



PAEDIATRICS & CHILD HEALTH DIVISION RESEARCH COMMITTEE

2017 Mid-Year Communiqué

The following communiqué highlights the key issues of the Paediatrics & Child Health Division Research Committee (PRC) for the first half of 2017.

Membership

After chairing the PRC since 2011 I step down from the position on 9 May 2017, following the PCHD Annual Meeting at Congress. I have seen great progress in research developments, awareness and strategy at the College during my time as Chair and leave the committee in the capable hands of the current membership and incoming Chair. I wish Professor Harriet Hiscock all the best as Chair of the PRC. Full committee membership can be viewed [here](#).

Key Activities

- The PRC has provided early input into the development of a Supervising Research eLearning resource and will continue to provide support and advice on the resource as necessary.
- The PRC continue to consider research best practice in advanced training education and make recommendations as appropriate.
- The PRC works towards further collaboration with the PCHD Education Committee to ensure a robust research agenda across College.
- The PRC works towards further collaboration with the PCHD Policy & Advocacy Committee to ensure research expertise is available as required in the development of policy, guidelines and statements.

Awards

Congratulations to the following paediatricians who are the recipients of RACP awards in 2017.

- Howard Williams Medal – Professor Elizabeth Elliott AM
- RACP PCHD NHMRC Award for Excellence – Dr Bianca Middleton ‘Strategies to reduce the burden of gastroenteritis in Aboriginal children’
- Indigenous Health Scholarship in Paediatrics and Child Health – Dr Ngaree Blow
- Trainee Research Awards for Excellence – Paediatric Medicine
 - Dr Karrnan Pathmanandavel – New South Wales
‘Antibodies to surface dopamine-2 receptor and n-methyl-d-aspartate receptor in the first episode of acute psychosis in children’
 - Dr Jin Russell – New Zealand
‘Cumulative socioeconomic disadvantage increases the risk of multi-morbidity in early childhood’
 - Dr Anna Lithgow – Northern Territory
‘Patterns of paediatric emergency presentations to a tertiary referral centre in the Northern Territory’
 - Dr Chris Richmond – Queensland
‘FIBRE: Feeding Interventions Because of Respiratory Events in Preterm Infants - A Randomised Triple Crossover Study’



- Dr Gopakumar Hariharan – Tasmania
'Epidemiology and risk factors for Gastroschisis – a 20 year experience in a regional neonatal surgical centre'
- Dr Rosie Murphy – Victoria
'Factors affecting the performance of doctors in high-stakes summative oral examinations required for specialty training qualifications: a systematic review'
- Dr Jamie Tan – Western Australia
'Diagnosis of childhood lower respiratory tract illness using non-contact sound recordings'
- RACP Fellows Career Development Fellowship – Professor David Burgner 'A mechanistic investigation of the adverse effects of acute childhood infections on cardiovascular risk: The VASCFIND study'
- Cottrell Research Establishment Fellowship – Dr Valerie Sung 'Improving treatment and outcomes of congenital hearing loss at the population level'
- ResMed Foundation/SHF Research Entry Scholarship – Dr Jasneek Chawla 'Evaluation of the Impact of Treatment for Sleep Disorders in Children with Down Syndrome'
- RACP Jacquot Research Entry Scholarship in Nephrology – Dr Anna Francis 'Improving the long term outcomes for children with chronic kidney disease'
- RACP NHMRC CRB Blackburn Scholarship – Dr Jeremy Rajanayagam 'The role of mucosal associated invariant T (MAIT) cells and gut micro-biota in the pathogenesis of paediatric autoimmune liver disease (AILD)'
- New Zealand Research Development Scholarship – Dr Maria Saito-Benz 'Neonatal Neurocritical care: Near Infrared spectroscopy for Monitoring brain Oxygenation in preterm infants (NIMO)'
- Queensland State Committee Research Development Grant – Dr Friederike Beker 'Smell and taste to improve body composition in very preterm infants: a randomised controlled trial'
- Pacific Islander Health Scholarship – Dr Prerna Sehgal
- Examination Medal in Paediatrics & Child Health – Dr Arun Sett

The Best Poster Prize in Paediatrics & Child Health and the Rue Wright Memorial Award will be awarded at Congress - congratulations to the finalists.

Meetings

The PRC will next meet on Wednesday, 31 May via teleconference. A face to face meeting in Sydney is scheduled for Friday, 11 August followed by a teleconference on Wednesday, 18 October.

Your feedback and queries are welcomed, please contact me at paed@racp.edu.au.

Professor Paul Colditz

Chair, Paediatrics & Child Health Division Research Committee

1 May 2017