

Medical Services



Medical Services

Overview

Medical Services is responsible for providing support to all areas of the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital in all aspects of medical administration.

The service line manages and coordinates medical staff appointments and allocations, credentialing and privileges, medical education and training, the Private Practice Trust Fund (PPTF), medico-legal services, chaplaincy, Health Information Services and the Safety and Quality Unit. It provides specialist advice to the Hospital and Health Service CEO and RBWH Executive in relation to medico-legal matters, recruitment, appointment, credentialing and privileges of medical staff and the handling of patient compliments and concerns.

The RBWH Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) falls under this service line. Its role is to consider applications to conduct research in the hospital, or to conduct research that involves patient participation. The Committee provides recommendations as to whether or not, on ethical grounds, approval should be granted for research to proceed.

The Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education (CPCRE) is the main area of research. Medical Administration also undertakes research activities as part of quality improvement in health care service delivery.

The Safety and Quality Unit is part of Medical Services and ensures good clinical governance is core business for the service line.

Key departments

- Centre for Medical Officer Recruitment and Education
formerly Medical Education and Training Service (METS)
- Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education
- Human Research Ethics Committee
- Safety and Quality Unit

Executive and directing staff

- **Dr Judy Graves**
Executive Director
- **Dr Amanda Dines**
Deputy Executive Director
- **Dr Humsha Naidoo**
Deputy Executive Director
- **Dr Graham Steel**
Director, Centre for Medical Officer Recruitment and Education
- **Prof. Patsy Yates**
A/Director, Palliative Care Service
- **Dr Conor Brophy**
Chair, Human Research Ethics Committee
- **Barbara Slaughter**
Director, Safety and Quality Unit



Dr Judy Graves
Executive Director
Medical Services



Dr Amanda Dines
Deputy Executive Director
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Dr Humsha Naidoo
Deputy Executive Director
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Dr Graham Steel
Director, Centre for Medical
Officer Recruitment and
Education

Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education



Prof. Patsy Yates

A/Director, Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education

Overview

The Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education (CPCRE) is a Queensland Health initiative. The Centre's primary role is to enhance palliative care services in Queensland through research and education endeavours.

To achieve these aims, CPCRE operates as a 'centre without walls', committed to building and fostering partnerships with the palliative care community in its endeavours.

The Centre's work focuses on:

- Developing the capacity of the palliative care workforce to provide quality palliative care
- Improving the links between research and practice in palliative care
- Undertaking research to enhance the quality of palliative care
- Providing information which supports the delivery of palliative care services

CPCRE is administered by a consortium of five organisations: Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (lead agency), The Prince Charles Hospital, Queensland University of Technology, Karuna Hospice Service and General Practice Queensland.

An advisory board comprising consortium members and representatives from the palliative care community and Queensland Health guides CPCRE in its activities.

Research staff

Name	Qualifications	Position	Interests/specialities
Prof. Patsy Yates	RN, BA, DipAppSoc, MSocSci, PhD, FRCNA	A/Director, Centre for Palliative Care Research and Education	palliative care, symptom management and supportive care
Prof. Janet Hardy	BSc, MBChB, MD, FRACP, FRChPM	Clinical Research Program Leader	palliative medicine research, evidence-based symptom management
John Haberecht	RN, DipAppSci (Nurs), MEd, BA, GradDipArts	Research Officer	end-of-life clinical pathways, improving access to palliative care education
Kym Griffin	RN, MN (Prac), Cert IV Leadership, Cert IV Frontline Management, MPCNA, MONG, MPCQ	Research Officer	improving access to palliative care, improving access to good quality end-of-life care for non-oncological clients

Supervised postgraduate students

Name	Current studies	Research topic
Boyd Orford C	PhD	Palliative care practices in high intensity transplant setting
Ranse K	PhD	Palliative care practices in ICU
Chan R	PhD	Understanding fatigue in advanced cancer patients; patterns, contributing factors and implications for supportive care
Huang Ya-Ling	PhD	End-of-life decision making among community members in Taiwan
Hope C	PhD	Evaluation of the implementation of a nurse led, evidence-based tailored pain education intervention for people requiring palliative care
Bista Sudeep R	PhD	Improving analgesia in cancer patients

Research staff

Investigators	Project title	Granting body	Amount awarded	Years of funding
Yates P	Program of Experience in the Palliative Approach (PEPA)	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing	\$330,478	2010-2011
Hope C, Yates P	NHMRC Trip Fellowship 2010-2012	NHMRC	\$124,000	2010-2012
Yates P, Haberecht J, Griffin K	Syringe driver management in palliative care project	Palliative Care Australia	\$236,551	2010-2011
Yates P, Mitchell G, Connell S, Skerman H, Wilson A, Colquist S, Douglas C	Achieving needs-based end-of-life services: A prospective longitudinal study of the pathways for advanced cancer patients	Cancer Council Queensland	\$200,000	2011-2012
Anderson D, Yates P, McCarthy N, Hargraves M, White K	A behavioural intervention for managing menopausal symptoms in women with breast cancer	Cancer Council Queensland	\$130,825	2010-2011
Turner J, Kelly B, Clarke D, Yates P, Aranda S, Jolley D, Chambers S, Hargraves M, Mcfadyen L	Application of tailored therapies to reduce distress and depression in cancer patients: A randomised trial	Beyondblue	\$591,305	2010-2012
Yates P, Hardy J, Currow D, Martin P, Mitchell G, Philip J, Hudson P, Clavarino A	Randomised, controlled trial of aetiology based anti-emetic guidelines in reducing nausea in advanced cancer	NHMRC	\$1,111,000	2010-2012
Agar M, Hardy J, Currow D, et al.	Randomised, controlled trial of oral risperidone versus oral haloperidol versus oral placebo with rescue subcutaneous midazolam in the management of delirium in palliative care inpatients	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing	\$158,464	2007-2012
Currow D, Hardy J, Fazekas B, Shelby-Jones T, et al.	Randomised double-blind controlled trial of infusional subcutaneous octreotide in the management of bowel obstruction in people with advanced cancer	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing	\$157,080	2007-2012
Hardy J, Currow D, Fazekas B, Shelby-Jones T, Ashby M et al.	A randomised, double-blind placebo-controlled study of subcutaneous ketamine in the management of cancer pain	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing	\$212,481	2007-2012
Mitchell G, Hardy J, Currow D, Nikles J, Vora R, Schulter P, Yelland M	Using single patient trials to determine the effectiveness of psychostimulants in fatigue in advanced cancer patients	NHMRC	\$297,000	2007-2012
Glare P, Hardy J	Randomised, double-blind control trial of megestrol acetate, dexamethasone and placebo in the management of anorexia in people with cancer	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing	\$120,655	2007-2011
Hardy J, Norris B, O'Shea A, Charles B	An evaluation of the validity of measuring salivary oxycodone concentrations for pharmacokinetic studies in palliative care patients	NHMRC	\$49,135	2008-2011
Hardy J, Norris B, O'Shea A, Charles B	An evaluation of the validity of measuring salivary oxycodone concentrations for pharmacokinetic studies in palliative care patients	JP Kelly Mater Health Services Research Fund	\$15,000	2008-2011
Nikles CJ, Mitchell G, Hardy J, Currow D, Vora R, Schulter P, Yelland M	Using n-of-1 trials to determine the efficacy of paracetamol in advanced cancer patients taking regular opioids	NHMRC	\$49,996	2008-2012

Research staff

Investigators	Project title	Granting body	Amount awarded	Years of funding
Nikles CJ, Mitchell G, Hardy J, Currow D, Vora R, Schulter P, Yelland M	Using n-of-1 trials to determine the efficacy of paracetamol in advanced cancer patients taking regular opioids	NHMRC	\$49,996	2008-2012
Nikles J, Mitchell G, Hardy J et al.	N-of 1 trials of pilocarpine vs placebo for dry mouth in palliative care patients	Cancer Council Queensland	\$81,680	2009-2012
Hardy J, O'Shea A, Norris R, Charles B	Intranasal midazolam for the palliation of breathlessness in life-limiting disease	JP Kelly Mater Health Services Research Fund	\$15,000	2009-2012
Hardy J, McKeown C	A randomised trial of electroacupuncture versus sham acupuncture and no acupuncture for the control of acute and delayed chemotherapy induced nausea and vomiting: Pilot feasibility study	Smiddy Foundation	\$14,500	2010 - 2011
Sanderson C, Hardy J, Currow D	A randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of subcutaneous ketamine in the management of cancer pain	NHMRC Developmental Grant	\$50,000	2009 -2011
Hardy J	Data management grant	Cancer Council Queensland	\$51,000	2010 -2011
Hardy J	PaCCSC infrastructure grant for research staff	Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing	\$331,226	2007 - 2011

Publications

- Griffiths M, Schweitzer R, Yates P. Childhood experiences of cancer: An interpretative phenomenological analysis approach. *Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing*. 2011;28(2):83-92.
- Turner J, Kelly B, Clarke D, Yates P, Aranda S, Jolley D, Chambers S, Hargraves M, McFadyen L. A randomised trial of a psychosocial intervention for cancer patients integrated into routine care: The PROMPT study (promoting optimal outcomes in mood through tailored psychosocial therapies). *BMC Cancer*. 2011;11(1):48.
- Rawlings D, Hendry K, Mylne S, Banfield M, Yates P. Using palliative care assessment tools to influence and enhance clinical practice. *Home Healthcare Nurse*. 2011;29(3):1-7.
- Hardy J, Norris R, Anderson H, O'Shea A, Charles B. Is saliva a valid substitute for plasma in pharmacokinetic studies of oxycodone and its metabolites in patients with cancer? *Supportive Care in Cancer Journal*, 2011;Apr 15th. [E-pub ahead of print]
- Mathisen B, Yates P, Crofts P. Palliative care curriculum for speech-language pathology students. *International Journal of Language and Communication Disorders*. 2011;46(3):273-285.
- Connell S, Yates P, Barrett L. Understanding the optimal learning environment in palliative care. *Nurse Education Today*. 2011;31(5):472-476.
- Shenoy V, Lwin Z, Morton A, Hardy J. Ectopic adrenocorticotrophic hormone syndrome associated with poor prognosis in metastatic parotid acinic cell carcinoma. *Otolaryngology: Head and Neck Surgery*. 2011;May 3rd. [E-pub ahead of print]
- Beadle G, Mengersen K, Moynihan S, Yates P. Perceptions of the ethical conduct of cancer trials by oncology nurses. *European Journal of Cancer Care*. 2011;20:585-592.
- Hayes S, Rye S, Battistutta D, Yates P, Pyke C, Bashford J, Eakin E. Design and implementation of the Exercise for Health trial – A pragmatic exercise intervention for women with breast cancer. *Contemporary Clinical Trials*. 2011;32(4):577-585.
- Tramm R, McCarthy AL, Yates P. Dietary modification for women after breast cancer treatment: A narrative review. *European Journal of Cancer Care*. 2012;20:294-304.
- Anderson DJ, Yates P, McCarthy A, Lang CP, Hargraves M, McCarthy N, Porter-Steele J. Younger and older women's concerns about menopause after breast cancer. *European Journal of Cancer Care*. 2011;20:785-794.
- Shenoy V, Lwin Z, Morton A, Hardy J. Ectopic adrenocorticotrophic hormone syndrome associated with poor prognosis in metastatic parotid acinic cell carcinoma. *Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery*. 2011;145(95):87-879 May 3. [E-pub ahead of print]
- Chan R, Yates P, McCarthy A. The aetiology, impact and management of cancer-related fatigue in patients with advanced cancer. *The Australian Journal of Cancer Nursing*. 2011;12(2):4-11.

Safety and Quality Unit

Overview

The Safety and Quality Unit is responsible for the provision of organisational services based on a commitment to continuous quality improvement aimed at enhancing patient-focused services.

The unit also provides support to the Safety and Quality Committee and all service lines to promote and facilitate service improvements to enhance patient outcomes. Research areas include falls prevention and acute care of the elderly.



Barbara Slaughter
Director, Safety and Quality

Research staff

Name	Qualifications	Position	Interests/specialities
Lisa Mitchell	RN , GradCert ONC MSSc (Health Practice)	Project Coordinator/ Nurse Researcher	health service improvement
Karen Kasper	RN, BN, MN (Leadership)	Project Coordinator/ Nurse Researcher	health service improvement
Prue McRae	BPhty, GradDipManip Therapy	EB/Falls Coordinator	gerontology, health service research
Satyan Chari	BOccThpy, MastersOccThpy, PhD candidate	Program Coordinator - Falls Risk	falls prevention

Supervised postgraduate students

Name	Current studies	Research topic
McRae P	MPhil	Interdisciplinary care needs of older surgical patients
Chari S	PhD	The role of extrinsic factors in causation and prevention of falls and injury from falls among older people in institutional care

Awards and achievements

Award	Event	Recipient
Office of Health and Medical Research Health Research Fellowship 2010-2015		Chari S

Research grants

Investigators	Project title	Granting body	Amount awarded	Years of funding
McRae P, Mudge A, Walker P, Dungleison N, Gardiner R, Williams H, de Ruiter C, Cruikshank M, Barnbrook C, Woollett K, Slaughter B	Identifying interdisciplinary care needs of older surgical patients	RBWH Research Grant	\$30,000	2011