstine Hand supervised by Donna Berthelsen (Queensland University of Technology) co-supervised by Jan Nicholson and Sue Walker (QUT)

Sexual health after birth: findings of the Maternal Health Study
Ellie McDonald supervised by Rhonda Small and Stephanie Brown (Murdoch Childrens Research Institute)

Introducing a caseload midwifery model: an exploration of the views of caseload midwives, key stakeholders and the socio-political context
Michelle Newton supervised by Della Forster, Helen McLachlan and Karen Willis (Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney)

Infant feeding choices: attitudes, decision-making processes and experiences in working women in urban cities, Malaysia
Zaharah Sulaiman supervised by Pranee Liamputtong (School of Public Health and Human Biosciences, La Trobe University), and co-supervised by Lisa Amir

Pathways to self-regulation from birth to seven years
Kate Williams supervised by Donna Berthelsen (Queensland University of Technology) co-supervised by Jan Nicholson and Sue Walker (QUT). Awarded the Faculty of Education Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Award for 2014
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: Ingrid Wilson, Leesa Hooker

We thank the 2014 speakers for their interesting presentations and lively discussions.

FEBRUARY

Dr Nayana Samaraweera, Maternal and child health services in Sri Lanka – Achievements and challenges

MARCH

Dr Kristina Edvardsson, Health promotion in pregnancy and early parenthood: the challenge of innovation, implementation and change within the Salut Programme in Sweden

APRIL

Dr Rhonda Tombros, What is meant by ‘human rights in childbirth?’

MAY

Dr Melissa Buultjens, Maternity care provision in Victoria, Australia

JUNE

Ms Cathy Watson, Women’s Health - Garlic and candida: a randomised controlled trial

JULY

Dr Daryl Higgins, Public Health Approach to Creating Safe and Secure Family Environments

AUGUST

Dr Ben Edwards, Australian Institute of Family Studies Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC)

SEPTEMBER

Associate Professor Helen McLachlan, Supporting Breastfeeding in Local Communities (SILC): results of a cluster randomised controlled trial

OCTOBER

Dr Sharon Goldfeld, Right@home: An Australian multi-state sustained nurse home visiting randomised controlled trial designed to promote family wellbeing and child development

NOVEMBER

Professor Gunilla Krantz, Men’s and women’s exposure to partner violence in different contexts: results from epidemiological and qualitative studies

DECEMBER

Associate Professor Therese Reitan, Pregnant substance abusers in Swedish compulsory care

INVITED SYMPOSIUM ON RESEARCH FOR PREVENTION OF UNWANTED PREGNANCY AND PREGNANCY TERMINATIONS

In November 2014, the Judith Lumley Centre held an Invited symposium on current and future research for prevention of unwanted pregnancy and pregnancy terminations. Visiting scholar Dr Diana Greene-Foster, Associate Professor, Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences, School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco discussed the range of her studies. The participants shared current and previous research questions they have addressed, the methods they used and their findings. Participants also explored the potential for further collaboration within the group towards a program of work addressing new questions.

JOURNAL CLUB

The Journal Club presents an opportunity to engage in dynamic discussion about relevant research publications. Each participant has a chance to select a paper of interest and to lead discussion. Chosen papers are distributed a week prior to meeting to allow time for all participants to review the paper. Students are offered this chance to discuss questions and concerns with more experience researchers in a supportive, collegiate environment.

Co-ordinator: Rhian Cramer

METHODS JOURNAL CLUB

The bi-monthly Methods Journal Club continued as part of Centre academic activities in 2013 with a program of seminars on methodological issues.
Education and Capacity Building

Topics included:

- cohort study methods and statistical analysis
- content analysis
- in-depth interviewing techniques
- analysis of interview data
- questionnaire design

The Methods Journal Club provides the opportunity for staff and students to present papers of methodological interest for discussion.

**Co-ordinator:** Kate Dawson

**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.

During 2014, Lisa Amir established Thursday morning *Shut up and write!* sessions at Franklin Street, open to all staff and students.

**TEACHING**

**MARCH**

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Medical Students, University of Melbourne: Breastfeeding (LA)

**MAY**

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Medical Students, University of Melbourne: Breastfeeding (LA)

Obstetric trainees, Royal Women’s Hospital: Common breastfeeding problems (LA)

Paediatric trainees, Royal Women’s Hospital: Common breastfeeding problems (LA)

**JULY**

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Medical Students, University of Melbourne: Breastfeeding (LA)

**OCTOBER**

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Medical Students, University of Melbourne: Breastfeeding (LA)

Paediatric trainees, Royal Women’s Hospital: Common breastfeeding problems (LA)

**VISITING ACADEMICS**

Dr Nayana Samaraweera undertook one year of overseas training at the Centre with Professor Angela Taft. He is a Medical Doctor (MBBS, MSc) from Sri Lanka specialising in public health. His specialist area is maternal and child health.

Dr Patricia McNamara was an academic visitor to the Centre whilst on study leave from the Department of Social Work and Social Policy at La Trobe University. During her time at JLC, she participated in many Centre activities including a new study of *Anticipation of Parenthood* led by Professor Jan Nicholson. Her primary research focus during recent months has been a national study of out of home care pathways to higher education. This research has competitive funding from the National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education at Curtin University. Dr McNamara also wrote several papers and book chapters during her stay. These have focused on therapeutic approaches to residential and foster care and youth homelessness as an outcome of child poverty in Australia.

Amanda Rodriguez, a Masters of Public Health student at Lund University in Sweden did a five-week internship at JLC with the LaCE project assisting in writing the acceptability and feasibility paper. Prior to this, Amanda spent two years as a social worker in mental health for formerly incarcerated youth (women) in San Francisco, California and three years working on maternal health in Uganda. The fields of maternal health and mental health continue to interest Amanda and she hopes to merge them in the future. Amanda used her time at JLC as an opportunity to practice her writing skills and learn more about the research process.

In November the Centre welcomed several Swedish visitors:

**Kerstin Petersson,** midwife, presented *The maternal health care register: internal validity, user perspectives and register outcomes; and Experiences of midwives in antenatal care.*

**Maria Lindqvist,** midwife, gave a talk about *Gestational diabetes mellitus: screening, physical activity and pregnancy outcomes; counselling during pregnancy on lifestyle change.* Both Maria and Kerstin are PhD-candidates at Umeå University, Department of Clinical Sciences, Obstetrics and Gynecology.
Education and Capacity Building

**Ingrid Mogren**, a medical doctor specialised in Obstetrics and Gynecology and Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Umeå University, Department of Clinical Sciences, Obstetrics and Gynecology visited the Centre for collaboration on data analysis and reporting.

**Gunilla Krantz**, a medical doctor specialised in General Practice and Social Medicine and Professor of Public Health Science at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden held a lunchtime seminar with the title *Men’s and women’s exposure to partner violence in different contexts: results from epidemiological and qualitative studies*.

**Dr Diana Greene Foster**, an expert in prevention and reduction of unwanted pregnancy, visited JLC in November. Diana is a demographer who uses quantitative models and analyses to evaluate the effectiveness of family planning policies and the effect of unintended pregnancy on women’s lives. She has worked on the evaluation of the California State family planning program, Family PACT. She has created a new methodology for estimating pregnancies averted based on a Markov model and a micro-simulation to identify the cost-effectiveness of advance provision of emergency contraception. She is currently leading a U.S. longitudinal prospective study of the health and wellbeing of women who seek abortion including both women who do and do not receive the abortion. She is also spearheading an international research collaboration to prospectively study women denied legal abortion who go on to seek illegal abortions in Nepal, Bangladesh, Colombia, Tunisia and South Africa.

**PROFESSORIAL FELLOWSHIP AT THE UNIVERSITIES OF SÃO PAULO AND PARANA**

Angela Taft was a Visiting Professorial Fellow at the Federal Universities of São Paulo and Parana in Brazil from July to August 2014 teaching and giving seminars and lectures. This strengthened our collaborations with staff there, including a previous PhD student Dr Marcos Signorelli and his supervisor Dr Pedro Paolo Pereira.

Angela, colleagues and students following a workshop in São Paulo about publishing in English language journals
Publications 2014

ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS


Amir LH. Managing common breastfeeding problems in the community. BMJ 2014; 348:g2954


Edvardsson K, Small R, Persson M, Lalos A, Mogren I. ‘Ultrasound is an invaluable third eye, but it can’t see everything’: a qualitative study with obstetricians in Australia. BMC Pregnancy Childbirth 2014; 14:363


Grimes HA, Forster DA, Newton MS. Sources of information used by women during pregnancy to meet their information needs. Midwifery 2014; 30(1):e26–e33

2014 Publications


Newton MS, McMclachlan HL, Willis KF, Forster DA. Comparing satisfaction and burnout between caseload and standard care midwives: Findings from two cross-sectional surveys conducted in Victoria, Australia. BMC Pregnancy Childbirth 2014; 14:426


Thompson JD, Louise R. Sexed violence and its (dis)appearances: Media coverage surrounding the murders of Jill Meagher and Johanna Martin. Outskirts 2014; 31


ARTICLES IN PRESS

Abouzeid M, Versace VL, Janus ED, Davey MA, Philpot B, Oats J, Dunbar JA. Socio-cultural disparities in GDM burden differ by maternal age at first delivery. PLoS One

Amir LH, Jones LE, Buck ML. Nipple pain associated with breastfeeding: incorporating current neurophysiology into clinical reasoning. Aust Fam Physician

Amir LH. It’s time for pharmacists to increase their support for breastfeeding [Editorial]. JPPR

Buck ML, Amir LH, Donath SM. Topical treatments used by breastfeeding women to treat sore and damaged nipples. Clinical Lactation


de Ponti M, Stewart K, Amir LH, Hussaini SY. Medicine use and safety while breastfeeding: investigating the perspectives of community pharmacists in Australia. *Aust J Prim Health*; Epub 2013 Aug 1


Yelland J, Riggs E, Small R, Brown S. Maternity services are not meeting the needs of immigrant women of non-English speaking background: Results of two consecutive Australian population based studies. *Midwifery*; Epub 2015 Mar 10


Amir LH, Trupin S, Kvist LJ. Diagnosis and treatment of mastitis in breastfeeding women [Round Table Discussion]. *J Hum Lact* 2014; 30(1):10-3


Khan K, Amir LH. The CROWN Initiative: journal editors invite researchers to develop core outcomes in women’s health. *Int Breastfeed J* 2014; 9:9


2014 Publications


CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

Amir LH. Breast infections in breastfeeding women – case presentations of abscess, mastitis and more. GOLD Lactation Online Conference; May 2014


Amir LH, Forster D, McLachlan H. Introduction to research design: Workshops 1 and 2. Australian Breastfeeding Association Liquid Gold Conference; Melbourne, 1–3 August 2014

Buck M, Amir LH, Cullinane M, Donath SM for the CASTLE Study Team. Nipple pain in the first 8 week postpartum: Results from the CASTLE study. Australian Breastfeeding Association Liquid Gold Conference; Melbourne, 1–3 August 2014

Buck M, McDonald K, Amir LH. Women’s experiences of becoming a breastfeeding mother. 5th International Conference on Nutrition and Nurture in Infancy and Childhood; Sydney, 5–7 November 2014

Davey M-A, Gibson KL. Intervention in labour and early breastfeeding outcomes. Australian Nurses and Midwives Conference; Melbourne, 11–12 September 2014

Davey M-A, Gibson KL. Intervention in labour and early breastfeeding outcomes. 30th Triennial Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives; Prague, Czech Republic, 1–5 June 2014


De Bortoli J & Amir LH. Factors associated with delayed onset of lactation in a Baby Friendly Hospital. 5th International Conference on Nutrition and Nurture in Infancy and Childhood; Sydney, 5–7 November 2014

Flood M, McDonald S, Davey M-A, Pollock W. Challenges identifying the postpartum haemorrhage rate in Australia [Oral presentation]. 30th Triennial Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives; Prague, Czech Republic, 1–5 June 2014

Flood M, Pollock W, Davey MA, McDonald S. Challenges identifying the postpartum haemorrhage rate in Australia. Australian Nurses and Midwives Conference; Melbourne, 11–12 September 2014
Forster D, McLachlan H, the SILC research team. Supporting breastfeeding in local communities (SILC): a cluster randomised controlled trial in Victoria, Australia. 30th Triennial Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives; Prague, Czech Republic, 1–5 June 2014

Forster DA, McLachlan HL, Davey MA, Flood M. A randomised controlled trial of caseload midwifery for women at low risk of medical complications (COSMOS): breastfeeding intentions, initiation and two month feeding outcomes. 5th International Conference on Nutrition and Nurture in Infancy and Childhood; Sydney, 5–7 November 2014

Grimes H, Forster D, McLachlan H, Shafiei T. Pass it on: A study of the experiences of volunteers providing telephone support to breastfeeding mothers in a randomised controlled trial. 5th International Conference on Nutrition and Nurture in Infancy and Childhood; Sydney, 5–7 November 2014

Hooker L. Using Normalization Process Theory to facilitate sustainable practice change: the MOVE randomised controlled trial of Maternal and Child Health nurse screening and care for women experiencing family violence. 2nd Biennial Australian Implementation Conference: Solving Complex Implementation Problems; Sydney, 17–18 September 2014


Johns HM, Forster DA, Amir LH, McLachlan HL, Moorhead AM, Ford R, et al. MILC: It really is better at the breast - (Results of the Mothers and Infants Lactation Cohort Study). Australian Nurses and Midwives Conference, Melbourne, 11–12 September 2014


Johns H, Forster D, McLachlan H, Amir LH. Between the baby and the breast: A prospective cohort study exploring prevalence and outcomes associated with early breast milk expressing. 30th Triennial Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives; Prague, Czech Republic, 1–5 June 2014

Jarman J, Dawson K. Exploring the introduction, expansion and sustainability of caseload midwifery in Australia. 30th Triennial Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives; Prague, Czech Republic, 1–5 June 2014


McLachlan H, Forster D, Davey M-A. The effect of caseload midwifery on women’s experience of labour and birth: results from the COSMOS randomised controlled trial. 30th Triennial Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives; Prague, Czech Republic, 1–5 June 2014


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Professor Cecily Begley, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland at the Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives in Prague

Morrow J, Forster D, McLachlan H. Exploring the effect of continuity of care on in-hospital postnatal care. 30th Triennial Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives; Prague, Czech Republic, 1–5 June 2014

Newton M, McLachlan H, Forster D. Caseload midwifery: exploring the views and experiences of caseload midwives and key stakeholders. 30th Triennial Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives; Prague, Czech Republic, 1–5 June 2014


Small R, Shafiei T, Forster D. Designing randomised trials to be inclusive of migrants and refugees: the example of LaCE, a trial of Labour Companion Education for first-time parents. EUPHA’s 5th European Conference on Migrant and Ethnic Minority Health; Granada, Spain, 10–12 April 2014

Taft A. Reducing unwanted pregnancy: An evaluation of access and equity to medical termination of pregnancy under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for women in Australia. 2nd National Sexual and Reproductive Health Conference; Melbourne, 18–19 November 2014

Advocacy & other activities

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCACY

Funded by the federal government, the Public Health Association of Australia coordinated the second national Sexual and Reproductive Health Conference on Nov 18-19\textsuperscript{th} 2014 at Hilton on the Park in Melbourne. Angela Taft was Chair of the Scientific Committee and as a previous national coordinator of the Women’s Health SIG had been instrumental in securing funding for both the first and second conferences. Invited keynote speakers addressed issues of unwanted pregnancies, fertility and infertility, surrogacy and sexual and reproductive health issues for marginalised communities. A highlight of the conference was a forum on surrogacy involving consumers, lawyers and scholars in the area. The conference built on the Melbourne Proclamation, endorsed by many organisations, which was an outcome of the first conference.

Videos of the keynote speakers are on the PHAA website at \url{http://webcast.gigtv.com.au/Mediasite/Catalog/catalogs/nsrc-2014}.

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 2014, many as invited speakers.

Méabh Cullinane, SILC Presentation in Bendigo

FEBRUARY

School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University, Research Forum. Caseload midwifery for women at low risk of medical complications: women’s experience of labour and birth: A randomised controlled trial (HM)

MARCH

Women’s Health Special Interest Network Meeting, Bayside Medicare Local, Vic. Breastfeeding Update (LA)

MAY

Bebe Sofia Hospital, Stockholm. What is the effect of continuity of care by a primary midwife on caesarean section rates? Results of the COSMOS randomised controlled trial (HM)

Karolinska Institute, Stockholm: Breastfeeding research at Judith Lumley Centre – a summary (DF)

Karolinska Institute, Stockholm: What is the effect of continuity of care by a primary midwife on caesarean section rates? Results of the COSMOS randomised controlled trial (HM)

PANDA Workshop ‘Sleeping with the lights on’, Melbourne: What do we know from research with immigrant and refugee women about their experiences of maternal depression? (RS)

JULY

Breastfeeding Essentials for Medical Practitioners, Melbourne: Nipple Problems (LA)

Breastfeeding Essentials for Medical Practitioners, Melbourne: Maternal Issues (LA)

AUGUST

Breastfeeding Planning Forum, City of Whittlesea and City of Hume Local Government Areas: SILC trial results and discussion (LA)

Grand Round, Mercy Hospital for Women, Melbourne: Diabetes and Antenatal Milk Expressing (DAME): a randomised controlled trial (LA)

Maternal and Child Health Nurse Team, City of Greater Bendigo and City of Wodonga Local Government Area: Results of the SILC (Supporting Infant feeding in Local Communities) trial (LA, MC)

Maternal and Child Health Nurse Team, Wellington Shire Local Government Area: Supporting infant feeding in local communities – results of a cluster randomised controlled trial (HM, RC)
Advocacy & other activities

Maternal and Child Health Nurse Team, Mitchell Shire Local Government Area: Supporting infant feeding in local communities – results of a cluster randomised controlled trial (HM)

Royal Women’s Hospital, World Breastfeeding Week Twilight seminar: Supporting infant feeding in local communities: results of a cluster randomised controlled trial (HM)

SEPTEMBER

Maternal and Child Health Nurse Team, Whittlesea Shire Local Government Area: Supporting infant feeding in local communities – results of a cluster randomised controlled trial (HM, RC)

Maternal and Child Health Nurse Team, Cardinia Shire Local Government Area: Supporting infant feeding in local communities – results of a cluster randomised controlled trial (MC, DF)

Karolinska Institute, Reproductive Health, Women’s and Children’s Health Division, Sweden: Invandrarkvinnors perinatal hälsa (immigrant women’s perinatal health), seminar for research collaborators (RS)

Royal Women’s Hospital, Primary Care and Population Health Committee: Overview of research program (HM)

OCTOBER

Baby’s Day Out, Australian Breastfeeding Association, Bendigo (LA)

Maternal and Child Health Nurse Team, Macedon Ranges Shire Local Government Area: Supporting infant feeding in local communities – results of a cluster randomised controlled trial (MC, DF)

Royal Women’s Hospital 7th Annual Research Meeting, Melbourne: Women’s experiences of becoming a breastfeeding mother (MB)

NOVEMBER

NTEU Insecure Work Conference, Hobart, Tasmania: Organising among contract research staff: experiences at La Trobe University (RS)

Perinatal Conference, Westmead Hospital, Sydney: Pregnancy and childbirth in CALD communities (RS)

Maternal and Child Health Nurse Team, City of Wyndham Local Government Area: Supporting infant feeding in local communities – results of a cluster randomised controlled trial (DF, TS)

DECEMBER

Maternal and Child Health Nurse Team, City of Ballarat Local Government Area: Supporting infant feeding in local communities – results of a cluster randomised controlled trial (DF, RC)

Maternal and Child Health Nurse Team, City of Hume Local Government Area: Supporting infant feeding in local communities – results of a cluster randomised controlled trial (RS, LA)

REFERENCE GROUPS

Projects at the Judith Lumley Centre often have reference groups comprising people with expertise in areas related to the research topic. Each reference group acts in an advisory capacity to the research team, contributing ideas and advice at all stages of the research process although responsibility for the conduct of the research, its analysis and publication rests with the researchers. Working with reference groups is an important way of receiving valuable input from a wide range of service providers, consumers and researchers and a way of facilitating discussion of our research aims and findings in practice settings. We thank the members of our reference groups for their contribution in 2014.

CASTLE

Wendy Brodribb, GP, Researcher and Lactation Consultant, University of Queensland

Jane Fisher, Director of Research, Jean Hailes for Women’s Health

Carmel Mathews (nee Jeffers), Midwife and Researcher, The Royal Women’s Hospital

Liz McGuire, Information Officer, Lactation Resource Centre

Kate Mortensen, Director, Lactation Resource Centre
Advocacy & other activities

Anita Moorhead, Clinical Midwifery Consultant – Lactation, The Royal Women’s Hospital
Ross Pagano, Obstetrician, Frances Perry House
Marie Pirotta, GP and Researcher, Department of General Practice, University of Melbourne
Christine Scott, Midwife, Lactation Consultant and Nurse Unit Manager-Postnatal, Frances Perry House
Narelle Warren, Consumer and Researcher, School of Psychology, Psychiatry and Psychological Medicine, Monash University

DAME

Helen Adams, Midwife, IBCLC, Northern Hospital
Kim Hyde, Midwife, Geelong Hospital
Heather Harris, Midwife, IBCLC, Box Hill Hospital
Kate Mortensen, Director, Lactation Resource Centre, Australian Breastfeeding Association
Leigh Odlum / Maree Dell, Unit Managers, Postnatal Wards, The Royal Women’s Hospital
Wendy Kelly, Unit manager, Postnatal Ward, Mercy Hospital for Women
Helen Sudholz, Midwife /Neonatal Nurse/Educator, Royal Women’s Hospital
Dr Jo Said, Head of Diabetes Unit, Royal Women’s Hospital
Dr Alison Nankervis, Diabetes Unit, Royal Women’s Hospital
Dr Alexis Shub, Head of Diabetes Unit, Mercy Hospital for Women
Dr Christine Houlihan, Endocrinologist, Mercy Hospital for Women
Deb Boyce, Midwife, Diabetes Educator, Royal Women’s Hospital
Corrie-Lyn Boyland, Consumer
Kim Bonnefoy, Consumer
Tracie Davis, Consumer

MOVE

Elizabeth Ruschena, Maribyrnong City Council
Bev Shaw, Melton Shire Council
Pam Ludge, Hobson’s Bay City Council
Jane Foy, Moreland City Council
Helen Cunningham, Department of Education & Early Childhood Development
Malia Dewse, Family Violence Unit, Office for Women
Kiri Bear, Senior Project Officer, VicHealth
Robyn Gregory, CEO, Women’s Health West
Helen Rowe, MCH Policy Adviser, Municipal Association of Victoria
Alison Nuske, Department of Human Services
Heather Ploeger, City of Geelong
Felicity Rorke, Manager, Berry Street Family Violence Services

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

Staff and students of the Judith Lumley Centre attended a variety of national and international conferences in 2014 that covered a broad range of topics including ethics, methodology, public health, women’s health, perinatal and pregnancy issues, migration, or policy.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

APRIL

European Public Health Association 5th Migrant Health Conference, Granada, Spain (RS, TS)

MAY

GOLD Lactation Online Conference (HJ, LA)

JUNE

Perinatal Medicine Conference, Harrogate, UK (MD)
30th Triennial Congress of the International Confederation of Midwives; Prague, Czech Republic (DF, HJ, HM, MD, MF)

JULY

Head Start’s 12th National Research Conference on Early Childhood – Collaboration and coordination: understanding systems supporting young children and their families; Washington, DC (JN)

NATIONAL CONFERENCES

APRIL

18th Congress of the Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand (PSANZ), Perth (MD)
Advocacy & other activities

JULY

Primary Health Care Research Conference, Canberra (LH)

AUGUST

Australian Breastfeeding Association Liquid Gold Conference, Melbourne (DF, HJ, HM, LA, MRS, MB, HG)

SEPTEMBER

Australian Nurses and Midwives Conference, Melbourne (HJ, MD, MF)
40th SHPA National Conference, Darwin (LA)
2nd Biennial Australian Implementation Conference, Sydney (LH)

OCTOBER

Maternal and Child Health Nurses Victoria Inc. Annual Conference, Melbourne (LH)

NOVEMBER

2nd National Sexual and Reproductive Health Conference, Melbourne (AT)
5th International Conference on Nutrition and Nurture in Infancy and Childhood, Sydney (MD, DF, HJ, HM, LA, MB, HG)

AUGUST

What is new in postpartum haemorrhage? Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation, Melbourne (MF)

SEPTEMBER

STATA II, Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics Unit, Murdoch Children’s Research Institute and the Department of Paediatrics, University of Melbourne, Melbourne (SC)

OCTOBER

Health online: Promises and pitfalls. University of Melbourne, Melbourne (LA)

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

COURSES AND WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

JANUARY

Fundamentals of Statistics (5-day course), Australian Consortium for Social and Political Research Inc. (ACSPRI), ANU, Canberra (MF)

FEBRUARY

Applied Statistical Procedures (5 days intensive), Australian Consortium for Social and Political Research Incorporated (ACSPRI), Melbourne (TS)

Writing Opinion Pieces. University of Melbourne, Melbourne (LA)

MARCH

Improving healthcare and patient outcomes through research translation. Monash University and the Cochrane Collaboration, Melbourne (LA)

MAY

How can N-Vivo help you with supervision? University of Melbourne, Melbourne (LA)

JUNE

COPE Asia-Pacific seminar: ‘Publication ethics from student to professional’, Melbourne (JDT, LA)

JULY

Bayesian and penalised regression methods for epidemiological analysis. WHO Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza (VIDRL), Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Melbourne (MD)
Advocacy & other activities

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*

Royal Women’s Hospital Aboriginal Nursing and Midwifery Reference Group (DF)

Royal Women’s Hospital Research Committee (DF)

Victorian Ministerial Perinatal Services Advisory Committee (DF)

Women’s Research Advisory Committee (DF)

**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.

Australian College of Midwives Midwifery Research Advisory Committee (HM)

Deputy Chair Royal Women’s Hospital Research Committee (DF)

Growing Up in New Zealand External Scientific Advisory Group (JN)

International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners, item writing committee (LA)

International Confederation of Midwives Research Standing Committee (HM)

La Trobe University Faculty Higher Degree Committee (TS)

Local organizing committee for the Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand Annual Scientific Meeting in 2015 (MD)

Longitudinal Study of Australian Children Consortium Advisory Group (JN)

Midwifery Academics Victoria (MIDAC) (Chair) (HM)

National Publicly Funded Homebirth Consortium (HM)

Paternal Perinatal Depression Initiative (JN)

Primary Care and Population Health Committee, The Royal Women’s Hospital (HM)

Quality and safety Sub-committee of the Maternity Services Advisory Committee (MD)

**PEER REVIEWING**

Acta Paediatrica (LA)

Archives of Disease in Childhood (LA)

Australia and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (DF)

Australian Health Review (DF)

Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (RS)

Australian Journal of Primary Health (AT, LA, RS, TS, LH)

Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health (AC, AT)

BMC Health Services Research (AT)

BMC Medicine (AT)

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth (DF, HJ, HM, LA, RS)

BMC Public Health (AT)

BMC Women’s Health (AT)

BMJ Open (AC, AT, MD)

Breastfeeding Medicine (LA)

Breastfeeding Review (LA)

British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (LA, RS)

British Journal of Psychiatry (AT)

Child and Adolescent Mental Health (JN)

Childhood Obesity (JN)

Clinical Psychologist (AC)

Cochrane Review (LA, HJ)

Contemporary Nurse (LH)

European Journal of Public Health (RS)

Family Practice (AT)

International Breastfeeding Journal (HM, DF, MD, MF, RS, TS)

International Journal of Family Medicine (RS)

International Journal of Obesity (JN)
Advocacy & other activities

International Migration Review (RS)
Journal of Adolescent Health (AT)
Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry (AT)
Journal of Human Lactation (LA)
Journal of Psychosomatic Obstetrics and Gynecology (RS)
Journal of Women’s Health Issues and Care (AT)
The Lancet (AT)
Maternal and Child Health Journal (RS)
Maternal and Child Nutrition (LA)
Medical Journal of Australia (MD)
Midwifery (DF, RS, TS)
NSW Attorney General’s Department of Crime Statistics and Research (AT)
Obstetrics and Gynecology International (AT)
Patient Education and Counselling (AT)
PLoS One (RS, TS)
Sexual Health (AT)
Sexual and Reproductive Health (HM)
Social Science and Medicine (RS)
Social Sciences (JN)
Women and Birth (DF, HM, TS)

MEMBERSHIP OF EDITORIAL BOARDS

Breastfeeding Review (LA)
International Breastfeeding Journal, Editor-in-Chief (LA)
International Breastfeeding Journal (DF, HM)
Journal of Human Lactation (LA)

ASSESSING RESEARCH GRANTS

ARC Discovery Grants (JN)
NHMRC Project Grants (JN, MD, RS)
National Research Foundation, South Africa (AT)

THESIS EXAMINATION

Honours thesis, Australian Catholic University (HM)
Honours thesis, University of Melbourne (LH)
Master of Philosophy, University of Sydney (RS)
Minor thesis, Master of Midwifery, Australian Catholic University (TS)
Master of Public Health, La Trobe University (AC)
Doctor of Medicine, Scholarly Selective Minor Thesis, University of Melbourne (AC)
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

**SENIOR RESEARCHERS**

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

Dr Mary-Ann Davey – also epidemiologist at the Victorian Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity

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

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

Associate 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 the Karolinska Institute, Sweden

**HIGHER DEGREE BY RESEARCH STUDENTS**

Beatriz Paulina Ayala Quintanilla

Fetene Berhanu Belihu

Laura Biggs

Miranda Buck

Rhian Cramer

Kate Dawson – also Lecturer in Midwifery, LTU

Maggie Flood

Anna Fraggoudi

Heather Grimes – also Lecturer in Midwifery at La Trobe Rural Health School

Leesa Hooker – also Lecturer in Nursing and Midwifery at La Trobe Rural Health School

Jennifer Jarman

Helene Johns

Lester Jones

Fiona McLardie-Hore

Anita Moorhead

Sonia Reisenhofer – also Lecturer in Nursing, LTU

Ranmali Rodrigo

Moni Rani Saha

Sarmin Sayeed

Charlene Smithson

Laura Whitburn – also Lecturer in Anatomy, LTU

Ingrid Wilson

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

Dr Méabh Cullinane – Research Fellow

Dr Michelle Newton – Lecturer in Midwifery

Ms Anita Moorhead – Project Coordinator (casual staff)

Ms Cattram Nguyen – Statistician, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

Dr Touran Shafiei – Research Fellow

Dr Lyn Watson – Statistician

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

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

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

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Ms Mary Caruana – Research Administrator
Ms Simone Pakin – Research and Publications Officer
Dr Jay Daniel Thompson – Research and Publications Officer (on secondment)
Ms Olga Tsironis – Program Administration Officer, Transition to Contemporary Parenthood Program

HONORARY ASSOCIATES

Dr Paul Agius – Centre for Population Health, Burnet Institute
Dr Mridula Bandyopadhyay – Victoria University
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 Michelle Kealy – Integrated Maternity Services, Department of Health, Northern Territory Government
Dr Karalyn McDonald – Infectious Diseases Unit, Monash University, Melbourne
Dr Jane Morrow – Australian Catholic University
Dr Wendy Pollock – Mercy Hospital for Women
Dr Renee Rogers
Dr Rhonda Tombros – School of Law, University of Canterbury, New Zealand

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES AND COLLABORATORS

Professor Jill Astbury, Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences, Monash University
Associate Professor Polly Atatao-Carr, Centre for Longitudinal Research, Auckland University
Ms Amanda Aylward, Royal Women’s Hospital
Dr Malcolm Barnett, Eastern Health
Dr Michael Bauer, Australian Centre for Evidence Based Aged Care, Australian Institute for Primary Care & Ageing, La Trobe University
Dr Jordana Bayer, School of Psychology, La Trobe University
Professor Catherine Bennett, School of Health & Social Development, Deakin University
Professor Donna Berthelsen, School of Early Childhood, Queensland University of Technology
Dr Chris Bessell, Clinical Risk Management, Royal Women’s Hospital, Melbourne
Dr Mary Anne Biro, Monash University
Dr Deborah Boyce, Mercy Hospital for Women
Professor Shaun Brennecke, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Royal Women’s Hospital, University of Melbourne
Associate Professor Stephanie Brown, Healthy Mothers, Healthy Families, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute
Dr Fiona Bruinsma, Cancer Council Victoria
Dr Mary Carolan, Victoria University
Ms Catherine Chamberlain, Monash University
Associate Professor Jan Coles, Department of Department of General Practice, School of Primary Health Care, Monash University
Ms Therese Cotter, Divisional Nursing & Midwifery Director, Medical Services, Barwon Health
Ms Sharon Croxford, Department of Dietetics and Human Nutrition, La Trobe University
Dr Fiona Cullinane, Royal Women’s Hospital
Dr Fabrizio D’Esposito, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne
Professor Lynne Daniels, School of School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, Queensland University of Technology
Professor Peter Davis, Royal Women’s Hospital
Associate Professor Susan Donath, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute
Dr Lisa Donohue, Manager, Royal District Nursing Service, Melbourne
Professor Christine East, Monash University and Southern Health

Dr Daryl Efron, Community Child Health Services Research, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

Ms Tanya Farrell, Royal Women’s Hospital, Melbourne

Professor Gene Feder, Department of Primary Care and Community Based Medicine, Bristol University, UK

Ms Rachael Ford, Royal Women’s Hospital

Ms Adrienne Forsyth, Department of Dietetics and Human Nutrition, La Trobe University

Associate Professor Anita Gagnon, School of Nursing, McGill University, Canada

Professor Suzanne Garland, Department of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Royal Women’s Hospital, Melbourne

Dr Rebecca Giallo, Healthy Mothers Healthy Families Research Group, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

Associate Professor Lisa Gold, Deakin Health Economics, Deakin University

Dr Kate Graham, University of Western Ontario, Canada

Dr Julie Green, Raising Children Network, Parenting Research Centre

Professor Jane Gunn, Primary Care Research Unit, Department of General Practice, University of Melbourne

Associate Professor Jane Halliday, Public Health Genetics Unit, Murdoch Children’s Research Institute, University of Melbourne

Professor Kelsey Hegarty, Department of General Practice, University of Melbourne

Professor Martha Hickey, Royal Women’s Hospital

Dr Melissa Hobbs, ACT Medicare Local, Canberra

Dr Arthur Hsueh, Population Health, University of Melbourne

Dr Safeera Hussainy, Centre for Medicine Use and Safety, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Monash University

Associate Professor Catherine Itsiopoulos, Department of Dietetics and Human Nutrition, La Trobe University

Associate Professor Sue Jacobs, Royal Women’s Hospital

Dr Jennifer James, Nursing and Midwifery, RMIT University

Dr Elena Jansen, School of School of Exercise & Nutrition Sciences, Queensland University of Technology

Professor Patti Janssen, School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia, Canada

Dr Nerida Joss, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne

Dr Michelle Kealy, Integrated Maternity Services, Department of Health, Northern Territory Government

Associate Professor James King, Royal Women’s Hospital, University of Melbourne

Dr Susannah King, Department of Dietetics and Human Nutrition, La Trobe University

Associate Professor Susan Koch, Royal District Nursing Service, Melbourne

Professor Gabriel Kune, Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, University of Melbourne

Dr Penny Levickis, Community Child Health Services Research, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

Professor Jayne Lucke, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health & Society, La Trobe University

Dr Kimberley Mallan, School of School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, Queensland University of Technology

Associate Professor Angela Martin, School of Business & Economics, University of Tasmania

Associate Professor Jan Matthews, Parenting Research Centre

Professor Danielle Mazza, Department of General Practice, School of Primary Health Care, Monash University

Dr Karalyn McDonald, Infectious Diseases Unit, Monash University

Ms Kerri McEgan, Mercy Hospital for Women

Ms Catharine McNamara, Mercy Hospital for Women

Dr Fiona Mensah, Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics Unit, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

Professor Ingrid Mogren, University of Umeå, Sweden

Associate Professor Susan Moreton, Centre for Longitudinal Research, Auckland University

Ms Kate Mortensen, Director, Lactation Resource Centre, Australian Breastfeeding Association

Dr Frank Muscara, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

Professor Jeremy Oats, Royal Women’s Hospital

Professor Brian Oldenburg, Centre for Health Equity, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne

Dr Gillian Opie, Mercy Hospital for Women

Professor Guy Parcel, School of Public Health, University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston, USA
People

Associate Professor Denise Patterson, Eastern Health

Professor George Patton, Royal Children’s Hospital, University of Melbourne

Associate Professor Kerry Petersen, School of Law, La Trobe University

Dr Wendy Pollock, La Trobe University / Mercy Hospital for Women

Professor Jan Pryor, Victoria University of Wellington

Associate Professor Priscilla Pyett, School of Population Health, University of Melbourne

Professor Michael Quinn, Royal Women’s Hospital, University of Melbourne

Associate Professor Kath Ryan, School of Nursing & Midwifery, La Trobe University

Dr Meredith Rayner, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

Professor Sheena Reilly, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

Professor Audrey Saftlas, Department of Epidemiology, College of Public Health, University of Iowa, USA

Dr Emma Sciberras, Community Child Health Services Research, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

Associate Professor Julia Shelley, Deakin University

Dr Sue Shepherd, Department of Dietetics and Human Nutrition, La Trobe University

Associate Professor David Sibbritt, School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Newcastle

Dr Tim Silk, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

Associate Professor Caroline Smith, Centre for Complementary Medicine Research, University of Western Sydney

Associate Professor Kay Stewart, Centre for Medicine Use and Safety, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Monash University

Associate Professor Lyndall Strazdins, College of Medicine, Biology and Environment, Australian National University

Associate Professor Sepehr Tabrizi, Molecular Microbiology, Department of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Royal Women’s Hospital, Bio 21 Institute

Dr Jeffrey Tan, Royal Women’s Hospital, University of Melbourne

Professor Helena Teede, Monash Centre for Health Research and Implementation (MCHRI), Monash Medical Centre

Ms Rachel Thorpe, Australian Research Centre for Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University

Professor Alison Venn, Menzies Research Institute, University of Tasmania

Professor Ulla Waldenström, Karolinska Institute, Sweden

Professor Susan Walker, Mercy Hospital for Women

Professor Sue Walker, School of Early Childhood, Queensland University of Technology

Associate Professor Kerryann Walsh, School of Early Childhood, Queensland University of Technology

Dr Kate Williams, School of Early Childhood, Queensland University of Technology

Dr Karen Willis, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Sydney

Mr David Wrede, Consultant Gynaecologist, Royal Women’s Hospital, Melbourne

Dr Jane Yelland, Healthy Mothers Healthy Families, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute

Professor Steve Zubrick, Telethon Kids Institute, University of Western Australia
**Beatriz Paulina Ayala Quintanilla**  
**MBBS, MD, MPH, PhD Candidate**  
Beatriz is an obstetrician and gynaecologist with a Masters Degree in Public Health from the University of Copenhagen and reproductive health background from Hirosaki University of Japan. She has been employed at the General Research Office and Technological Transference of the National Institute of Health in Lima, Peru since 2007 where she is part of national team in charge of promoting health research and regulating clinical trials throughout Peru. Beatriz 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.

**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 holds a NHMRC Career Development Fellowship (2012–2015) and is conducting 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*.

**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 organizations in Ethiopia. Fetene is generally interested in researching reproductive health & 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’. Shannon is an associate investigator on the NHMRC Partnerships project examining the effects of an early childhood parenting program and is undertaking her PhD at the Murdoch Childrens Research Institute.

**Laura Biggs**  
**RM, BMid (Hons), PhD Candidate**  
Laura is a midwife who commenced her PhD in 2013, exploring the views and experiences of callers to the Post and Antenatal Depression Association (PANDA) National Perinatal Depression Helpline. Her other research interests include women’s experiences of maternity care and midwifery education.

**Miranda Buck**  
**RN(Paeds), 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.

**Mary Caruana**  
Mary has worked at La Trobe since 1998, initially with the Australian Institute for Primary Care & Ageing (AIPCA) in several roles including as Administration, Publications Manager and Editor. In late 2011 Mary was appointed Research Administrator in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, working closely with the School’s two research centres – AIPCA and the Judith Lumley Centre.
People

Amanda Cooklin
BA(Hons), MPH(WomH)
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 2012 to undertake her doctorate full-time.

Sharinne Crawford
BAppSci (Hons), PhD
Sharinne is a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the TCPP. She is coordinating the VicHealth-funded project on ‘Parental fear as a barrier to children’s independent mobility and resultant physical activity’. 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.

Méabh Cullinane
BSc, PhD
Méabh has a background in microbiology and is currently involved in breastfeeding research at the Judith Lumley Centre. She is project co-ordinator for the SLC trial, which is evaluating interventions to increase breastfeeding duration in Victorian communities. Méabh went on maternity leave in November 2014.

Mary-Ann Davey
RN, RM, DipAppSc, BEd, PGDipSoc, DPH, MEpi
Mary-Ann came to health research from senior clinical roles in nursing, midwifery, and maternal and child health. She has worked at the Centre since 1999 on a number of projects related to maternity care. Her research interests include interventions in labour and birth, and breastfeeding. She is also an epidemiologist at the Victorian Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity.

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 Flood 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. Maggie commenced a Master of Health Sciences (Research) early in 2013 with a focus on postpartum haemorrhage.
Della Forster  
**RN, RM, DipAppSc, BHSc, MMid, PhD**

Della has been a midwife since 1989. She joined JLC in April 1999 as joint project coordinator 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. Her research interests include models of maternity care, postnatal care and breastfeeding.

Anna Fragkoudi  
**BSc, MAppSci candidate**

Anna is a scholarship awarded international student at La Trobe University, Melbourne. Her research interest 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, PhD Candidate**

Heather is a midwife and commenced her PhD candidature in January 2013. Her principal supervisor is Della Forster. Her co-supervisors are Helen McLachlan and Touran Shafiei. Her research is based on data collected as part of the RUBY randomised controlled trial. Heather’s research focuses on the experiences of volunteers providing peer support to breastfeeding mothers.

Leesa Hooker  
**RN, RM, CertCritCare, PGDipPH(ChildFamHealthNurs), MHSc, PhD Candidate**

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 originally joined the Centre (part time) to work with the MOVE team as a research officer. Her research interests include rural women’s health, indigenous health and intimate partner violence.

Helene Johns  
**RN, RM, DipAppSc, BAppSc Med, PhD candidate**

Helene has a Midwifery and Maternal & Child Health background. Her experience in women’s health has contributed to her interest in breastfeeding influences and outcomes. Working on the Mothers and Infants Lactation Cohort (MILC) study, her PhD candidature has been supported by a La Trobe University Post Graduate Research Scholarship.

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. His research interests include the translation of pain science into clinical and healthcare contexts.

Helen McLachlan  
**RN, GradDipAdvNurs(Mid), MNursStud, PhD**

Helen McLachlan has a clinical and research background in midwifery. She is an Associate Professor at Judith Lumley Centre and the School of Nursing and Midwifery, La Trobe University. Her research interests include, models of maternity care, Indigenous health, breastfeeding, 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, MAppSc (Research) 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 study as well as a higher degree student at the Judith Lumley Centre.
People

Anita Moorhead
RN, RM, Neonatal Cert, GradCert HServMgt, IBCLC, M Candidate

Anita Moorhead is the project coordinator of the DAME Trial. 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), PGGradDip H Ed, MMid, PhD

Michelle Newton is a midwife and a Lecturer and Course Coordinator of the Bachelor of Nursing / Bachelor of Midwifery at La Trobe University. Michelle has a strong clinical and education background, working in clinical maternity settings in NSW, QLD, NT and VIC in a number of roles including Team Midwifery and as a Clinical Midwife Consultant. She is a National Director of the Australian College of Midwives. Michelle recently completed her PhD that explored the impact of caseload midwifery on midwives working with researchers from the Judith Lumley Centre, the Royal Women’s Hospital and Barwon Health.

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.

Simone Pakin
MagPhil, GradDipInfoMgt

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.

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 Masters of Pharmacy. She holds a La Trobe University Post Graduate Research Scholarship and La Trobe University Full Fee Research Scholarship 2012.
Dr Sarmin Sayeed is a full time 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.

Touran has a clinical and research background in midwifery. Since completion of her PhD in 2010, she has worked at JLC on a number of projects; she is currently working on the feasibility study of telephone peer support to prevent postnatal depression and piloting of bilingual labour companions study. Her research interests include maternal health, maternity care and immigrant women’s health.

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-).

Charlie completed her Bachelor of Nursing and Bachelor of Midwifery degrees at La Trobe University in 2010. Currently she is a research midwife on the Diabetes and Antenatal Milk Expression (DAME) trial. She has a particular interest in researching the use of web-based technologies to support breastfeeding.

Angela has been at the Centre since 2000 and was its Deputy Director. 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 women’s sexual and reproductive health. 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.

Jay is on secondment as Research and Publications Officer with the Centre. He is Book Reviews Editor for the Journal of the Association for the Study of Australian Literature (JASAL), and researches in the fields of Australian literature, critical whiteness studies, and true crime.

Olga is the Program Administration Officer for the TCP. 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.
People

Lyn Watson
BSc, MSc, PhD

Lyn Watson has been at the Centre since 1992 and has been involved in many projects in her capacity as biostatistician. After completing her PhD on preterm birth in 2008 she has continued working at the Centre on a casual basis. She is currently assisting Angela Taft on a secondary analysis of data from Timor Leste; advising on the SILC project; and continuing to finalise a paper from the PRISM follow up.

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.

Ingrid Wilson
BA(Hons), PgDL, 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. More recently 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.
Current grants, scholarships & awards

**GRANTS**

**NHMRC PROJECT GRANTS HELD AT THE JUDITH LUMLEY CENTRE**

Diabetes and antenatal milk expressing (DAME): a randomised controlled trial
*Della Forster, Sue Jacobs, Lisa Amir, Peter Davis, Sue Walker, Kerri McEgan, Gillian Opie*
2011–2014: $491,321

**NHMRC PROJECT GRANTS HELD EXTERNALLY**

Asking Questions about Alcohol in pregnancy (AQUA): Longitudinal cohort study of the effects of low and moderate doses of alcohol exposure on the fetus
*Jane Halliday, Colleen O’Leary, Della Forster, Susan Donath, Peter Anderson, Sharon Lewis, Elizabeth Elliott, Cate Nagle, Jeffrey Craig*
2011–2014: $1,316,443.60

Birthplace in Australia: a prospective cohort study
*Caroline Homer, David Elwood, Jeremy Oats, Maralyn Foureur, David Sibbritt, Helen McLachlan, Della Forster, Hannah Dahlen*
2012–2015: $790,175

A brief couple-focussed psycho-educational intervention to prevent postnatal mental health problems in women: a cluster randomised trial
*Jane R Fisher, Heather Rowe, Lisa Amir, Paula Lorgelly, Sanjeeva Ranasinha, Jenny Proimos*
2012–2014: $679,499

Fetal scalp blood lactate measurement to reduce caesarean sections during labour: a randomised trial
*Christine East, Shaun Brennecke, Mary-Ann Davey, Omar Kamlin*
2012–2016: $369,900

Impact of risk-reducing bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy on non-cancer outcomes in young high-risk women: A multicentre prospective study in young high-risk women
*Martha Hickey, Gillian Mitchell, Bettina Meiser, John Wark, Mary-Ann Davey*
2012–2014: $481,207.11

**NHMRC PARTNERSHIP GRANT**

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 CAREER DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP**

Strategies to increase breastfeeding duration in Australia
*Lisa Amir*
2012–2015: $273,752

**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: $717,831.00

**VIC HEALTH**

Parental fear as a barrier to children’s independent mobility and resultant physical activity
*Jan Nicholson, Amanda Cooklin, Sharinne Crawford, Shannon Bennetts, Naomi Hackworth, Julie Green, Jan Matthews, Fabrizio D’Esposito, Stephen Zubrick, Lyndall Strazdins, Guy Parcel*
2012–2014: $660,000

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, VICTORIA**

Research into improving the collection and reporting of rural obstetrics data
*Mary-Ann Davey, Angela Taft*
2013–2014: $98,714.40

**VICTORIAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

Development of a Victorian safe infant sleeping guideline
*Lisa Amir, Della Forster, Helen McLachlan, Lael Ridgway, Miranda Buck*
2014–2015

The Victorian Breastfeeding Research Project phase 2; SILC trial: Supporting breastfeeding In Local Communities
*Helen McLachlan, Della Forster, Lisa Amir, Rhonda Small, Méabh Cullinane*
2011–2014: $648,313

**ASIA FOUNDATION**

Secondary data analysis of violence against women in the Community Policing and Law and Justice surveys in Timor Leste
*Angela Taft, Lyn Watson*
2014–2015: $US30,000
Current grants, scholarships & 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

Our stories, our life - maternal Aboriginal women speak from Shepparton
Helen Lee, Julie Andrews, Richard Broome, Katie Holmes, Helen McLachlan, John Boulton
2014: $10,415

Telephone peer support to prevent postnatal depression
Touran Shafiei, Rhonda Small, Helen McLachlan, Heather Grimes
2014: $29,952

FELTON BEQUEST HELD EXTERNALLY

Does telephone peer support in the early postnatal period increase breastfeeding duration? A randomised trial (RUBY)
Della Forster, Helen McLachlan, Mary-Ann Davey, Lisa Amir, Lisa Gold, Rhonda Small
2012–2014: $240,000

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY NEAR MISS FUNDING GRANT

Labour Companion Education (LaCE): a randomised trial to reduce caesarean section in first-time mothers
Rhonda Small, Touran Shafiei, Della Forster
2014: $9,500

IAN POTTER FOUNDATION (COMMUNITY WELLBEING PROGRAM)

Establishing a best practice model of support and communication during childbirth for migrant and refugee women with low English fluency
Rhonda Small, Touran Shafiei, Della Forster
2014: $20,000

SCHOLARSHIPS / SMALL GRANTS

Helene Johns: 2014 Betty Lawson Scholarship, The Royal Women’s Hospital
Helene Johns, Maggie Flood: ME Bank/ANMF Education Fund grant
Laura Biggs: Australian Midwifery College Foundation (Australian College of Midwives) Scholarship
Laura Biggs: La Trobe Postgraduate Scholarship
Maggie Flood: Nurses Memorial Centre Scholarship
Maggie Flood: Postgraduate support grant, La Trobe University

MS HEALTH, WOMEN’S HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

Access and equity in medical abortion provision in Australia (CATI)
Angela Taft, Kerry Petersen, Danielle Mazza, Philip Goldstone, Kirsten Black, Safeera Hussainy, Jayne Lucke, Julia Shelley
$40,000

Maggie Flood: Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand Early Research Career Travel Grant
Maggie Flood: Postgraduate support grant, La Trobe University

THE ROYAL WOMEN’S HOSPITAL

A Parenting Kit for families in Victoria
Della Forster, Jan Nicholson, Helen McLachlan, Michelle Newton, Fiona McIardie-Hore, Heather Grimes
2014–2015: $150,000

AWARDS

Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden: Appointment as Foreign Adjunct Professor
Rhonda Small

Nurses Memorial Centre Vivian Bullwinkel Award in recognition of the outstanding quality of the research proposal ‘Trends in postpartum haemorrhage’
Maggie Flood

Perinatal Society of Australia and New Zealand Early Research Career Travel Grant
Maggie Flood

Primary Health Care Research & Information Service-Delegate sponsorship travel grant
Leesa Hooker

LA TROBE UNIVERSITY RFA GRANT SCHEME

The HARMONY Project
Angela Taft, Rhonda Small, Kelsey Hegary, Gene Feder
2014: $87,255
Funds

Funds received from the sources listed here totalled: $1,837,925
The contributors from all granting bodies are gratefully acknowledged.

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<tr>
<th>Donation Transition to Contemporary Parenthood</th>
<th>$848,545</th>
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<td>La Trobe University</td>
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<td>Roberta Holmes</td>
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<td>Operating budget including supervision of students (DEEWR &amp; DIISR)</td>
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<td>Research Grants (Internal Grants)</td>
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<td>Diabetes &amp; antenatal milk expressing (DAME): a randomised controlled trial</td>
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<td>Career Development Award - Strategies to increase breastfeeding duration – L Amir</td>
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<td>Impact of risk-reducing bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy on non-cancer outcomes in young high-risk women: a multicentre prospective study (administered by Uni Melb)</td>
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<th>VicHealth</th>
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<th>Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research</th>
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<td>Research Training Scheme</td>
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